Federal dollars cover funding commitment

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(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Albio Sires advanced $55 million dollars in funding for the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail. This federal funding from the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts Program fulfills the full federal funding commitment.

"I was involved at the very early stages of the light rail system and I am proud that I was able to see the project through and witness its success," said Congressman Sires. "The Hudson-Bergen Light Rail has become the favorite means of transportation for many families in our community, and it affords elderly citizens the freedom of riding safely to adjacent towns and shopping areas."

This $55 million in federal funding is part of the $1.2 billion total for light rail extension that runs north from Hoboken to Tonnelle Avenue in North Bergen, and south from 34th Street to 22nd Street in Bayonne.

The Hudson-Bergen Light Rail boasts more than 35,000 weekday trips. With the opening of the Union City Bergenline Avenue station and the North Bergen Tonnelle Avenue stations, ridership has increase more than 38% in 2007 over the same period last year.

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