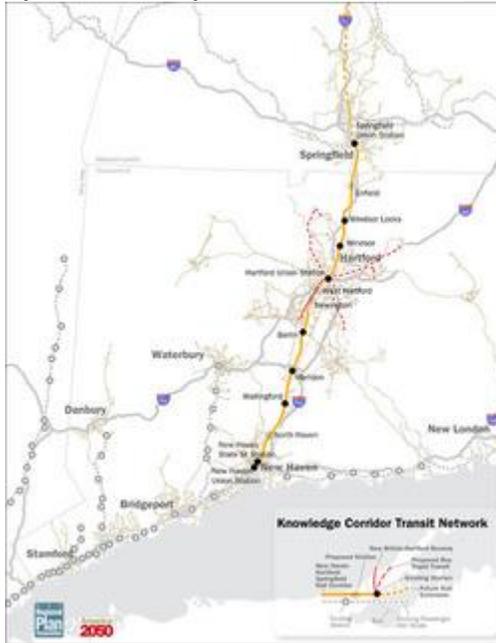


America 2050 Leads Discussion on How Knowledge Corridor Must Plan for Rail

By Daniel Ferry on June 17, 2011 | [0 Comments](#)



On Thursday, June 2nd and Friday, June 3rd, RPA's [America 2050](#) initiative brought together 90 people in Hartford to learn about Connecticut's plan to improve rail service in the Knowledge Corridor region, connecting New Haven, Hartford, and Springfield, Massachusetts with frequent rail service every half hour at peak, and to identify strategies that the region must implement in order to maximize the rail's economic impact.

"Dependable Rail in 2016: What Will It Mean for the Knowledge Corridor Region" included guest experts Patricia Quinn of Maine's [Downeaster](#) Service and Gene Skoropowski, who ran the [Capitol Corridor](#) in California. They shared how their regions leveraged rail investments with: effective marketing campaigns that boosted ridership, by working well with host freight railroads to achieve on time performance, attracting private investment around station areas, developing partnerships that brought together municipalities, and maximizing connecting transit services that brought riders to their final destinations.

Continue Reading for Visuals and Audio from the Program.



RPA's David Kooris (right) talks with Patricia Quinn of Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority and Gene Skoropowski, HNTB (facing camera) and New Haven's Mike Piscitelli and ConnDOT's Tom Maziarz (backs to camera).

America 2050's [Briefing Book](#) for the event covers the scope of the rail improvements and an overview of which industries are specialized in the Corridor and their proximity to the expanded transit network. A challenge for the region will be to connect residents and employment sites who are located outside the traditional walking radius from station areas to improve mobility and access across the entire region.

Speaker presentations and audio from June 3rd's Breakfast Forum are linked below.

- Bob Yaro, RPA President- Introduction ([audio](#))
- Tom Maziarz, CT DOT- New Rail Service for the Knowledge Corridor ([powerpoint](#)) ([audio](#))
- Patricia Quinn- Maine's Downeaster ([powerpoint](#)) ([audio](#))
- Gene Skoropowski- California's Capital Corridor ([powerpoint](#)) ([audio](#))
- Matthew Nemerson, CT Technology Council- What Businesses Want ([audio](#)) (Matt's comments refer to [this powerpoint](#)) presented by RPA on Thursday.)