WHY DOES THE PORTLAND TRAIN STATION NEED TO MOVE?

The present location is remote from downtown Portland. Also, it is about a mile from the CSX main line, resulting in the train making a complicated forward/backward entrance to the station. This creates a delay of up to 15 minutes on every run between Brunswick and Boston. The time lost and the increased fuel used costs the Downeaster service over $1 million each year and prohibits expanded service.

Who wants the station to move?

Maine's Rail Plan and the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG) have both included the building of a new passenger station on the CSX mainline in Portland as an important goal.

The solution is to move the station onto the main line...

After years of study, the solution is a choice between:

1) **Site 2**, located at the old Union Station site on the corner of Congress and St. John Streets, however there are three major problems:
    a. The owners of the land on either side of the track at that site have repeatedly stated that they do not want a station or tracks on their property. The owners are Cumberland County, which has its jail located there, and MaineHealth, which has a parking garage from which it runs well over 600 shuttles a day to and from Maine Medical Center.
    b. The site requires the construction of a third rail on the County's property and across Congress Street
    c. Safety issues arise from the train stopping at the Site 2 location right next to a crossing over Congress Street.
2) **Site 3**, about 1700 feet farther east on St. John Street across from the Metro bus garage, avoids all the Site 2 problems and in addition it:
    a. is safer for riders, employees, and residents
    b. costs less to run and will speed service with a shorter station stop
    c. can be built without complex and expensive litigation with neighboring property owners.
    d. allows the 10,000 employees working nearby easy pedestrian access.

For these and other reasons, Maine's rail authority (NNEPRA) qualified and secured a $48 million federal grant covering about 80% of the cost of a Site 3 station.

Who supports the move to Site 3?

- TrainRiders Northeast and Maine Rail Group
- The Urbanist Coalition of Portland
- CSX Railroad
- Amtrak
- Maine Department of Transportation
- Town Councils of Saco, Freeport and Brunswick
- Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

TrainRiders Northeast and Maine Rail Group, both non-profit rail advocacy organizations, urge you to sign the petition for Maine's transit and economic future.
Maine deserves better transit now!