

Appendix 13A - 3: Online Comment Form Submissions

GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

Thank you for your interest in this study and taking the time to provide us with your formal comments during this very important Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Phase. Please provide the project team with your thoughts, ideas, or concerns on the Draft EIS for the Glassboro-Camden Line (GCL) project.

NOTE: Formal Comments in this form are limited to 2,000 characters (about 350-400 words). Comments exceeding that length can either be emailed to publicinvolvement@glassborocamdenline.com, or sent via U.S. mail to:

Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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This is such an important transportation project to South Jersey residents, and I'm glad to see it finally taking shape. I've read the EIS and I'm excited by the possibility of having the option for getting from Gloucester County to Camden and Philadelphia without the need for a car. As a Rowan University graduate, I'm also sure that this line will see heavy use by school students, faculty, and staff. Modern South Jersey history is marred by a lack of direct, reliable transit into the heart of our metropolitan region, and it's far past due that this line comes to life.



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Name

Regan O'Connor

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I'm writing to oppose the proposed line. As a resident of Glassboro I'm concerned about the influx of a criminal element into my community. Similar projects in Burlington county (e.g., the Riverline) have led to a dramatic increase in crime in Palmyra, Cinnaminson, and Riverton NJ. Please don't let that happen here!



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Name

John Kimmel

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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As soon as my wife learned this project is back she immediately said "we're moving." I like how my area lacks public transportation. We moved here because I didn't want to live in the city. And all this is is an avenue to creating exactly that. I'm fine with a stop directly to the college, that's a given. It would probably help students from existing areas that have stops to get to school. That's great. But to have a stop where literally nothing is, (the sewell location) makes no sense. It would however if they planned to eventually start building behind Car Effex, (We're not dumb) . All this is doing to paving the way to making everything around this route exactly like how all the current stops for this train is, let's just say they need a higher police presence. Totally against it. Put this idea back where it was, on the bottom of the pile, of the trash can filling cabinet.



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Name

Raymond Bennett

Email

Organization

City

Gloucester City

State

NJ

Zip Code

08030

Formal Comment *

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I live on the 700 block of Cumberland street, right next to the proposed Gloucester City station parking lot. Is there consideration to relocate residents within this area? Trains and cars running until midnight every night would seem to cause major devaluation of the property as well as annoy residents. Thanks.



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My room mate and I travel from Westville to Philadelphia frequently. Having a train line that came directly past our home would help greatly. While we take NJTransit busses now they do not always run at times when we need to return making us have to find other transportation or leave Philly early. Having this service will allow us to see the entire game or concert and still be able to get home via public transit.



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Name

Steve Williams

Email

Organization

Greenfields

City

West Deptford

State

NJ

Zip Code

08096

Formal Comment *

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Which freight rail lines, if any, would be used in the construction of the proposed rail line. The freight line I'm concerned with cuts through Greenfields, West Deptford between Rt 45 and Kings Hwy.



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Name

Paul Martin

Email

Organization

City

MANTUA

State

NJ

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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I work in Camden, and pass by the train station every day. Drug addicts stumbling across the street is an all too common sight. Seeing the types of people that frequent the train station, I would NOT use the light rail line, and could not in good faith recommend doing so to my friends and family. This will not ease the traffic on our roads. It will not create a plethora of local jobs. It won't even save any time on my morning commute - in fact taking the train would be longer. All this is going to do is attract an unwanted element to loiter in the area and put a strain on our local police force and endangering the lives of our friends and neighbors. We don't need it and we don't want it.



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Name

Melissa Hamilton

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

City

Pitman

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I have several significant concerns about this line. The tracks run directly through some very residential areas. The noise concern for myself and other people who live close to the tracks is high. In Pitman alone, the train crosses 3 roads in a half mile distance in town. In addition to the noise of the train itself, the horn noise at the crossings is significant. Many people living here love the quiet small town atmosphere, which could be drastically altered with frequent train traffic. I am concerned I will have trouble selling my house. In addition, we have a high number of people, especially kids, walking and biking around town, crossing these railways. Increasing traffic on these rails could cause safety issues for these kids. Finally, the concern over easier access to our small towns for drugs to travel into is also worrisome. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hamilton



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Name

Josh Hitchner

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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Great project, looking forward to improved connectivity within Gloucester county, greater access to Philadelphia, and additional options for commuting



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Name

Dani Cooke

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I am fully in support of the Glassboro-Camden line. having lived in Portland, Oregon and frequently using the light rail there- the development of the GCL was one of the reasons we chose to move to Pitman. Easy access to the city and other surrounding towns would facilitate economic growth for all towns along the line.



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Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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This is not what our State needs right now, fiscal responsibility is key. The pandemic has taken an already large budget deficit and increased it massively. Southern NJ cannot afford to create another poorly run and mis-managed waste at the expense of hard working toll paying commuters.



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Name

Robert Dzinski

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I have been an avid support of this project and public transit in general. However I can not see how not elevating the line through Pitman can be justified after the EIS draft. Pitman has 3 crossings within a quarter mile. The residents near the down town will have to hear the train warning bells or whistles throughout the day. Many of them are within 100 ft. I'm afraid that this will have negative impact on the progress that Pitman has made in the last few years. I hope that grade separation in some form can still be a consideration with this project.



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Name

Alison Hastings

Email

Organization

writing as a resident of Camden County

City

Collingswood

State

NJ

Zip Code

08108

Formal Comment *

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Please withhold my email address from public release.

I am in support of this new transit line. I think a new line extending from Glassboro to Camden would serve the residents of Camden and Gloucester counties very well. It would add value to residential properties in the connecting communities, such as Woodbury and Wenonah. It would also better connect the academic resources of Rowan in Glassboro and Rutgers in Camden. I think this could really help these two universities solidify their roles as South Jersey's universities and make them more attractive for students. Lastly, while current travel patterns are disrupted right now, we know that we need more non-auto choices to travel. A transit line will attract SOV drivers much more so than additional bus service, and can ease commuting congestion between Gloucester Co and Philadelphia.



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Name

Joshua Hanson

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Living near the proposed Sewell station, I am curious as to the details of the platform and site. There exists a building at the crossroads of the rail and Center Street that I believe is a derelict train station. Specifically, what are the plans for that building?



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Woodbury Heights

State

NJ

Zip Code

08097

Formal Comment *

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The northern end of the proposed Woodbury Heights Vehicle Maintenance Facility, identified in the Draft EIS as Resource 10, WWH-A, is freshwater forested wetland classified as a NWI palustrine forested (PFO) wetland and a mapped New Jersey deciduous wooded wetland. Please discuss the feasibility of cutting a path through this area wide enough to accommodate the yard's northern rail loop while leaving much of the remaining wooded wetland undisturbed.

A Veterans Park and planned 911 memorial are located on the northern side of Elm Avenue, just north of the proposed Woodbury Heights station. Please discuss the impact the additional rail lines will have to this park / memorial and any possible relocation plans for the park and memorial.

A pedestrian walkway used by elementary- and high school-aged children is located at the southern end of the Woodbury Heights Elementary School and connects the 600 block of Lake Avenue with the 400 block of Linden Avenue. Please discuss the feasibility of erecting an overhead pedestrian walkway so the school-aged children would not need to cross over three or four railroad tracks at grade.



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Name

Paul McIntyre

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Pitman

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Formal Comment *

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Love the plan. Can't wait for it to be implemented. This will really help commuting from these communities.



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Name

DOMINIC GENOVESE

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

WENONAH

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08090-2017

Formal Comment *

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The negative impact that this line will bring to Wenonah is enormous. The environment will drastically change. Parking on streets, transient cars and people are just a few things that will impact our neighborhood. In addition, ambient noise will affect us and the environment. Losing and cutting down of space will affect the wildlife, such as birds, squirrels and a host of other wildlife. The pernicious effect it will have on our borough will stretch for many, many years to come. The crime rate will go up. Families will leave like they are doing now. Taxes will continue to rise and our borough will suffer. I implore you to think about families and stop the avarice that is accompanying this project.



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

William Hovell

Email

Organization

Mantua Resident

City

Mantua

State

NJ

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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The rail line is a good idea for the development of the corridor and Gloucester County. The line should be planned for possible expansion across the Delaware River to Philadelphia Airport, the Many Yard, sports Complex and then connection to the other side of the PATCO line in Philadelphia. The other end should have the planned extension to Vineland.



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Name

Alan Fisher

Email

Organization

City

Glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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Having ridden many different forms of transit, I'd hope that the GCL plans on double tracking majority of the route, waiting on a single track siding for a late train to pass is a waste of time and can be avoided in the first place with double tracking.

Also I feel that the terminus station planned to open in Downtown Glassboro is a bad foresight, because if the line is ever extended to Millville, the Glassboro branch stub would require an extra track rework, costing more money than necessary.



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Name

Larry Smith

Email

Organization

None

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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Given the proximity (immediately adjacent to the rails) of the Wenonah Municipal Building and Wenonah Community Building, it would be appropriate to address the impacts of the GCL on the structures, the occupants of the building, and the execution of business activities within the buildings.



