

Getting from Here to There: Jim's Long-Term Transportation Vision

Jim knows that few issues have more of a direct impact on our day to day lives and economic prosperity than our transportation system. Since taking office, he has aggressively pursued solutions to address our transportation challenges, including securing funding for important local projects and working to build and implement a long-term, strategic transportation plan for Southwest Connecticut.

Local Accomplishments

In just the last two years, we have broken ground on a number of local projects that are creating jobs and will improve travel conditions and development possibilities. Some highlights include:

- Opening Phase 1 and breaking ground on Phase 2 of the Stamford Urban Transitway
- Revitalizing the transportation hub in Norwalk
- Replacing aging engines in over 30 Bridgeport buses
- Improved signals on the Danbury-Branch line
- New Metro North cars will soon make traveling by train more comfortable, more efficient, and safer.
- Resurfacing and bridge improvements on the Merritt Parkway
- Demolition of the Congress Street Bridge

Long-Term Strategy and Action

Incremental steps are all important, but our transportation problems can't be fixed by one new road or one new train. We need to implement a long-term regional vision that takes into consideration where people work, where people live, and where people shop, play, and do business. To lead us through the next decade, not just next year, Jim supports policies that:

- Encourage transportation-centered housing
- Make public transportation more accessible and more convenient
- Smooth traffic for those on the road.
- Would create a Cross Harbor Freight Tunnel, which would run under the Hudson River and connecting freight trains to Fairfield County.

Taking the Politics out of our Transportation Decisions

The investment required to put a long-term transportation plan into action is significant, and politics play too large of a role in deciding how our transportation dollars will be spent.

- Jim supports the creation of a transportation infrastructure bank that would remove the politics from big investment decisions so that we get bridges we need rather than bridges to nowhere.
- Jim knows that government alone cannot fund our transportation needs; we need a partnership that can leverage private investment to help our area develop and implement an interwoven economic, housing, and transportation vision. He will continue working with all levels of government and our partners in the private sector to make transportation in Southwest Connecticut more accessible, more efficient, and more economical.