



**AmeriStarRail**  
*Transportation Innovation*

March 17, 2021

Mr. Stephen Gardner  
President  
National Railroad Passenger Corporation  
1 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Gardner,

This letter is to follow-up on the solutions that AmeriStarRail (ASR) proposed on October 15, 2020 to improve the safety and service on the Northeast Corridor (NEC) with private financing. As you know, ASR has offered to remove the 45+ year-old Amfleet cars from Northeast Corridor service, enhance safety, expand access to high speed service for all taxpayers and eliminate the need for federal subsidies of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor operating losses due to the COVID-19 reduction of travel demand.

In response to recent media coverage about our proposal to dramatically improve and transform Amtrak service on the Northeast Corridor, Amtrak's comments indicated a number of misunderstandings about our proposal since Amtrak has not yet agreed to meet and consider the details of our proposal such as:

- AmeriStarRail is committed to expand NEC service, stations, ridership and create more union jobs.
- Transportation Equity for all passengers, including coach, on high speed trains in America for the first time on the Northeast Corridor. This is important because high speed tracks and other infrastructure for Acela trains are financed by taxpayers. Access to high speed service should not be limited only to those who can afford business and first class fares.
- \$5.2 billion in private financing to replace the aging Amfleet trains with a standardized fleet of 160 MPH high speed trainsets with triple-class seating in the comfort and privacy of compartments in coach, business and first class. This will also include the NEC's first ever, world class, Trainset Maintenance Center to maintain the Northeast Corridor trainsets with the efficiency of a centralized maintenance location. This will free up more than \$5 billion for Amtrak to invest into critical Northeast Corridor infrastructure projects.
- Since Amtrak Acela ticket revenues are lower than the amount needed to make payments on the \$2.45 billion federal loan for Amtrak's 28 new Acela trainsets, AmeriStarRail is interested to discuss private financing solutions to eliminate federal subsidy of these loan payments.
- More details on our proposal are available on our website: [www.AmeriStarRail.com](http://www.AmeriStarRail.com)

We look forward to meeting with Amtrak, at your earliest opportunity, to discuss how a mutually beneficial AmeriStarRail - Amtrak Northeast Corridor Operating Agreement can benefit Amtrak, Amtrak's union employees, Amtrak passengers and taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Spencer  
Chief Operating Officer

Cc:

USDOT Secretary Pete Buttigieg  
Members of Congress

**AMTRAK**

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**Stephen J. Gardner**  
President



March 22, 2021

Mr. Scott R. Spencer  
Chief Operating Officer  
AmeriStarRail  
600 North King Street, Suite 400  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Dear Mr. Spencer:

In response to your letter of March 17 and your request to meet with Amtrak, I've asked Caroline Decker, Vice President of the Northeast Corridor Service Line, to organize a meeting with you and with other Amtrak representatives. Her office will follow up with you shortly to find a time to organize a virtual session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Gardner". The signature is stylized, with the first and last names clearly legible.

Stephen J. Gardner  
*President*