



# City of Milford, Connecticut

Founded 1639

**MILFORD TRANSIT  
DISTRICT**

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Henry D. Jadach  
Executive Director  
March 5, 2012

**Board of Directors**

Anthony Piselli, Sr.  
Chairman  
Peter Carroll  
Sec. / Treas.

## Written Testimony

### **SB-290 An Act Authorizing Bonds of the State for a Parking Structure in the Town of Milford**

Submitted by Henry Jadach-Executive Director of the Milford Transit District

The Milford Transit District operates fixed route bus services in Milford, a long haul Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Service from Milford to Norwalk (the Coastal Link), an ADA van service, and the Metro-North rail parking at Milford Station.

Over the past twenty years, parking in and around downtown Milford has been increasingly strained to the maximum. Required parking for the Superior Court, the Parsons Government Center, the Rail Station and commercial downtown Milford meet neither current nor future needs.

At the rail station, the District administers the parking program which includes 450 spaces, all of which are used for Metro-North parking. At this time, there is a waiting list of over 750 names. It currently requires a wait of over 3 ½ years to acquire a permit parking pass. This list represents only those individuals who know that a list exists and does not include those individuals who feel that putting their name on a list that has a 3 ½ year waiting period to be a futile endeavor.

Structured parking opportunities at the station are limited at best and do not present a viable solution to the overall parking needs. A parking structure in the vicinity of or adjacent to the Superior Court would be a parking trifecta. A parking structure there would provide for the needs of an expanded courthouse, serve the growing commercial needs of downtown Milford and help alleviate the crush for rail parking.

Although a new station in West Haven is imminent (six to eight months) and those new spaces would certainly help the area's rail parking shortage, it does not look far enough into the future. Additional parking in Milford would help to see into a future of more rail cars providing additional opportunities for commuters and less dependence on I-95 and the brutal commute to Fairfield County and New York.

We encourage the use of public transportation and yet we stymie the opportunity by not having enough seats on trains and no place for prospective commuters to park.

A well designed structure that could accommodate safe and secure parking for the courthouse, encourage the continued vitality of commercial downtown Milford and help provide parking opportunities for new commuters is a home run all around and a sensible and responsible public endeavor.