



U.S. Congressman

**Nick Rahall**

*WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS*

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*Great - will be good play*  
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**RAHALL THINKS CARDINAL COULD BE RETURNED TO DAILY SERVICE**

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) announced today that if the Administration promises to "do their part" with federal funding for infrastructure needs, the Cardinal could be returned to daily service within one to two years.

Rahall, who spoke with officials from Amtrak, found that the Cardinal is first on Amtrak's list of lines to restore to full service. Rahall added that to realize this goal, Amtrak needs \$105 million in Federal funds to levy another \$275 million in private financing to purchase the necessary equipment, which includes 100 passenger cars. That would allow Amtrak to reach all of its potential market.

"The Cardinal has steadily increased in passenger service over the last few years and in light of that, Amtrak would like to push them to 100% capacity," said Rahall. "But it is the same old song and dance. We want it, Amtrak wants it, but the administration says they cannot afford it."

"With the situation so rapidly changing in the world today, we need new vision, not continued blind faith in outdated ideas," said Rahall. "We keep pouring money into foreign aid, we keep defending foreign countries with our defense dollars, we keep sending them our surplus property-- when is it going to be West Virginia's turn again. Let's put West Virginia back on track, let's start with Amtrak."

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