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Name

Christine Krumanocker

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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There is absolutely no need for a passenger train in Sewell. Especially not a "no park" station in the Cinderella neighborhood. There are not enough people in this neighborhood with the need for a train to even have this make sense. We are a small family oriented part of town that enjoy the luxuries of wooded backyards and quiet and clean streets for our kids to play on. This will also drastically decrease our home values because the need is just not here for a transit train. People seek this area out for the quiet and to get away from the hustle and bustle and you want to run it right through the middle of my neighborhood? I don't see how this would even be profitable in any way. We can barely keep small business's open in our town because of the lack of need here. Most of the people living here do not mind the 10 minute ride to the store because it keeps the noise and traffic of it away from our homes. I will move from my home if this becomes approved because this is the exact opposite reason that I moved here. I moved here for quiet and safe streets for my kids. Please don't ruin that for us.



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Name

Elizabeth bohn

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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My name is Elizabeth Bohn. My family and I live on East Cumberland ave in Sewell. I have great concerns regarding the approval of the glassboro/Camden lightrail project that is in plans for our community. I grew up in riverside NJ and was a young girl when the Riverline to Camden was put in place. Our once quiet and peaceful community quickly spiraled downhill as a result of the direct line into Camden. Drugs became widespread in our little community and riverside still has yet to recover for the epidemic that claimed the lives of many of my childhood friends.

My family and I just moved to Sewell a year ago and the major attraction for us was the quiet and peaceful atmosphere that this town provides. The addition of this makes me scared for my children and community. My worst fear is Sewell suffering the same fate that riverside did. Please reconsider the addition of the glassboro/Camden riverline. It could drastically change our community for years to come. Thank you for your time regarding this important matter and listening to the voice of your community.



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Name

Susan Combs

Email

Organization

Resident

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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The frequency of the Sewell station being used is too often, in my opinion. At 51 years old I am basically a life-long resident of Mantua and two of the major reasons I have chosen the Sewell area for its charm and low level of traffic. This line would take away both of those.

Sincerely,
Susan Combs



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Name

Michael Kurtz

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Hello, My family and I live in the Cinderella neighborhood of sewell, which the tracks split between east and west. The tracks are very close to our houses and we've become accustomed to the freight that runs sporadically throughout the week. When we purchased our house in 2010 we discussed the responsibilities of living so close to an active railroad line and deemed it safe to raise a family around, as the train runs slow and not very often. I am writing this letter to express my concern with the gcl project and the potential negative impact it may have on my neighborhood. This neighborhood is chock full of kids, from very little to teenagers. A transport line moving through the neighborhood regularly could pose a danger to them. Also, their is the possibility of people parking their cars on our streets, as the station is to be a walk up. I do not see the benefit of installing this line. I don't see the necessity of it and wish to express my voice against the project as a whole. Thank you for your time and understanding.



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Name

Desiree Lassmire

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Mantua

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Please take into consideration how close the train stop would be to Sewell School elementary school and parks. The distance between the train tracks and the school is approximately a half mile. What foot traffic would that bring close to our schools, close to two different parks? This is a train line that will connect a notoriously bad area in NJ, some would argue one of the worst, to a college town. That has read flags all over it it's self. There might be a select few that would use this for good reason, but I feel as though this train line would do nothing but cause many many problems and issues. It could ruin the small town of Mantua for many reasons. The noise level, the foot traffic and other people it would bring in, fear of keeping our kids safe and the wrong people away from our schools and parks, pollution, traffic issues with constant crossing occupancy, street parking, theft, safety of the people with constant trains at a much higher speed going through town... and so on. This is not what our town needs or wants! Listen to the people living here in Mantua.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I live right down the street from where the tracks are that you plan on putting a station and running this rail line at. My kids ride their bikes and play on these streets. Having a rail line run through this neighborhood would not allow the kids in this neighborhood to be able to ride their bikes and play with their friends safely. Having a train run through here every 15 mins would cause more traffic down Center Street with having to stop for the train all the time. Please reconsider this. It is not safe for our children and would cause more traffic than necessary.



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Name

Katie

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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We are a small community here in Sewell. There is no need to bring this GLASSBORO CAMDEN light rail here. The stop in Sewell is tiny with no parking meaning cars will be lined up on our streets and that is unacceptable. Not to mention it is right in the middle of a NEIGHBORHOOD with kids and pets. There are main roads and highways that travel to all the towns listed. Between those highways and roads, and Lyft, uber, etc. who will be actually taking this train? Sewell is a small community with no need for this.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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Will this rail system be professionally operated? Or will it fall into the hands of the Delaware River Port Authority?



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Name

Nicholas glassmire

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Homeowner

City

Mantua

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I think since a study was done in 2009, we should maybe send out or hold a voting session for all residents of effected areas. I used to work for the railroad, people hate having freight trains come through and stopping traffic making noise a few times a day. Me and many of my fellow neighbors don't want a train rolling through here every 15-30 minutes.



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Name

Julia Horn

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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Hello, I just moved to Wenonah and want to voice my full support for this project. I live 3 blocks from the train station and would benefit hugely in my commute into Center City Philly everyday. I am hopeful that those in town who understand the benefits of this will outweigh those who don't.



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Name

Michele Boyd

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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My preference would be not to expand this existing rail line to light rail service as the railroad tracks are within 250 feet of my house. I am very concerned about noise traffic and vibration.



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Name

Lisa Campbell

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I moved here for the serene location. I am not one bit happy about this project. It will be loud with polluting trains and strangers parking on our streets. These trains have no business coming through our neighborhood. Also the value of our homes will drop drastically. This project does not help any of our residents . This is going to be nothing but a tax burden for the residents of Gloucester County. Go somewhere else!



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Name

Joseph and Michele Lacina

Email

Organization

None

City

Sewell

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08080

Formal Comment *

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My family has lived in Sewell, Mantua Township, since my grandparents moved here in 1918. This project will impact the sandpipers who nest near the rail lines in Sewell; the traffic situation at the entrance to the Sewell Post Office; the on-street parking of local streets; the safety of the children who exercise at the Sewell ball field near the tracks; and the property owners who may be impacted by such incidents as that reported on 10/6/20 by 6ABC news of a train fire, and another incident reported by the Courier Post on 6/17/19 when the Camden-Trenton Light Rail vehicle's wheels were found to have failed to meet required inspection results. Two major incidents in less than a year...what a great safety record! When the state of New Jersey is currently lacking enough funds to cover its budget without going further into debt, to squander time and money on a rail line similar to the Camden-Trenton River Light Rail Line which has already proved it lacks ridership and cannot make a profit, is wasting tax-payer money that could, and should, be spent elsewhere. The placement of such a line will negate riders as it will not impact the traffic on the Route 42 or 295 corridors at all. The argument that we need this for businesses and Rowan University when the impact of Covid-19 virus has seen colleges undertake online classes with no guarantee they will return to in-person instruction, only proves the futility of this venture as our small towns will be changed by noise, pollution, and destroy our environment, forever. This proposal is irresponsible at the very least.

Joseph and Michele Lacina
Sewell, NJ



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison

P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Email

Organization

City

Mantua

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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I am a resident of Mantua Township and am opposed to this rail line. I fear that a direct train to Camden will bring more crime and drug issues into our towns. The traffic and noise the rail line would create would be a public nuisance to our town. It is an extremely expensive project. I feel that at this point in time with so many people suffering financially due to Covid-19 that it would be irresponsible to spend so much money on this train. Many people who used to commute into the city are now working from home and it may stay that way for many years to come. This project should be put on hold for the foreseeable future. Thank you.



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Name

Astrid N Rodriguez

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Good day, I want to leave a comment expressing my opinion on this project. I wholeheartedly believe this is not a great thing to have in our small town and/or community. I personally was raised and lived in Camden most of my life and my husband and I left the area, not because I am ashamed of where I am from, but because of the city living and pollution. I truly do not wish to have this new light rail line in my own back yard, nor the traffic that it will bring to our area. I enjoy the peace and quiet of my current and tranquil neighborhood. I would really appreciate the consideration that most of us in our community have about this project and its negative effects. Thank you!



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Name

Omar Rodriguez

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Good afternoon! My wife and I want to express our thoughts and opinions on the matter at hand with this new light rail project that is being presented to be built in our neighborhood. We believe and feel that we do not think this light rail is a good idea to have in our town. I actually lived in Camden with my wife for a few months, and we did not like the city living, and thus we moved to this town trying to get away from city living. I enjoy the peace and quiet of neighborhood, and would hate to have my home value be decreased due to this new project, or having to move because of the pollution this rail will cause. We have small children in our house, and we enjoy the tranquility and peace of mind that our kids could play outside and not have to worry about a train line that they could potentially get hurt by. So my family and I are not in agreeance to this project by no means. Thank you!



