

## Rail Passengers Association Fiscal Year 2024 Legislative Grant Request

The passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) has introduced a new era for America’s rail passengers, launching several important new passenger rail programs and providing guaranteed multi-year federal funding to upgrade and expand the national passenger rail network.

*Rail Passengers* is committed to working with Congress to ensure there is meaningful oversight on these newly expanded passenger rail programs and on Amtrak operations. There will be significant challenges to efficiently ramping up capital investment programs—for the Federal Railroad Administration, for Amtrak, and for States—including workforce shortages, supply chain challenges and domestic manufacturing constraints.

BIL funding can only be used for certain purposes and was never meant to replace Amtrak's annual appropriations. Providing sufficient FY24 funding is necessary to allow Amtrak to operate trains and restore full service (find out more about ridership trends at [RailPassengers.org/Ridership](https://RailPassengers.org/Ridership)), perform annual maintenance and carry out core functions to avoid long-term deterioration of assets and services, and make targeted, high-priority investments for future expansion.

***Rail Passengers* is asking Congress to fully fund rail programs at the authorized levels established by the BIL.**

	FY23 Enacted	FY24 IIJA Authorized
<b>Amtrak</b>	\$2,453 ML	\$3,650 ML
<i>Northeast Corridor</i>	\$1,260 ML	\$1,200 ML
<i>National Network</i>	\$1,193 ML	\$2,450 ML
<b>Federal Railroad Administration</b>	\$251 ML	\$263 ML
<b>Federal-State Partnership for ICPR</b>	\$100 ML	\$1,500 ML
<b>CRISI Grants</b>	\$535 ML	\$1,000 ML
<b>Railroad Crossing Elimination Grants</b>	\$0	\$500 ML
<b>Restoration &amp; Enhancement Grants</b>	\$0	\$50 ML

### Improve Amtrak Transparency and Oversight

*Rail Passengers* supports legislative initiatives which will improve Amtrak responsiveness to passengers and increase transparency for taxpayers:

- **Require Amtrak’s Board of Directors to comply with standard open meeting requirements;**
- Expand Amtrak’s Board of Directors annual meeting requirements to include meetings with representatives of state-supported services;
- Require Amtrak’s Board of Directors to publicly disclose any bonus payment made to an Amtrak officer in a year which Amtrak receives federal grants;
- Require Amtrak to disclose certain vendor agreements utilized to provide intercity rail service to state-sponsors or the State-Amtrak Intercity Passenger Rail Committee (SAIPRC) upon request.