

**ROCHESTER-GENESEE REGIONAL
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

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News Release

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Amtrak Train Station Steering Committee Rejects Call for Joint Train Station and Transit Center

*City, County, Amtrak, NYSDOT, CSX, RDDC,
Rail Passengers Association Agree
To Keep Train, Bus Projects Separated*

The Amtrak Train Station Steering Committee, the intergovernmental planning committee working to revitalize the downtown Amtrak station, has agreed unanimously that the Amtrak station should stay at its existing location and that co-location of the train station with the planned RGRTA Transit Center will not work.

The Steering Committee found that daily on/off bus ridership destined for or originating from the central downtown area is 50 times the volume of Amtrak station on/off.

“Taking these bus riders to the Amtrak site instead of within walking distance of central

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downtown origins and destinations would not make sense,” the Steering Committee concluded.

“Moving the Amtrak station to the downtown activity/development center would be cost and impact prohibitive,” according to the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee unanimously concurred that co-location of the two facilities would not work given the principal location of activity and development downtown.

“The Steering Committee reached the right conclusion,” said Bill Nojay, Chairman of the Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority. “There is widespread support for recreating the train station as a key gateway to our community. At the same time there is widespread support for keeping the RGRTA transit center project in the heart of downtown to allow our riders immediate access to employment centers and services. The idea of creating a single “intermodal” terminal sounds good, but it doesn’t stand up under serious scrutiny,” said Nojay.

The Amtrak Station Revitalization Committee includes members from:

- City of Rochester
- County of Monroe
- Amtrak
- New York State Department of Transportation
- Rochester Downtown Development Corporation
- CSX Transportation (owner of the train tracks)
- Empire State Passengers Association / National Association of Railroad Passengers
- RGRTA