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Name

ASHLEY MACHULSKY

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

MANTUA TOWNSHIP LIFE LONG RESIDENT

City

SEWELL

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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WE DO NOT WANT THIS LINE THROUGH OUR TOWN!!! WE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS NIGHTMARE!! GET A CAR AND DRIVE LIKE THE REST OF US!! TAKE A BUS- DO NOT DISRUPT TOWNS AND HOMES OF PEOPLE WHO PURCHASED KNOWING THE TRAIN RUNS THROUGH MINIMALLY! ARE YOU GOING TO PURCHASE ALL THE HOMES AND LOST REVENUE DUE TO THE FACT THAT NO ONE WANTS THAT RUNNING PAST THEIR KIDS OR PETS. FORGET THE NOISE OR THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO LIGHTS OR RAILING WHEN THE TRAIN COMES THROUGH. OH AND LETS NOT FORGET THE POLLUTION!!!! GET A CAR, RIDE A BUS!!! OR HERE'S A THOUGHT FIX THE ROADS WE PAY FOR!! NOT A STUPID UNNECESSARY MONEY HOLE OF A TRAIN!!! KEEP THE DRUGS AND CRAP OUT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS!! WOULD YOU WANT TO LIVE WITH A TRAIN 50 FT FROM YOUR DOOR EVERY 15 MINUTES?!!!!!!!! HARD NO!!!!



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Name

Nick Sammacicci

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Mantua

State

Nj

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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This is a disgrace to try and lush this through during this pandemic so there is no public pushback. This has been proposed before and just like then no one living in these areas wants any part of this in their neighborhood



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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Please rethink the railway from Glassboro to Camden, particularly running through Sewell near Mantua. These areas are already getting over crowded, dealing with more traffic issues, and it is taking away from the atmosphere of the town. People like this area because it's not as busy as places like Washington Township. We like a smaller town feel but having access to things as well. Having a train running through town regularly will be such a disturbance to those living close to the tracks. We pay good tax money for living in this town and that will absolutely take away from the desire to live here. It may not be a good enough reason for some, but I know the people of this town are feeling that this is something that will surely take away from the atmosphere of the town.



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Name

Ryan McCormick

Email

Organization

Home Owner

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I want no parts of this in my neighborhood, I moved to Sewell in 2009 to get away from this type of noisy environment. I couldn't be more against this!



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Name

Josh

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I am 100% against this proposed plan for the train. I recently moved to Sewell, 1 house away from the railroad tracks. The noise level is already very high from the blaring of the horn at all hours of the night. I have a 2 year old daughter that literally shakes in fear everything it goes by. I accept this as it was already like this when I bought the house and it's only a couple times a day. This new plan would send trains by my house every 25 minutes, not only continuing to scare my daughter, lower my new homes value, and above all else, create a major safety concern for all the kids in our neighborhood. Not only is this plan dangerous and irresponsible but offers nothing back to the people who will have to sacrifice the most! This plan can not move forward!



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Name

Michael Salvatore

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Homeowner

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I believe a train coming from Camden to our neighborhood would be a disaster I've been trying to do this for 40 years it's not necessary anybody needs to go to Camden they get in the car and drive. I vote no for this project



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P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Name

Nicholas Fournarakis

Email

Organization

Mantua Township Resident

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I am NOT in support or favor of the proposed GCL station stops in Mantua Township, specifically, the stop on Center Street. It is my fear that this will create unwanted situations within the community.



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Name

Laura snow

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

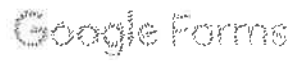
Formal Comment *

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Hello, I live on East Atlantic Ave in Sewell, NJ. I am extremely concerned for my children's and neighborhoods safety with a train going by all day. This train is not going through empty areas but going through school communities with playgrounds, schools, open grass areas for kids to play. Also, I will be paying the bill with tax increases? This project is not the slightest bit profitable and will need to take tax payers hard earned money to just stay afloat. Where is the communities vote in all this? This effects our lives the most and we have zero input? Who will be paying for damage that will occur overtime to my foundation with all the vibrations from trains? How about the air quality? Environmental impacts in local ecosystems? Our property values? Who will want to live in these communities now with hearing a train horn blow all day? People will move out and you won't get your tax money then. So many failed rail projects in other places I don't see how a train to basically nowhere will be a improvement to these communities it will pull apart. Such a waste of resources. We need the numbers and proof this will not destroy our lovely towns, you owe this respect to these communities.



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Name

Heather

Email

Organization

City

Woodbury

State

Nj

Zip Code

08096

Formal Comment *

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This is only gonna make it faster for people to get
Thier drugs easier way more replases coming and these small
Towns have small
Kids we don't need this or want it



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Name

Alicia

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I do not want this train coming through our neighborhood. Children are everywhere. Including mine who ride bikes near the tracks. I fear for their safety in so many aspects. I am concerned about noise, the pollution and the people walking on and off. Where will they park? Up and down my stree? I would be in constant worry letting my child out to play (getting hit or kidnapped) or even stand at their school bus stop right near the tracks as well. We have enough traffic congestion on Center st. And who pays for this? Will my property value go down being so close to the tracks? I moved to Mantua twp to get away from that sort of stuff and now they try and sneak this in during Covid. No one will ride this train. Please think about us families and reconsider!



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Name

Joseph noverati

Email

Organization

City

Woodbury

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08096

Formal Comment *

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Stop!!! We the citizens do not want this train line. we will protest this every single day to stop this , we will vote you out of you push this through against our wishes



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Name

Rebecca noverati

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Woodbury

State

New jersey

Zip Code

08096

Formal Comment *

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No way!! Wa don't want this . This will only bring down the value of our homes while the towns raise our taxes . We the people do not want this at all and will protest every single day till you abandon this terrible idea



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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Name

Email



Organization

Mom, teacher, resident of Sewell along the tracks

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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GCL is a terrible idea and will be dangerous and disrupt our peaceful community. My neighborhood in Sewell Mantua Twp is a crime-free, quiet area filled with kids who all play outside, ride bikes, so many families walk, jog, and walk pets. This train will drive all the nice, working class families out of these neighborhoods and they are going to turn to filth. This train will ruin these quaint small towns. The families here won't stand for it. Disrupt our lives, people who have been here for years, who take care and maintenance their homes, who have children, that play and wait for school busses. You are going to turn our neighborhoods into drug infested trash. Put it on rt 55. How dare you. There's not enough people who attend college from Camden to Rowan for this to even make sense. Have Rowan bus those people. Mantua Twp police are going to have their hands full then. All for the almighty dollars, no one cares what happens to our peaceful little towns where the residents actually care about their kids, work hard for their money, maintain their homes, and pay their bills??? All for the ghetto to have an easier commute to our towns to bring their drugs and crime?? This is the worst idea and will turn our towns into the ghetto.



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Name

Jessie Smith

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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Withhold my information if possible



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Name

Jessie Smith

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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It is my understanding that this train, which would run right through the center of our town , would be running every 7 to 10 minutes during rush hour. How can it not be considered a negative impact on our small community. My understanding is the negetive impact to this community far outweigh any benefits. There is no parking available here and to think that this isn't an issue is short sighted. Our quality of life would be so diminished. There are other options for this rail that must be considered as we are not the only community effected.



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Name

Email

Organization

n/a

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I live one and one-half blocks from the train line, and three and one-half blocks from a proposed "walk-up" station. I write in support of the project. I lived in Woodbury, Pitman, and now Sewell, and I worked in Center City Philadelphia for over thirty years. Though I am now retired, I would have taken this train into Philadelphia EVERY DAY of my working life, had it only been available. I would have saved money on tolls, parking, etc. - perhaps not even needing a second car. I would have saved time - probably one to two hours saved on every day with bad weather, or with shore traffic. I would still use this train for no-driving, no-parking trips to Philadelphia for cultural attractions, sporting events, etc. I think that the value of my house will go up with this train. I think that "walk to train" is an advantage in a real estate listing, demonstrated by places like Haddonfield and Collingswood. On a less personal level, I feel that this train will be a huge advantage for students, faculty and employees at Rowan University. Not everyone can afford to own/run a car, especially if/when gasoline prices go up.



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Name

Michael Gordy

Email

Organization

Westville Brewery

City

Westville

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08093

Formal Comment *

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As a business on Broadway in Westville and a resident in the Pine Acres section of Deptford Twp, I welcome the commuters the train would bring to our business and our town. Westville Brewery welcomes the opportunity that a commuter train would bring to the whole downtown of Westville.



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Name

Renee Ward

Email

Organization

Grandmother of a 7th grader at 204 W. Salem Ave

City

Sewell .

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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To Governor Murphy,

My name is Renee Ward. I am the Grandmother of a 7 th grader named Dominic Ferretti. Dominic, my daughter and Son in Law expressed their concern to me about putting a speed line in the center of their neighborhood where he rides his bike with his friends, where his bus stop is and where they live. They live right beside the speed line should it be approved. They would hear this noise all day long. This neighborhood is a very quiet and peaceful place to live. If you should decide to approve this, they will lose their safe and quiet place to live. I don't think it's fare to interrupt their way of living by making a speed line there. It's just not a good idea. I know you all are thinking about the money, but please, there are a lot of kids around there and hard working people who want to keep their neighborhood, quiet, safe and peaceful. I felt that I had to express my concerns if in fact a speed line would be made there in the center of their neighborhood. It would hurt everyone deeply. Please do not let this happen.
Thank you, Renee Ward.



