The New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) Rail Program will provide a dramatic increase in passenger rail service and facilitate service expansion to New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, and, eventually, Montreal. The CTrail Hartford Line service will connect communities, generate sustainable economic growth, help build energy independence, and provide links to travel corridors and markets beyond the region.

The Hartford Line, which is scheduled to launch in January 2018, will operate at speeds up to 110 mph, cutting travel time between Springfield and New Haven to as short as 79 minutes. Travelers in New Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Berlin, Hartford, Windsor, Windsor Locks, and Springfield will board trains every 45 minutes during the morning and evening peak hours and every 90 minutes during off-peak periods. When all the planned improvements are completed, trains will operate every 30 minutes during peak periods. The Hartford Line will provide direct or connecting service to New York City, Boston and Vermont.

The long-term vision of the Program, also known as the “Full Program” includes 25 round trip trains, additional connections to Boston and Montreal and 30 minute, bi-directional, peak hour service. New train stations would also be constructed in North Haven, Newington, West Hartford and Enfield.

Currently the Program is funded for a total of $569 million in state and federal funds for work from New Haven to Hartford. The remaining $425 million is yet to be funded, which would include track work from Windsor to Springfield, upgrades to existing stations in Windsor and Windsor Locks, as well as new stations in North Haven, Newington, West Hartford and Enfield.

Connecticut intends to seek additional funding from the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

The Full Vision also includes the addition of a second track, new train equipment, long-term improvements to the Hartford Viaduct and the Connecticut River bridge at Windsor Locks and additional parking at most stations.

PROGRAM SCOPE
Capital improvements include:
- Improve track and signals along the 62-mile rail corridor
- Upgrade bridges and culverts to accommodate double tracking
- Upgrade at-grade crossings to enhance safety
- Enhance existing stations and build new stations
- Provide new train equipment

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
- Completed Design: Fall 2014
- Launch New Service: Jan. 2018
- Full Program: 2030

PROGRAM VALUE
- $994 million

CURRENT FUNDING STATUS
- State Share: $378 million
- Federal Share: $191 million
- Unfunded: $425 million