

Task 6.1.8 Potential Rail Passenger Survey Results

Potential Rail Passenger Survey Report

Overview

Task 6.0 of the Danbury Branch EIS project is intended to provide an analysis of the existing transportation, rail, bus, highway conditions, and intermodal opportunities (including bicycle and pedestrian) in the Danbury Branch/Route 7 corridor between South Norwalk and New Milford. It also includes an analysis of the transportation effects and an analysis of the costs and benefits of each of the alternatives under consideration.

As part of this analysis, the URS Project Team developed and conducted two types of surveys for the Danbury Branch EIS. The first, a survey of existing passengers on the Danbury Branch to ascertain their various characteristics, preferences, and desires was previously reported. The results of the second survey, a non-rail user telephone survey are presented in this report.

The rail passenger survey consisted of a questionnaire distributed to riders on board the Danbury Branch commuter trains (On-Board Survey). The URS Team designed the questionnaire, assigned a survey crew, conducted the survey, and analyzed and documented the survey results presented in this report.

Introduction

This report provides findings of a survey conducted among commuters living in specified towns near the Danbury Branch Metro-North Line. The survey was designed to elicit commuter opinions and input on a wide range of topics. The study team completed a total of 400 surveys among commuters living near the Danbury Branch study corridor.

This report summarizes statistics collected from telephone interviews conducted among customers September 29 through October 15, 2008. All interviews were conducted during this time.

The *Danbury Branch Area Commuter Telephone Survey* included the following areas for investigation:

- Mode of transportation currently used;
- History of using Metro-North;
- Perceptions of the market; and
- Demographics.

Following this Introduction, Section II - contains and explains the methodologies employed in completing this *Danbury Branch Area Commuter Telephone Survey*, the margins for error and the confidence level for the statistics collected.

Section III - contains Highlights made after a careful analysis of the data which is presented in narrative format in the Summary of Findings, Section IV.