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Name

Elliot

Email

Organization

City

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Please consider all the home owners who live along this route. No one wants the train route thru their towns and in their neighborhoods. The only people who will benefit from this plan is the drug dealers who will have more access to new potential clients and drug addicts who can now have a better and faster route to Camden for their drugs. Please use the Route 55 option to save our neighborhoods and keep crime down.



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Name

Catherine Kaiser

Email

Organization

City

Woodbury

State

NJ

Zip Code

08096

Formal Comment *

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I feel the light rail is a positive plan to connect Camden and Glassboro. I do wish you were using electric trains to reduce the pollution and impact to the environment. This project took 20+ years to evolve. Let's make the right choices for the future of both counties.



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Name

Kristel Lauk

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am against this project.



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Name

Doris Bechta

Email

Organization

Sewell neighbor

City

Sewell mantua twp

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I am opposed to the light rail line extension coming through our town . I have been a resident for 30 years. I live directly in front of the railroad tracks on Cape May Ave in Sewell. The conrail train that comes through twice per day is very loud and shakes my whole house I cannot imagine a train coming through every fifteen minutes or half hour every day. I also live off of mantua blvd out area has become very busy with traffic. Trying to get out of our street onto the blvd is not an easy task. This train will create more traffic and parking issues we do not even have sidewalks on my street. I am also very concerned about the train bringing people from the city into our town which could cause more crime and violence . How would that effect our police response let alone our property values. I will be attending the town meetings.



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Name

Teresa Brown

Email

Organization

City

WEST DEPTFORD

State

NJ

Zip Code

08093-1922

Formal Comment *

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Yes! I am in support of this endeavor! Who will be contracted to restore native habitat or do ecological landscaping in area where stations are needed?



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Name

tim walker

Email

Organization

City

pitman

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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My family is adamantly opposed to the Camden-Glassboro light rail line. The traffic and noise of trains passing through our town would completely destroy the atmosphere of a small borough like Pitman.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Mantua

State

NJ

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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I disagree with spending taxpayer money on this project. It will not benefit long standing residents and will decrease home values, increase crime & create a traffic nightmare where it crosses busy township roads. I do not want this project to proceed!!



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071-2449

Formal Comment *

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I am a lifelong resident of Pitman. I live next to the tracks. This rail line will ruin our town, destroy my house value, create alot of noise and disruption. As it is, we can not hear ourselves talk when the train goes by but that is about 2x a day. No big deal. However, this line will fracture our daily lives. No more enjoying outside or having our windows open. Pitman is a walking district and the trains are unsafe for our kids. I am beyond concerned and upset. It is an absolute waste of money and we do not want it here!!! Think about the towns and families that you are negatively effecting. PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS TO OUR TOWN!!! Put yourself in my shoes and have a heart, please!!!



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Name

HARRY sparks

Email

Organization

City

sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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not a good idea to have trains whizzing thru small towns where kids are playing.and no parking available anywhere around these proposed stations.



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Name

Robin DeGirolamo

Email

robindeg@hotmail.com

Organization

City

Mantua Township Sewell Section

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I am against this. Once again this is being pushed on our community. Money being spent again, for a project that is not only unwanted but unnecessary. If you feel a rail system is needed, why not the rt 55/42 corridor, where it was meant to be in the first place.



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Name

Matt D

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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This is horrible for our small town. The last thing we want is a train barreling past our homes all the time. If the need this train so bad put it on the rt55/42 corridor where it actually makes sense.



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Rachel

Email

Organization

Resident

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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As a resident and this service be extra close to my house I am NOT in favor of this happening. I am against the project and do not support it.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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As a new resident of Sewell, I do not support this project. I chose to live here based on the quiet, safe community and do not want a train line with a direct connection to Philadelphia via Camden. Conversations with neighbors have shown they all feel the same way.



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Name

Gina Tanzola

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08080

Formal Comment *

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Hello, I am here to let the GCL Project Committee and all others involved that I am highly against running a line from Glassboro to Camden. There are many reasons as to why this is a bad idea, but first and foremost, the people who are devoted to their town and why they have made the decision to move to this town is because of the small-town feel. By running this line, we are going to be operating in a busier, noisier community with traffic build-up. As a new resident to Sewell, I am deeply saddened by this news and might wonder if it was a mistake to move to this town. I also am against this as the added traffic will lead to higher levels of pollution. I speak for many others (my children included), please do not move forward with this project. Thank you.



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Name

Erik Reebenaker

Email

Organization

Verizon

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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My name is Erik Reebenaker at 153 Monmouth ave Sewell NJ 08080. I want to express my extreme opposition to this project and demand that it be reconsidered to a more suitable location like that on Rt. 55. This project will completely change this development with a train running through from 5am until Midnight every 15 minutes. The ridership projections they have are out of date and this train will loose money like every other public train system. The noise to my location is rated at a 69 one notch below severe in the EIS of 70 which is completely unacceptable. What will be done to compensate for home value loss? The traffic from the train stops this will generate are going to make passage in this town terrible. In a time where budgets are stretched, where are the Billions of dollars coming from to fund this? If they are Federal grants or agencies this money could be used in a multitude of ways that positively impact South Jersey and its small towns like Sewell, Wenonah and Pitman. Please reconsider this potential project and either stop it from taking place or put it on rt 55 where it makes more sense. Concerns have been voiced to our Mayor and community action will continue to take place to demonstrate our opposition to this to the politicians who are making this decision.



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Name

Rita Lombardo

Email

Organization

n/a

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I am not in favor of the GCL Corridor. It will cause noise, traffic and pollution.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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This is a disgrace!!! Crime is going to sky rocket! I do not approve of this



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Name

Everet

Email

Organization

City

Millville

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08332

Formal Comment *

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I support this project in its entirety. This region needs rail. What happens in Gloucester and Camden counties affects us down in Cumberland. Please build this rail line and more. Do it.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I DO NOT support the GCL; this train will be a safety issue for the towns in question. The train will effectively cut many towns in half, preventing children a safe passage to and from school in walking towns. Additionally, the noise caused by the train horn, essentially every 7-9 minutes in peak hours, is of great concern. The costs associated with this project, an estimated 2 billion, are far too great; NJ already has some of the highest taxes in the region and this train is guaranteed to loose money. Research shows an overall decline in public transit over the last several years, more cars on the road as well as future technologies involving driver-less car services. These are many of the reasons NOT to move forward with this deeply flawed plan.



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Name

Sarah Kearney

Email

Organization

Say No to GCL

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am a big fan of public transportation. Throughout my life I have always enjoyed taking a train or bus whether it was just from S Jersey to Philly for school or longer expeditions with multiple legs like taking the LIRR to NYC to Washington DC. BUT I CANNOT SUPPORT THE GCL. In a few years it will be obsolete (as diesel trains will not have a place in the future) and the tax payers will be stuck paying for it. Not to mention the disruption it will cause to traffic and the education of the children whose school is along the train track. There will be increased pollution and trash; bogging down of local roads due to a lack of parking and frequent stoppages for train crossings; and noise pollution. If the train would be widely used I could overlook most of the above complaints, but there is little need for a train that will take 40 minutes to go from Glassboro to Camden. Bus Line 408 could be utilized for the same trip. Last I checked there are still plenty of seats available on the bus.



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Name

Jamie Burk

Email

Organization

Mantua township resident

City

Sewell

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08080

Formal Comment *

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I live very close to the railroad tracks and we deal with a train coming through 2x per day right now and that makes our home shake and at times wakes our children. I cannot imagine how a train coming through every 7.5 minutes will impact our home and the homes around us. This is something that would likely force people in our family friendly neighborhood to relocate. We are a close knit community and making this community a transportation hub is something that would change the dynamic of our town. I have lived here my entire life and I have hopes of raising my family here but I cannot do that with a train running through my neighborhood 8x an hour.

I know my comment is specific to my own personal concerns. But I am a mother of two children and I know there are many other parents in my community who feel the same as I do.

Please consider the families and communities that will be impacted by this rail line. I truly don't think you will draw enough riders from this area to make it worthwhile.



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Name

Guy Frantini

Email

Organization

NA

City

Wenonah

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08090

Formal Comment *

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This rail idea is the bad penny that just keeps popping up, or more specifically the billions upon billions of bad pennies that our local elected officials just can't seem to stop themselves from fleecing from taxpayers. These suburban rail lines are never, I'll repeat NEVER cost neutral to the taxpayer. You will waste billions building it with your erroneous utilization rates that never materialize only to then continue to have taxpayers subsidize your white elephant for decades to come. These rail systems are money losers in urban/city regions, how are they more cost effective in suburbs. If you really care about carbon emissions and congestion in the region, mandate businesses to maintain remote/in office hybrid schedules. Covid has shown remote work is viable in many professions, mandate it. Costs the state and taxpayers nothing to attain the same goal as the billion dollar+ boondoggle you keep trying to shove down our throats. Remote work, electrification and ultimate autonomous vehicles are the options our officials should be seeking. Mass transit was naturally selected for extinction decades ago, this rail line is backwards thinking given where technology and mobility are going. If officials cant help themselves but spend money, fix the school building infrastructure that is failing in many areas throughout the state. Put the money towards something that is needed.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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Wenonah residents overwhelmingly voted against the proposed station already. We do NOT want the crowds, noise, and related activities in our town. We are a small town and we enjoy things that way. There is a reason our tax rate is one of the highest in the area, we are a quiet town and we want to stay that way. New Jersey seems to be on a mission to urbanize every square inch of the state. Realize that we chose to raise our families here for a reason. Please leave our town out of your 'grand modernization scheme'. If we wanted to live in Northern/Central Jersey, we would move there... We don't. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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Name

John T. Cokos

Email

Organization

I have a website for local issues that impact Deptford and the surrounding area

City

Pine Acres sectio that borders Wenonah

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08090

Formal Comment *

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Gentlemen: I've been following this issue for years and fully support the concept for a number of reasons. It's more important now than ever for an effort to receive the motor vehicle congestion in m area. There are other issues that I think impact favorable on the Light Line Concept, but there is a local effort forming on an on line community blog that just represents the provincial and parochial self interest to ANY progress.

