



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
**American Recovery
and Reinvestment Act**



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Rail Programs

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) includes \$8 billion in funding for states to implement high speed rail and intercity passenger rail projects, to be administered by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and \$1.3 billion in funding for Amtrak to make capital improvements to its system.

The Federal Railroad Administration provides information on its programs and the timetable to make funding available at its web site:

<http://www.fra.dot.gov/us/content/2166>

The FRA is required to prepare a strategic plan by April 18, 2009 to describe how it will use the appropriated funds to meet the intent of the ARRA. The plan is expected to include

- The agency's vision for developing high speed rail services
- The proposed schedule for providing grants funds under ARRA
- The criteria that will be used to select projects
- The reporting and evaluation process that will be used to measure and communicate program effectiveness
- The relationship of the ARRA grant programs to the recently enacted intercity passenger rail authorization act known as PRIIA

The FRA is required to provide interim guidance for prospective applicants by June 17, 2009. The interim guidance will cover the grant terms, conditions and procedures until final regulations are issued. This interim guidance will provide separate instructions for the high-speed rail corridor program, capital assistance to intercity rail service grants, and congestion grants. The guidance will include deadline(s) and time frames for submission and selection.

Amtrak has released information on the projects it expects to complete with the ARRA funds allocated to it. A project list and other information can be found at the Amtrak web site:

http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/am2Copy/Title_Image_Copy_Page&c=am2Copy&cid=1081442674477&ssid=322