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July 22, 2022

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Ms. Cynthia Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Office of Proceedings  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Office of Proceedings  
July 22, 2022  
Part of  
Public Record

Re: Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company—Adverse Discontinuance of  
Trackage Rights—Housatonic Railroad Company, STB Docket No. AB-1311

Dear Ms. Brown:

I have attached a copy of a newspaper article dated today pertaining to funding for an environmental impact statement related to proposed passenger service on the Beacon Line between Danbury, CT and Brewster, NY. These are relevant to Housatonic's Reply dated July 14, 2022 (page 24).

Housatonic Railroad requests that the news article be accepted in order to complete the record of behalf of Housatonic Railroad.

Thank you.

A copy of this document has been sent to all parties of record.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward J. Rodriguez  
Attorney for Housatonic Railroad Company, Inc.

# Danbury's fast track to NYC plan gets \$2M grant to move ahead; money for a 2nd project has to wait

Rob Ryser

July 22, 2022Updated: July 22, 2022 6:57 a.m.



View from the 9:05 AM Metro-North train from Danbury to South Norwalk in Danbury.

H John Voorhees III / Hearst Connecticut Media

DANBURY — A \$2 million federal grant to study impacts of a fast track from Danbury to New York City was approved by a U.S. House vote this week, while a similarly-sized grant for a health center garage and senior housing project has to wait for a future funding round.

“I am thrilled to see seven of my community project funding requests included and will continue to fight for them in final passage of a year-end budget,” said U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes in a prepared statement. “These projects range from safety improvements to housing and transportation expansions to childcare supports that will directly serve those living in Connecticut.”

Hayes is referring to an ambitious plan to reactivate the old Maybrook line as a commuter route from downtown Danbury to the Southeast train station in nearby New York, where it would connect to Metro North’s Harlem Line to Grand Central Terminal. Several other projects in the region also earned funding.

Once considered a longshot, the fast track to New York City made news in December, when a \$1 million study found the idea was “feasible both from a physical and economic perspective,” according to a consultant who led the study.

The federal grant to study environmental impacts is the next step in the planning process for a project that Mayor Dean Esposito says has “tremendous support” in Danbury.

The fast-track grant was one of seven projects in western Connecticut included by Hayes in a funding package of appropriation bills that passed the House on Wednesday.

Danbury News Times (CT)  
July 22, 2022