



# MOM NEWS UPDATE

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[www.NJ-ARP.org](http://www.NJ-ARP.org)

## NJ-ARP SALUTES THE 'REAL' MOM AND ITS SUPPORTERS

In growing numbers, Monmouth, Ocean, and yes, even Middlesex County residents are acknowledging that **MOM** (the Monmouth-Ocean-Middlesex rail line) is coming. There is no more room to build additional highways. All three counties' roads are at peak-hour capacity. What **NJ-ARP** foresaw in 1985 when it first proposed this rail line has come to pass. Despite more than 20 years of nothing but studies, **MOM** still is moving ahead.

New Jersey Transit is currently preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that will determine the alignment of the rail line. For over 20 years, **NJ-ARP** has been advocating The "Real" MOM alignment via Monmouth Junction and the Northeast Corridor. The Red Bank and Matawan alignments miss scores of employment, education and health care centers in New Jersey. Those alignments would provide a "commuter" rail line which is fine, if you want to go to New York City weekday mornings and come back in the evenings. But how about the thousands of travelers who want to utilize a rail line for non-New York City destinations, such as New Brunswick, Metropark, Trenton, even Philadelphia? How about seniors, teenagers or people without cars who still have no mobility within their home state? How about people who want to go somewhere on a weekend, or perhaps take in a show in New Brunswick? How about people in other parts of New Jersey who want to explore historic and other tourist destinations in Monmouth, Ocean or Middlesex counties?

Only The "Real" MOM is the answer! Have doubts? Take a ride on the Northeast Corridor any weekend, or perhaps the new River Line between Trenton and Camden, to see that scores of people use trains during off-peak hours! Take a look at families heading to entertainment and cultural destinations. Take a look at seniors or very young couples out for a ride to perhaps shop and have a leisurely lunch in towns like Burlington or New Brunswick. Ask merchants in Riverside or Rahway how much business the rail line brings them.

The "Real" MOM will provide other benefits as well. It will reduce traffic congestion and its resultant air pollution. Have doubts? Ask commuters how they feel about sitting on the New Jersey Turnpike where it parallels the Northeast Corridor and watching the trains speed by. Ask bus riders how they like sitting in a queue waiting to use the over-capacity express bus lane into the Lincoln Tunnel or how much they enjoy the 25 to 45 minutes it takes to get from the Turnpike to the Port Authority Bus Terminal when the train takes only 9-12 minutes between Secaucus and New York.

This, and a myriad of other reasons, is why leadership and everyday citizens in Monmouth and Ocean counties have supported the "Real" MOM – in particular, **NJ-ARP** thanks the *Monmouth-Ocean Development Council* and the *Central Jersey Rail Coalition*. To those who still do not support the "Real" MOM, we say ...

## MOM IS COMING. DON'T BE LEFT STANDING ON THE PLATFORM!

It would be a shame if the residents of Middlesex County were left standing on the platform. Could this really happen? The answer is yes. There *is* historical precedent.

- More than 20 years ago, residents of Rockland and Orange Counties in New York wanted better rail service on the Port Jervis Line, that is operated for the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) by New Jersey Transit (NJT). Bergen County (NJ) NIMBYs (Not In My Back Yard) protested about extra trains. As NJT was contractually obligated to run the MTA trains, they just bypassed Bergen County stations and ran the trains express from Suffern, N.Y. to Hoboken. It took years of requests from Bergen County patrons who wanted better (and express rail) service before NJT finally allowed some of those MTA express trains to stop in Bergen County towns. Now Bergen County service rivals that of service along the Northeast Corridor.

- When an important improvement called the Montclair Connection was being considered, local area NIMBYs vociferously protested the building of less than half a mile of rail line. When it became inevitable that the connection would be built, the town of Montclair, in a compromise with NJT, prohibited weekend service on the connection. Now, after the success of the rail line, both in passenger counts and in increasing home values all along the line, the residents of Montclair are clamoring for weekend service. NJT is considering it, but for now, the trains still bypass all of Montclair's five stations on weekends.

The people of Monmouth, Ocean and Middlesex Counties deserve **MOM**. They've waited long enough for some relief from the roadway congestion that has become endemic in the three counties. They also deserve the "Real" MOM – a rail line that will offer travelers connections to all of the state, *not* just a "commuter line" into New York City (see the back of this flier). **NJ-ARP** also invites you to go to our Web site and read more information about how The "Real" MOM will benefit you.

<http://www.nj-arp.org/mom-myths.html>

<http://www.nj-arp.org/mom-100.html>

<http://www.nj-arp.org/pr040928.html>

<http://www.nj-arp.org/pr051027.html>

**MOM MYTHS**

**MOM: 100 POINTS OF LIGHT**

**NJ-ARP, PARENT OF MOM, CREDITS OTHERS**

**SAY YES TO MOM**



## New Jersey Association of Railroad Passengers

P.O. Box 68, Chatham, New Jersey 07928-0068 <http://www.nj-arp.org>

### We'll Accept Only The 'Real' MOM!!

NJ Transit and some politicians are attempting to build a rail line via Matawan to the North Jersey Coast line using a defunct rail right-of-way where millions of taxpayer dollars have been spent converting it into a rail trail. This line would not even serve New Brunswick, the county seat of Middlesex. It would add almost an hour's travel time for Monmouth, Ocean and Middlesex residents seeking to travel to Trenton, Camden or Philadelphia.

**NJ-ARP** wants to see The "Real" MOM rail line built. The "Real" MOM connects to the Northeast Corridor (NEC) at Monmouth Junction, South Brunswick. The "Real" MOM offers riders an alternative transportation mode to congested Route 18, busy Route 9, the Garden State Parkway, and our local roads. It was an **NJ-ARP** member who, in 1985, first advanced the plan to utilize existing freight rail lines to offer passenger service in Monmouth, Ocean and Middlesex counties.

Why should residents of MOM counties not enjoy the convenience and ease of rail transit that communities along the River Line and Hudson Bergen Light Rail Line have? Why should our counties not enjoy the prosperity, revitalization and increased property values that these new rail lines have brought Camden, Burlington, Mercer and Hudson counties?

**NJ-ARP** is committed to serve all New Jersey citizens, including mothers with car-dependent children, dads who are tired of spending hours on gridlocked roads going to and from work, and senior citizens and others without cars. MOM will not just serve commuters going to New York. Destinations served also include Philadelphia, Princeton, Trenton, New Brunswick, Newark, and all of NJ Transit's rail lines, and even the world via the Newark/Liberty International Airport Station.

**NJ-ARP** is a not-for-profit advocacy group established in 1980 by concerned New Jersey residents who wanted a greater voice in deciding the transit future of our state. We seek to ensure a balanced, statewide transportation network for all of our citizens.

### MONMOUTH-OCEAN-MIDDLESEX RAIL LINE

**MOM = Miles Of Mobility for Monmouth, Ocean and Middlesex**

The "Real" **MOM** will give us connections to every NJT rail and light rail line in New Jersey.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us access to all major business centers in New Jersey.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us access to all major government centers in New Jersey.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us access to all major entertainment complexes in New Jersey.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us access to *both* New York City and Philadelphia.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us access to Amtrak trains to Washington, Boston and the nation.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us access to the world via Newark/Liberty International Airport.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us a safe, comfortable, worry-free ride with no traffic hassles.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us Miles Of Mobility at a fraction of the cost of driving.

The "Real" **MOM** will give us freedom from our cars.

For more information about **NJ-ARP**, please visit our Web site at <http://www.nj-arp.org>.