John T. COKOS
729 Howard Avenue, Wenonah, NJ 08090
856-464-8379



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Name

Paige Kerby

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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The Glassboro Camden Line Project is a railroad project that started with good intentions, but is now an openly hated idea by residents and taxpayers alike. The towns that are affected by this line are small residential towns in which the train will pass straight through developments; causing higher pollution, a blaring train every seven and a half minutes, and a lower safety index for multiple previously low crime neighborhoods. The residents and taxpayers of South Jersey strongly oppose the GCL for many reasons: the location of the light rail, the safety hazards it poses to our elderly, children, and pets, and the fact that it will be fully funded by taxing the people.

To begin, the GCL is scheduled to be constructed on the existing tracks running from Glassboro to Camden, connecting towns that are less than a half hour away by car, bus, or even biking. The majority of people of these towns have lived here their entire lives and they are aware and comfortable with their current methods of transportation, including the Rowan University staff and students. There is no desperate need for a light rail in this specific area. However, Route 55 was made with provisions to support a transportation line along the highway. According to an article by George Downing on NJ.com, "Most overpasses on Route 55 were built to accommodate a rail line under them". If the officials pushing for the GCL truly believe a light rail is what is best for the expansion of these towns and their people, perhaps they should take another look at alternative options besides a blaring train ripping through quiet towns every seven and a half minutes, disrupting the peaceful existence the townsfolk have created. Moving the light rail from these quiet neighborhoods to the overpasses of Route 55 would create less traffic on the highways, reduce noise, lights, and pollution complaints, keep property value high, and keep the people happy.

There is no doubt that any project focused on transportation expansion will come with safety risks. This is especially true about the Glassboro Camden Line. The crime percentage in Camden is significantly higher than that of any other New Jersey town, and EXPONENTIALLY higher than that of any town the GCL will pass through. The violent crime rate in Camden is currently 16.22%, while the average for the entire state of New Jersey is 2.08%, and the National Median for violent crime is only 4% according to NeighborhoodScout.com. It is extremely apparent that the way of life in Camden, NJ is inherently different than that of any other town in New Jersey, and now officials want to run a train directly from Camden to safe, unsuspecting, small residential areas that are full of innocent children, family pets, and senior citizens. This is an outrage to a large majority of residents that the GCL will affect. An increase in crime will especially affect the areas where boarding stations are built, including the station planned for construction in Sewell, at the intersection of Center Street and East Atlantic Avenue. This specific area has an abundance of children and the Station is already a bus stop for many of the youth in the immediate area. If a train is stopping every 15 minutes in this area, how will it be certain that the children will not be affected? The answer is just the opposite, it is certain that the rate of crimes and train track accidents against children will increase due to the location of the GCL. This project is being constructed to make the state a decent profit, but is that worth risking the livelihood of the children and the people?

The Glassboro Camden Line is a large project that will take years to complete and millions of dollars. A project that is unnecessary, unwanted, and downright disruptive. But at least the federal government will be responsible for collecting the funds, right? Wrong. According to an article on Nj.com, "The Federal Transportation Agency ruled this project [GCL] economically unfeasible to qualify for federal mass transport

funding...". Meaning that the Federal Government believes this project to be inconvenient and impractical, yet New Jersey officials pushed forward anyway, fully aware and content with taxing the people of New Jersey over 20 million dollars a year. This issue does not only impact the residents where the GCL will pass through, but also North Jersey residents as well. The entire proposal for the GCL came at the most trying times, when the affects of the COVID-19 pandemic are in full blast and citizens are already dealing with the devastating hits of this virus. It seems extremely unethical to add the weight of hundreds and thousands of tax dollars to the already struggling people.

In Conclusion, the Glassboro Camden line is an unnecessary and economically unfeasible headache for every New Jersey citizen it affects, and only benefits the pockets of the officials attempting to bring it to life. The people of New Jersey will not stand for this new light rail due to its poor location choice, effect on safety, and inconceivable costs. We WILL stand together and shout "NO NO NO TRAIN" to anyone that can hear us. We urge you to strongly consider our viewpoints and put a stop to this community destroying project before it is too late.

Sincerely,
The People of New Jersey

Written by Paige Kerby
kerbypaige@gmail.com



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Caroline Kearney

Email

Organization

Resident of Wenonah

City

Wenonah

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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This seems like a waste of \$2B being pushed by Rowan and Steve Sweeney for his donors. Ridership on Mass Transportation is down. PATCO has been struggling with ridership since 2014, and the River Line is a disruption and a drain. Why are we repeating this here? If it's so a Rowan student can take a train from the Glassboro campus to the Camden campus, that's not very useful when it will take them over an hour to get there. If it's to get to Philadelphia, people have to transfer to a different platform to do so. No one seems to have the appetite to go to Trenton. Plus, there is already a plan to rollout the rapid bus system from Glassboro to Camden, etc. with stations all down Route 55. And those busses are better for the future -- when we know there will be a carbon tax.

Besides there being no desire for this in the community, it will be invasive and disruptive: stopping cars for one minute twice every 15 minutes during peak; they will be blowing their horns for up to 30 seconds as they cross all crossings and interchanges and these are often near schools; and there is no parking provided so if it does have ridership, there's no plan for the people when they come here to take the train.

Besides making this a traffic nightmare and a loud/dirty place. It is also almost 100 trains a day (50 in each direction). It's 30 times the diesel exhaust that we currently experience on tracks that only get 2-3 trains a day now. There is no way that doesn't effect the water and air quality, not to mention the trees you are cutting down. Moreover, though, I'd like to see the structural integrity studies for the trestles and passes over which it will be traveling. I don't think they are designed for a 3000+% increase in traffic.

Besides this being dirty and slow infrastructure which will not be supported by associated structures to ease the burden of this (like parking or security officers, etc.), it also is incredibly outdated transportation. This plan has been around since at least the 80s, but earlier forms date till the late 60s. Even this EIS was written about 10 years ago – you're moving this now so you don't have to pay for another one. By time you build this, we will be paying a carbon tax on this. So besides the state grants that you will award this project and then we the taxpayers will find with our taxes (we know how state grants work...), we will also have to pay for the carbon this emits, and all this knowing that no Transit system in the US pays for itself. But to have a Transit system which will be hemorrhaging money that people don't seem to want all for the good of a university or the money we think we can get from a hotel we build at a fossil site, is asinine and ill-intentioned and a waste of money when we are being bankrupted by COVID and the associated economic fallout. Shame on you -- especially since as mentioned above, there will be a bus system that is carbon neutral to serve this point.

My final point is the shadiness with which this whole process has been handled. It was not announced to the towns, cities and boroughs. It was placed on a website few knew existed, a violation in spirit of the sunshine laws requiring you to announce to the public. People still don't know and nor should they have to be paying attention to anything now other than COVID, the economic crisis and the financial crisis of the state of NJ. We already have a tax problem and can't pay our bills. This does not help, and to push this through at this time is far more harmful and will have longer lasting impacts than shelling out a few hundred thousand for a new study – one that should include the people who own the properties you are taking and who are impacted day-to-day by this beyond stupid idea.

I have been riding Mass Transportation for most of my adult life, and even I think is stupid and self-interested slow moving disaster.

I hope you stop this, and if you don't I hope none of you ever thrive. You don't deserve it when you keep others from thriving.

