

Rep. Richard Neal leads tour of Union Stations in New Haven, Hartford

trains 1.jpg

Congressman Richard E. Neal, D-Mass., greets a Peter Pan bus full of business and government officials on the way from Springfield to New Haven for tours of the New Haven and Hartford train stations. Decemeber 8, 2014. (Michael S. Gordon / The Republican) *(Michael S. Gordon)*

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SPRINGFIELD — With a focus on the business and residential development that blossoms around rail stations, U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Springfield, is leading a tour Monday of rail stations in New Haven and Hartford.

The tour comes as several rail projects in Greater Springfield take significant steps forward.

Later this month, Amtrak trains will once again serve cities along the Connecticut River including Holyoke, Northampton, and Greenfield. Neal said \$73 million in federal stimulus funds have been invested into the regional rail line from New Haven to Springfield that parallels Interstate 91.

Springfield's Union Station is getting an \$82 million renovation that is expected to be completed in 2016.

"Union Station has a hold on all of us," Neal said.

The delegation includes Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno and representatives of the local business community.

The group is to meet with U.S. Reps. Rosa DeLauro, D-New Haven, and John Larson, D-Hartford, and take an Amtrak train from New Haven to Hartford and again to Springfield.

Updates from the tour will appear on MassLive.com throughout the day.

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