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Englewood, NJ - As part of his continuing effort to bring new, expanded rail service to Northern New Jersey, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) recently joined other state and local officials for demonstrations of the new, state-of-the-art Colorado Aero DMU Railcar in Englewood and Paterson. Since the DMU Railcar can run on already existing freight tracks, it is seen as a quick and efficient way to develop new rail service up the Northern Branch and between Bergen and Passaic Counties, improving residents' quality of life by relieving the traffic congestion that plagues Northern New Jersey.

"The new, self-propelled DMU commuter railcar shows us what may be a cost-effective solution to bringing new rail service to Northern New Jersey and across the country," Rothman said. "It offers the potential to provide the flexibility needed to develop an effective commuter rail system in a densely populated area, and the ability to roll out service on existing freight rail tracks instead of having to spend hundreds of millions of dollars building new rail lines."

The DMU Railcar is a diesel-powered locomotive that can carry up to 228 passengers, or 412 on its double-decker train. With its ability to operate on existing freight tracks, the train's use could be implemented quickly in Northern New Jersey, avoiding the need to build new tracks. This service would connect with existing rail lines across New Jersey, into Manhattan, and nationwide from the Secaucus Transfer Station.

"Since coming to Congress eight years ago, I have been working to relieve congestion on our roads by modernizing outdated intersections and widening roadways that are too narrow, and persuading Congress to invest in new rail service," Rothman said. "I believe that extending the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail line up the Northern Branch, establishing a link between Bergen and Passaic Counties, and creating a loop to the soon-to-be redeveloped Meadowlands site are all very worthy and important projects. I will fight hard to ensure that all residents of Northern New Jersey have easy access to passenger rail that will get them where they need to go quickly, efficiently, and safely."

Rothman has voted consistently to secure congressional authorization for funds to develop new rail service in Bergen and Passaic Counties. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, which allocates all of the discretionary money in the federal budget, Rothman has already helped secure nearly \$7 million for the development of a series of rail stations and shuttle service links for a future rail network in Bergen and Passaic Counties. Rothman has pledged to continue using his position to bring home more federal money for the new rail network, which will improve residents' quality of life, while sparing local and state taxpayers the added tax burden.

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