With worst wishes (and full permission to identify me),

Caroline Kearney
Wenonah Resident



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Name

Carol Taylor-Kearney

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Resident of Gloucester County

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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While I am for better public transit, this particular proposal is flawed in many ways:

1. We were promised, many years back, a high speed train along the Rt. 55 corridor. Instead you are offering a slower, less beneficial alternative that will run on tracks that have to be rebuilt-- the second set of rails have been removed and the various crossings and trestles have been reconstructed to hold a single line for freight trains presently running only three times a day. That means that we will be paying not only for improvement for the existing line but also to build a new line with increased traffic and use.
2. This proposed line is basically diesel. This is older, less clean technology and will be subject to carbon tax sometime in the near future. Is there no concern for the environment? Do we not look toward the future when we make our plans?
3. This proposed line will run at street level disturbing traffic and pedestrians. The tracks sit on east-west cross streets used by school buses and various commuters who will be stopped twice every 15 minutes during precisely the time most used for transporting children to and from school, to and from after-school activities, to and from work and appointments. Presently, most trains run about 4 times a day-- two of them during overnight hours.
4. This proposed line will connect Glassboro to Camden but will have little service to the rest of Gloucester County. How is this helpful to the larger communities of Washington Township, Harrison Township, West Deptford Township, Deptford Township, and Mantua Township, to name a few. This line will connect the two campuses of Rowan University in Camden and Glassboro, but what about the Rowan campus in Sewell? What about the connection to health care services of Inspira, Cooper (Washington Twp. and Camden), Jefferson Health (formerly Kennedy Hospital in Washington Twp.)? What about shopping at Deptford Mall or along the Rt. 42 in Washington Township?
5. There is no plan for parking for commuters from the surrounding areas to avail themselves of this line. This leads me to think that this proposal is not really expected to work. That this proposal is not about making good public transport for the people of Gloucester County.
6. If a line is built along the Rt. 55 corridor as already suggested when Rt. 55 was being built, it would connect Camden and the Speedline-- which includes Camden County-- to points south like Deptford, Glassboro, Vineland, Millville, even Maurice River and eventually to both the Delaware Bay and Atlantic Ocean shore points. Now that would be thinking about the future! This, instead, is a "train to nowhere". Not to even bring up that carbon-neutral busses are already planned for Rt. 55.
7. New Jersey is already having trouble meeting its obligations and bills. \$2,000,000,000 for an unnecessary, unwelcome, and ill-advised plan is not what you, our representatives, were asked to do. You know that this is true as you subverted the spirit of the "Sunshine Laws" by not sufficiently announcing this action to the public.

In conclusion, this is old technology that is environmentally unfriendly, does not meet the needs of citizens of the county, is ill-planned and based on a scheme rejected before. It is not rider friendly. Rather, it is inconvenient, even dangerous, to those it is suppose to serve. It is basically taking tax-payer money and wasting it on construction jobs when there are other construction jobs that could be done and are not being examined. I, for one, do not want to see 2 billion plus dollars used for a plan that has been tabled at least two or three times before.

Stop wasting my time and money and DO YOUR JOB FOR YOUR CONSTITUENTS AND NOT YOUR DONORS!
Carol Taylor-Kearney



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Name

Muriel Lisle,

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

Select...NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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Our family has lived in this lovely little town for over 50 years - in the same house, on the same street. It's a nice quiet neighborhood. The traffic has increased immensely since we arrived and we certainly don't need any more traffic to jam our highways, main roads and side streets. It's already very hard to get out of our side street and an influx of more vehicles would make it impossible. Plus the noise of trains every 7 minutes, and the pollution caused by the trains would be intolerable. Put the train where it's not in the middle of a neighborhood - down Rt. 55 would be a great idea. Don't destroy our quaint little neighborhood!!!



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Name

John Bakley

Email

Organization

City

Mantua

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my views on the Glassboro_Camden proposal. It is my understanding that PATCO high speed line has experienced near record low ridership for the last four or five years. I also have read the River line has lost millions of dollars over the same time frame. Due to the fact that the public seems unwilling to use public transportation and our states dubious history building profitable or even break even rail lines it is my belief that this endeavor will be a loss for the taxpayers of New Jersey. Furthermore the potential economic cost to the neighborhoods on the line will be negatively impacted. For these reasons I suggest this whole process be stopped immediately and whatever tax dollars saved be reallocated to service public debt.

John Bakley
Mantua, NJ



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Name

Ramon

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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Yes! This will be extremely beneficial for our town and people would want to move to area and pay big bucks for our homes!



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Name

Anthony M. Vargas

Email

Organization

Mantua Township Resident

City

Mantua Township

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08051

Formal Comment *

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I think construction of the GCL is vital necessity for our area. This will bring new businesses, more taxes, and more/new jobs. This will open new opportunities for individuals who seek work in the city, but do not drive or have the means to a car. This will also allow students from Rowen University School of Business to seek partnerships and internships with businesses in the city and expand their professional development. As we continue to grow, so does our public transportation.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08071

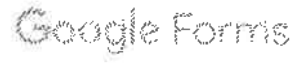
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The noise, traffic and safety impacts for my town are severely underrepresented in the EIS. The report, in my opinion, is done with a macro lens. The increased rail traffic through Pitman would be detrimental to the atmosphere, traffic flow, and safety of Pitman. One current crossing, at W Jersey Ave and Broadway, is a busy area with in roads to bigger neighborhoods. There's also a corner store right there. Pitman is a very walker friendly town. So much so, the local schools are a walking district. There are so many children walking, biking, playing throughout the town. Especially at the corner store which is right there. There is no way to deny that increased rail traffic will increase closures at the many crossing throughout Pitman. At a train every 15 minutes and the layout of the town, EVERY resident will be impacted to some degree. Some more than others. There are businesses close to the tracks who's atmosphere will be negatively affected with the increased rail traffic. Many residents will, as the EIS states face a moderate noise impact. Pitman is a small, packed boro. Houses currently close to the tracks will experience, in my opinion, a humongous impact. Currently trains run very infrequently. That would change to a train every 15 minutes. I don't see any type of noise mitigation that could negate the impact while maintaining the open atmosphere. Houses are that close. I can only speculate that my opinion is shared across the other towns impacted by this proposed line. The EIS report does not capture the entire picture of the environmental impact on a micro level. I'd be remiss if I did not mention the current Covid-19 situation. Business and commuting are on the cusp of radical changes. To invest so heavily in such an already impactful project is not a smart decision for my town or for South Jersey.



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Name

Colleen Cassidy

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

Resident

City

Sewell

State

NJ

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08080

Formal Comment *

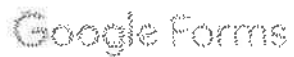
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I OPPOSE THIS COMMUTER RAIL FROM GLASSBORO TO CAMDEN!

I recently moved to Sewell, NJ in October, 2020. I live only few houses away from the Center St train crossing in Sewell. After reading the proposal for this commuter rail line, I am concerned about the validity/relevance of a study that was conducted in 2005 and an additional analysis that was completed in 2009. These were conducted more than 15 and 10 years ago respectively and yet this project is being considered now. Our world has changed considerably since then and will continue to evolve. When a person decides to move to a particular area, so many factors impact that decision and how far away from the workplace and the commute time to work is part of those considerations. When I decided to move here it was for the community and the schools and the suburb feel that was present. I am not happy that this rail line that operates every 15 minutes during peak times will sacrifice my community for those that moved here knowing what to expect as far as traffic and commute time to the city. The community will be greatly impacted by the noise and traffic that will inevitably come as a result of this commuter line. Please listen to the public and reconsider this expensive project that will greatly impact the livelihood of the communities along the line. I am also fearful of the potential crime and dangers that may arise as a result of this line. Is it really necessary? Is the voice of those impacted really being heard?



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Name

Neil Young

Email

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Formal Comment *

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I am against this line as it is proposed. I am opposed to any line that is not electric. Diesel engines are loud and polluting. I am opposed to street grade crossings, especially the one in Wenonah, that are not contained within a designated quiet zone. The constant noise from horns that close to homes is harmful. I am opposed to the overflow parking effect this will have on station communities that were not designed for an influx of commuters. I would support the measure if these issues were addressed by changing train propulsion to electric motor, designating quiet zones in residential neighborhoods, and restricting commuter parking to limited spaces.

I am supportive of increased mass transit options as I am a (or used to be before Covid) a daily Patco commuter into Philadelphia. That line was designed to travel through densely populated residential areas without using horns. Installation of new mass transit should be designed where parking can be planned and street grade crossings can be limited. Route 55/42 is such an example.



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Name

Meghan Rich

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I support the GC Line. I am excited about the opportunities, new businesses, people and culture this trainline can bring to Wenonah. As a working professional, having quick public access to Philadelphia and Trenton will open up job options and bring other young professionals to our county. I recently left my job in Philadelphia, one of the reasons being the frustration of the long commute. The GC Line would cut that commuting time in half, making it better for working families. I also support the GC Line for the environmental benefits public transportation ensures. I am appalled by some of the comments from people that are scared of who will be using this line. That is pure racism and classism and is not to be tolerated.



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Name

Eileen Caraker

Email

Organization

Me

City

Wenonah

State

Nj

Zip Code

07090

Formal Comment *

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I don't believe we're going to have the ridership that justifies this train. However if it is happening I live in a ones where mile historic town. Wenonah would be devastated to have trains come every seven minutes and have the noise pollution associated with that. I am requesting a quiet zone for our town we have to cross traffic areas in this town. How would we go about getting a quiet zone



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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The GCL should run along Rt. 55



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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Email

Organization

City

Sewell (Mantua Township)

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I do not want GCL running through our small town. Traffic is already congested and I believe this money could be put to better use. People are independent and like to have their own cars. I do not see a great need for a train when there are buses available if needed. You plan to run this train every 15 minutes through people's backyards. Would you want it in your backyard? Think about that for a moment. Would you? Safety is obviously an issue. And what about noise ordinances. Seriously, we don't want to hear whistles blowing all hours of the day and night - until midnight! And another great concern is our property values will go down. Will some residents be told they need to relocate because the train is taking their property. And for what? Something a handful of people might use. Very sad. Let's keep our small towns, small towns.



