

## Purpose and Need

The purpose and need for proposed transit improvements in the Nassau Hub are summarized below.

### Purpose

The Nassau Hub Study, in response to identified problems, is intended to achieve the following purposes:

- Improve public transit service to, from, and within this severely congested Study Area by providing increased transit capacity and faster, convenient access to and from major employment and activity centers for residents, employees and visitors alike.
- Enhance regional connectivity by expanding and better linking local transit services with LIRR in Nassau County; improve intermodal transit hubs where rail, bus, auto, bicycle and pedestrian links meet.
- Increase transit ridership by expanding transit services and facilities.
- Mitigate congestion via the provision of attractive, efficient modal options.
- Support transportation solutions that will be instrumental in improving the economic vitality and continuing redevelopment of the Study Area.
- Improve mobility options for residents, employees and visitors to employment, educational, medical and retail centers.
- Improve regional air quality by reducing or slowing the growth in auto emissions.
- Support local and regional land use plans and facilitate study area municipalities' efforts to direct redevelopment opportunities in transit-oriented development.

### Need

Based on the existing conditions and trends in the Study Area, transportation and related problems were identified. Based on those problems, the following needs have been identified that the Study should address:

- Support transit-oriented economic development opportunities and land use plans.
- Expand transportation system capacity.
- Increase travel choices now limited to automobiles and local bus service.
- Provide more reliable travel times by reducing congestion.
- Improve transit access and connectivity to, from and within the Study Area.
- Better integrate LIRR into local and regional transit options.
- Provide better off-peak and reverse-peak trip making options to service Study Area facilities.
- Improve operational efficiency.
- Improve environmental quality.

The project needs are instrumental in developing goals and objectives to guide the Study through the identification, development and screening of alternatives and the selection of a locally preferred alternative.