

7/24/2007 - Sires Advances Funding For Hudson County Station Pedestrian Bridge

For Immediate Release

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(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Albio Sires voted today for the Transportation - Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill that included \$200,000 for the Hudson County Intermodal Station Pedestrian Bridge in Union City. The federal funding for the construction was allotted from the Bus and Bus Facilities account of the Federal Transit Administration.

New Jersey Transit, the operator of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail System, determined that a pedestrian bridge is needed to separate pedestrian traffic from vehicular traffic. The structure will enhance the flow and safety of the estimated 8,000 pedestrians that use the station every day. The bridge will also allow two access points to the station, at 48th Street and 49th Streets, rather than only on 49th Street. The addition of the bridge will ensure the safety of the pedestrians while making vehicular traffic more efficient.

"The Light Rail Station in Union City has been a big success and I am pleased the passengers will have a pedestrian bridge to ensure the safety and comfort of the families that use it," said Congressman Sires. "I remember when the light rail system was just an idea. It gives me great satisfaction to see this project that I worked on get up and running. Therefore, I am very happy that I was able to keep my commitment to the Hudson Bergen Light Rail by advancing funding that will improve this asset for the community."

The Fiscal Year 2008 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill passed the House and now awaits consideration in the U.S. Senate before heading to a conference between both chambers.