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Name

Anne Carroll

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

n/a

City

Collingswood

State

NJ

Zip Code

08108

Formal Comment *

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I'm a senior without a car living in Collingswood. I rely on public transit to get me where I need to go. Use PATCO and SEPTA and the River Line. The Glassboro-Camden Line would greatly expand the places I can travel to. Thank you. Anne Carroll, Collingswood, NJ



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Name

Mike Power

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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As a resident of Sewell living less than 1,000 yards from the existing rail station location I am not in favor of the additional noise pollution a commuter line would bring. The traffic is already heavy and the addition of the GCL will worsen local conditions. The GCL will negatively impact our quality of life.



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Name

Devin Turner

Email

Organization

City

COLLINGSWOOD

State

NJ

Zip Code

08108

Formal Comment *

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I want to emphasize my support for the GCL project. As a Camden County resident who lives car-free by choice, I support the goal of this project to improve accessibility in Camden City, Camden County, and Gloucester County and I would plan to use the line to frequent businesses in Gloucester County.



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Name

Martin Nolan

Email

Organization

Positively 4th street church

City

Gloucester City

State

NJ

Zip Code

08030

Formal Comment *

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We have been waiting a long time for this rail line to become a reality. I am a firm believer in public transportation and believe this will have a significant positive effect on this neighborhood.

On a personal/business level it is my intention to open an arts facility on 4th street in Gloucester City. The addition of easily accessible public transportation will prove to be highly beneficial in expanding the customer base for the venue. Additionally, anticipated growth following the installation of a rail station will create a feedback loop in which more foot traffic for restaurants and businesses will increase the ability to coordinate events and develop business partnerships that will enrich the neighborhood.

I also look forward to simply using the rail line for personal and recreational activities such as traveling to Philadelphia, Trenton, Glassboro and all points in between.

This town and this region needs this rail line.



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Name

Matthew Brown

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Mullica Hill

State

NJ

Zip Code

08062

Formal Comment *

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I live on Ellis Mill down the street from Glassboro (Ellis St once you hit Glassboro). I think the idea of bringing the train through the area is a good idea but do not like it coming through neighborhoods. Many of us have moves from less congested areas like Philly or even Camden county for space and low traffic noise. Further, this will potentially cause more traffic and delays in getting to the new hospital.

There's an alternate of placing the train down the middle of route 55. Stops at the Deptford Mall, Rowan, down to Millville include even more neighborhoods and would help even more communities out, while not disturbing residences, having to relocate people, and would avoid more traffic congestion.



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Name

Eleanor Kerr

Email

Organization

City

Glassboro

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08028

Formal Comment *

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I am opposed to this proposal. It is a waste of tax dollars!

This proposal will create local traffic and noise problems causing stress and upsetting neighborhoods. Not to mention that

Public transit is in trouble all around us! They are requiring bailouts for lack of ridership! This proposal disregards the wishes of the local townspeople where these trains will run.

The proposal needs to be totally reevaluated and public discussion needs to take place in the localities involved and at times when working people can attend!



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Name

Ryan Hughes

Email

Organization

City

Glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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This project is a complete waste of money (except for the few politically connected who will profit unethically.) The communities involved do not want or need the services, ridership will be so low it will never make sense. This will not be like the river line, running through industrial/flood plains... it's running through small quiet suburban downtowns. It will disrupt our safe and quiet lives, bringing crime and dangerous conditions for our children. The proximity to schools is unacceptable as well as disruptive.



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Name

Joe Jagielski

Email

Organization

None

City

Mantua

State

New jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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If it is ultimately a done deal my issue is a bell and horns 5 am to midnight. How can this be legal to do. The town will turn into camden in no time.



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Name

Amber Waddington

Email

Organization

City

West Deptford

State

NJ

Zip Code

08086

Formal Comment *

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I hope all sides are taken into consideration while contemplating this idea. I am opposed to this motion for general safety and potential crime that can be negatively impacted. There are currently alternative transportation to get to and from the cities, there is not a need for additional public transportation! I express again that I am opposed to the idea of GCL.



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Name

Maryann

Email

NA

Organization

NA

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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1. As a Pitman resident, I chose to live in suburbs without public transportation for specific reasons, this should not be imposed on residents without community agreement/vote.
 2. From my understanding, pre-pandemic, the PATCO service line was at maximum capacity (riders/frequency of trains) - how will PATCO accommodate predicted commuters when they are already maxed out before adding GCL riders?
-



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Name

Peg Michalowski

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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As a resident of Gloucester County, Mantua Township New Jersey, I am in opposition to the proposed Glassboro-Camden Line (GCL).

The first matter I would like to address is the traffic. I understand the studies project a reduction in automobile traffic because of the light rail line. I would argue that although if it is utilized it would possibly reduce highway traffic while local traffic in the areas of the stations would increase dramatically. One reference point I would make is the station proposed for Mantua Blvd, this roads traffic has already increased dramatically with the retail building on Woodbury Glassboro Rd, (Lowe's, Target, etc.). The traffic within a two-mile radius of this proposed station is already above true capacity without the additional traffic caused by the ridership using the Mantua Blvd and the Sewell, Center Street stations. Being from this area I would suspect that a lot of riders would in fact be from outside of the Mantua Township area therefore causing even more gridlock at intersections such as Route 45 and Mantua Blvd, Center St and Mantua Blvd, Woodbury Glassboro Rd and Mantua Blvd, Center St and Woodbury Glassboro Rd. just to name a few. I would also point out that heavy Center Street traffic would be stopped every seven and a half to fifteen minutes (7.5-15) minutes to allow a train to pass. How does this not negatively impact the residents? Second, I would ask you to consider the changes being requested to the existing Zoning & Land Use Plans. Each township or Borough has a Master Plans that define it vision for its town and to protect the quality of life for its residents. Although there are variances granted regularly by the Planning & Zoning Boards of each town, all factors are considered before such a relief is granted. The number one factor when a Board is considering such relief is its impact on the surrounding residents. In this scenario the surrounding residents of each variance being requested would have negative impacts on a much larger scale than typical projects requesting such relief. I would request that in every instance that a request for rezoning is being requested for this project, it be rejected. How does approving an area already designated for a specific use, especially when it is residential, benefit the residents? How does this not negatively impact residents?

Third, I would ask you to consider safety. High speed trains going through residential neighborhoods is a tremendous hazard to children, pedestrians & wildlife. Most of the residents living nearby these tracks hardly notice their use because it is currently uncommon for a train to pass during quality family time, playtime hours. Even when the trains do currently pass-through during day hours they are slow moving and there is sufficient time to navigate out of harm's way. To have such a dramatic change in usage would certainly affect the quality of life for all the residents living in walking distance to the existing tracks. The project also claims that there will be no need for additional law enforcement. The increase in both area crime and vehicular incidents alone would require additional hours added to the existing police forces. How does this not negatively impact residents?

Fourth, I would ask that the environment be given extreme consideration given the instability of an already endangered area. With all the continuous building in New Jersey our wildlife is becoming more and more unpredictable and threatened. This project is admittedly going to have an adverse effect to both threatened and endangered species throughout the state. There is no justification for us to continue to allow the land and wildlife to be abused for the purpose of financial gain. In Gloucester County alone they would be clearing over twelve acres of suitable breeding and nesting habitats for the barred owl and red shouldered hawks as well as foraging habitat for bald eagles. How does this not negatively impact residents?

Fifth, I would ask that the level of noise be considered. Although the reports seem to downplay the actual impact of area residents to the noise and vibration that will be experienced if this project is approved. Neighborhoods must be considered, not just the homes within fifty to a hundred feet of the tracks. I

currently live at least five hundred feet from the existing railroad but can still hear the horns being blown as they travel through residential neighborhoods in my area. I can not imagine hearing those horns every seven and a half to fifteen minutes. That is just the horns, the people living in closer proximity will also hear the train itself as well as feel the train pass. How does this not negatively impact residents?

Lastly, I would like to address two things, the people who will lose their homes or property because of this project and the cost. Again, there is no justification to force residents or property owners to sell or relocate their homes to make room for an already obsolete project. I would also like to know where the funds are being allocated from to for the projected 1.4 billion dollars to pay for this project. Do all of New Jerseys residents understand the cost involved to run an unnecessary eighteen miles of light rail that we all ultimately end up footing the bill for.

In closing I must add that this project has been in the works for many years and has always been opposed by most residents in the area. Everyone in this area moved here knowing what transportation was available and chose to move here regardless because of the small-town atmosphere and great school systems. I understand that the DRPA is currently the sponsor of this project and I am guessing that will change once they think it will move forward. This is nothing more than a few in Trenton thinking they can push this through without repercussions, I can assure you, there WILL be repercussions.



