



ANGELO SANTABARBARA
Assemblyman 111th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Subcommittee on Autism
Spectrum Disorders
COMMITTEES
Agriculture
Energy
Governmental Employees
Mental Health
Racing and Wagering
Veterans' Affairs

July 18th, 2023

Stephen J. Gardner, Chief Executive Officer
The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, d/b/a Amtrak
1 Massachusetts Ave NW
Washington, DC 20001

Subject: Urgent Request for Full Restoration of Adirondack Line Service

Dear Mr. Gardner,

I would like to commend you for the partial restoration of the Adirondack service, extending operations 37 miles beyond Albany-Rensselaer to Saratoga Springs starting Monday, July 24th. This is a step in the right direction, and I appreciate your efforts in ensuring that the residents and visitors of New York State have access to vital transportation services.

However, I write to express my strong support and urge further action for the restoration of the Adirondack Line service to points north as far as Plattsburgh, which still remains suspended. As a member of the New York State Assembly, I believe it is crucial to address the impact of the recent disruption on tourism, travelers, and businesses in upstate New York.

The restrictive 10 mph speed limit imposed by CN on their tracks in Canada when the air temperature exceeds 86 degrees Fahrenheit has severely impacted the Adirondack Line service. This disruption has not only inconvenienced passengers but has also affected the economic vitality of the Capital Region and beyond. Businesses that rely on tourism and transportation have suffered, and travelers seeking to explore our beautiful region have been discouraged by the limited access even with the partial restoration.

I acknowledge the challenges in resolving the dispute with CN, but I firmly believe that taking immediate action is necessary to address the concerns of the communities affected here in upstate New York. The Adirondack Line holds significant cultural, historical, and economic value, and its full restoration is vital for the well-being and prosperity of New York's residents and visitors.

I also urge Amtrak to continue exploring solutions in collaboration with CN and the New York State Department of Transportation to develop a long-term plan that ensures Amtrak trains can operate to and from Montreal in future summers. By doing so, we can provide a sustainable and reliable transportation option that will benefit not only the residents of our state but also promote tourism and economic growth in the region.



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I appreciate your attention to this matter and your commitment to improving transportation services. I trust that you understand the importance of the Adirondack Line to our communities and will take the necessary steps to restore full service promptly. I look forward to hearing about the progress made in resolving the dispute and the long-term plans for the Adirondack Line.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I remain at your disposal to further discuss this matter and provide any additional information that may be helpful. Together, we can work towards restoring the Adirondack Line and meeting the needs of our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angelo Santabarbara". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent loop at the end.

Angelo Santabarbara
Member of the New York State Assembly
111th District | Representing areas of Montgomery & Schenectady Counties