

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PACKAGE FOR NEW JERSEY

The *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* was signed into law by President Obama on February 17. U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), who sits on the Senate Appropriations Committee, helped author the bill, including its provisions to improve the State's **transportation systems**:

- Nearly \$1.2 billion for New Jersey's transportation infrastructure, including projects to repair highways and bridges and expand transit systems, passenger and freight railroads, and seaports.
- The law authorizes up to \$1.5 billion federal commitment for initial construction of Hudson River rail tunnel project.
- The law also provides \$510 million for improvements to Amtrak's Northeast Corridor which runs through New Jersey, and shares its track with NJ Transit.

NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS REPAIR

- 34% of New Jersey's 6,453 bridges are deficient.
- Average New Jersey commuter spends an extra 45 hours a year stuck in traffic due to congestion.

NEW JERSEY RELIES ON TRANSIT

- 10.3% of New Jersey workers use public transportation to get to work—2nd highest rate of any state in the country.
- Last year, more than 250 million trips were taken on NJ Transit, approximately 80 million trips on PATH, and more than 10 million trips on PATCO.
- During peak hours, commuter trains traverse the Hudson River every 2½ minutes, reaching capacity for the existing railroad tunnels.

AN EXAMPLE OF PROGRESS WE WILL SEE ACROSS THE STATE: NEWARK BROAD STREET STATION IMPROVEMENTS

- This announcement is being held at Newark Broad Street Station, which recently underwent extensive renovations by NJ Transit. The new influx of Federal funding from the Federal Economic Recovery Act will make more improvements in our transportation system possible across our state.
- This \$79.5 million renovation project resulted in several new platforms, new railroad bridges, elevators, stairs, restrooms, offices, and rehabilitation of the main station building.
- Recent renovations at Newark's Broad St. Station have made the station fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

