



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

April 26, 2026

The Honorable Roger Harris
President, Amtrak
1 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Harris,

As you are aware, on Friday, April 24, the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) reported that, on the on-ramp from Route 10 North to Interstate 95 North in Cranston (Ramp CB, Bride Number: 066201), a section of the parapet with the attached Amtrak barrier became dislodged, sending debris onto the railroad tracks below and prompting the closure of the ramp and a suspension of rail service while engineers assessed conditions and made repairs to the tracks.

I appreciate the Amtrak team working closely with RIDOT and my administration to coordinate response efforts and ensure the debris was cleared as quickly as possible. We are also encouraged to see that two tracks have already been restored to service, allowing Amtrak operations along the corridor to resume on a limited basis.

As you know, for worker safety, work on bridges running over Amtrak tracks can only take place during limited windows when overhead lines are de-energized. In the interest of expediting the installation of a temporary Amtrak barrier and reopening the on-ramp to traffic for Rhode Islanders, I am formally requesting Amtrak's support in implementing one of the following operational accommodations to enable additional safe access within the electrified right-of-way:

- **Temporary diesel operations:** Utilizing only diesel-powered equipment through this segment for a limited duration to allow rail service to continue while maintaining continuous access for construction without the constraints of energized infrastructure; or
- **Additional traction power outages:** Providing extended and more predictable traction power outage windows, specifically from 11:00 PM Monday, April 27 to 4:00 AM on Tuesday, April 28 and from 11:00 PM Tuesday, April 28 to 4:00 AM Wednesday, April 29, during which the catenary system is de-energized, to enable safe access to the right-of-way and continuous construction activity in proximity to overhead lines.

These accommodations will help expedite repairs and minimize disruption. The timely reopening of this on-ramp to traffic is my highest priority, and we are seeking to advance this work with urgency while maintaining the highest safety standards.

Thank you again for your partnership and thank you for your attention to this urgent request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. McKee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a stylized "M".

Daniel J. McKee
Governor

cc: Members of the Board of Directors, Amtrak