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P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Name

Matthew Lund

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am very much in favor of the proposal to create the Glassboro-Camden Line. Future generations, and the environment, will be grateful if this project is brought forward. Since the tracks are already in place, and most of the towns along the track owe their existence to the rail line, it is only a responsible use of resources to bring this proposal to fruition. As an employee of Rowan University, I have witnessed the institution's growth, and now the road systems and parking capacities are being stretched to the limits. Having the train line in place will allow more students to take advantage of Rowan's offerings, and it will also add to Glassboro's revitalization of its downtown in the form of the Rowan Boulevard project. I have been surprised to see a few signs recently opposing this project. I don't understand how anyone could oppose such an essential public works initiative. We are all in it together, and having the train will protect the environment, ensure the prosperity of future generations, and add to the economic vitality of the region.



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Name

Lee Plenn

Email

Organization

Rowan

City

Glassborro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08003

Formal Comment *

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I cant wait for them to put a train line in...its needed.



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Name

Jennifer Savage

Email

Organization

Rowan University IRT

City

glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08052

Formal Comment *

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I think that the Glassboro-Camden Line is LONG overdue. Southern NJ is completely cut off from public transportation lines to Philadelphia and NYC. And the impact this could have on our students is major. We need to be more mindful to alternative transportation, especially to keep the traffic and parking situations under control on our campuses.



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Name

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Organization

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I'm a professor at Rowan University with research lab space at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. I couldn't be in greater favor of a mass transit project connecting South Jersey with Camden. This is an opportunity to enhance affordable transit opportunities, reducing traffic and its associated CO2 footprint. It will also better connect the region to Philadelphia and increase opportunities for South Jersey residents.



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I am excited for the prospect of light rail connecting Glassboro to Camden/Philadelphia. Doing so allows for a reduction in traffic, pollution, and convenience.



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It's about time. Get this done. Sooner is better.



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I'm writing to express my utmost support for the GCL. I've lived in Southern New Jersey for most of my life and this is one of the most exciting projects to come to fruition in our area over the past three decades. As a Rowan employee, I can tell you that this project will elevate Gloucester County by having a force-multiplier (catalyst) effect. Connecting the University to a major metropolitan area will provide opportunities for experiential learning, research collaboration, and investment. It will also provide access to and from some of the greatest colleges, healthcare facilities, and cultural institutions in our country. I'm very excited to see this project moving in the right direction.



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I think a Camden-Glassboro line would be excellent and would make Rowan more accessible to students as well as faculty. I use the shuttle, but this would be much better than the shuttle, I think. I hope to see this come together!



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I approve of the plan. I think it will help my college students, the area and the environment because people will drive less.



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Name

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Organization

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Zip Code

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I'm in favor of the GCL. I think it will benefit the local economies while cutting down on emissions, transit times, and traffic. Given that Philadelphia has high traffic and expensive parking, it would be beneficial to get from South Jersey into Camden, and then Camden into Phila without using a car. It also helps student commuters for Rowan University.



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I think it would be positive for south Jersey to have alternate transportation rather than automobiles. We are far behind the modes of transportation compared to the northern part of the state.



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Please know that this Glassboro-Camden Line is vital to being able to serve the educational, shopping and connectivity needs of this region. Rowan University is a growing institution and being able to have access for students, staff and faculty to the campus as well as back and forth to Camden is important for the growth of this region. This provides access and will revitalize both areas over time. I see this as a benefit to the region and development.



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Traffic congestion has been a problem in Glassboro, and the expansion of the university will make that problem worse. One way to reduce the problem would be the rail line that passes through Glassboro and very close to the university.



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I have 20 years of experience with less than desirable public transportation options to and from Glassboro. I have been looking forward to such a plan for years. Extremely excited by the opportunities for bridging South Jersey communities -- as well as inspiring diversity, equity and inclusion.



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Jude Miller

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As a lifelong NJ resident and avid rider of public transportation, I strongly endorse this proposed project



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Building the Glassboro Camden line will allow local residents easier access to jobs in Philadelphia and reduce pollution and traffic on the overly congested highways. The line will also give opportunities to towns along the line to bring in more visitors to their downtowns.



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I am firmly in favor of the Glassboro-Camden line. Light rail and other public transportation opportunities benefit the environment, the economy, and a range of stakeholders, including those from marginalized and underserved backgrounds and those with accessibility concerns. This will be a boost to our region, and, as a faculty member at Rowan, I am already envisioning ways it will benefit our students and the community.



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This is a much needed project, and cannot come soon enough.



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I'm a resident of the Boro of Glassboro. The thought of a light rail line connecting Glassboro more closely to the Philadelphia metro is very exciting! In addition to making it easier & more sustainable to travel from my home in Glassboro to the more central parts of the metro, I think it will also serve as a way to boost the economic engine of southern New Jersey. An easier way into the metro means that students from Rowan University (as well as all the nearby community colleges & high schools) can pursue internships & career opportunities more easily. Additionally, this cuts down on the commute for those traveling into Philadelphia for work. We already know that a commute in which you drive yourself to work for longer than 40 minutes each way is a major contributor to depression & loneliness in adults. My hope is that this light rail will work to bring communities together, as can be seen in other light rail & commuter rail networks in other parts of our state. Thank you!



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I believe this line will fill a gap in reliable and fast transportation between Glassboro and Camden that will benefit not only Glassboro/Camden community members, but the various Rowan campuses including the Camden and Glassboro Campuses, and Cooper Medical School. In addition, a line such as this greatly benefits low-income folks (who are often people of color, women, and people with disabilities) who rely on public transportation to not only access services which may be located in Camden or Glassboro, but it also expands employment opportunities for members of the community.



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Formal Comment *

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The Glassboro-Camden Line will be a welcome addition to South Jersey. I expect it to reduce traffic on our increasingly-congested streets, and to make it easier for Rowan students and faculty to travel between the Glassboro and Camden campuses.



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Russell Trafford

Email

Organization

Rowan University

City

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State

NJ

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I would prefer to not have name, but location and affiliation is fine.



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Name

Joe Coulombe

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I'm employed by Rowan University, and I urge you to re-open the local train line from Camden to Glassboro. Not only would it be a personal convenience for me regarding my commute to work, but it would also take many cars off the local roads and thus lower pollution emissions and improve traffic problems in the area. Plus, I live in Collingswood, and the PATCO line is hugely beneficial to my town -- as well as Haddon Township, Haddonfield, etc. -- in myriad ways. It helps the local economy, restaurants, farmer's markets, fairs and festivals, etc., and it is also good for property values and real estate listings.



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Name

Whitney Cox

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I strongly support the proposal to create a Glassboro-Camden Line. When my wife and I moved into the area two years ago, we were dismayed at the lack of public transit options, particularly as we are a one-car family. We dislike how we are so close to Philadelphia and yet still so far away.

As a Rowan employee who lives near campus, I have seen the university grow significantly even in the short time I've been here. Unfortunately, this growth has come at a real structural cost to the area. The parking situation on Rowan's campus is untenable, and the general traffic in the area isn't much better. There are several times of day I know I can't drive to the other half of Glassboro without budgeting an extra half hour just to be safe. I know many students who would prefer a dedicated, reliable rail line to chancing traffic by taking an often-late bus to campus or putting more miles on often-unreliable vehicles.

And this is the present (non-pandemic) situation. Starting work on the line now will mean that by the time the traffic/parking situation becomes truly untenable, the train will be ready. Waiting until a catastrophe point to BEGIN to act is ridiculous. A transit option like this will eventually be necessary, one way or another, for economic and environmental reasons alike. There is no reason to delay.

This line will make the region more accessible both for people from outside the area and for people who live here already. The inconveniences it will cause some are absolutely worth considering and working to mitigate, but the benefits for so many are astounding. I welcome the Glassboro-Camden Line and the good it will bring in with it.



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Formal Comment *

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The GCL is something that I have wanted ever since starting my degree at Rowan a decade ago. When I was a student, it would have provided so many options for travel outside of the area as well as to get back to Glassboro. Although I lived on campus, the amount of opportunities for commuters to come to campus would be immense with the addition of the GCL. Now as a faculty at the university, I would prefer to take an option like the GCL to commute to work that to drive. I have always preferred public transit because it allows time for you to just relax a bit and let other people do the driving, but also, it is a more efficient method of travel.

As for Glassboro in particular and the campus, the town itself is trying to grow more as a college town, one of the issues really is the lack of people willing to come travel to. For towns along the line, this could provide an amazing injection of people to the area to utilize local businesses. For Rowan in particular with the multiple campuses, it could also make commuting to Camden much easier for the surrounding area. For students, it could provide a way for them to go to other towns without needing to drive, helping out not only other towns on the line, but also could be a very good selling point for Rowan Glassboro, since it already is essentially devoid of any other public transit options. Even for a simple trip to Pitman right next door, a student without a car is looking at a 2 mile walk, each way.

There is a concern from living in Glassboro and that is the impact on traffic in the area. While this Light Rail may not be as large as the freighters that move through here at night, everything around the campus grinds to a halt when the train comes by. While I think the benefits will still outweigh these downsides, there should be a traffic impact study performed for the town. Another concern is the noise. Lightrail is typically a quieter version of train, but there are many people both on and off campus that live pretty close to the rails, and since there is requirements for horns before road crossings, it could prove to be a problem for those who lived there. Right now, there is only one train at around 8-9pm and then a return at around 2am. This is reasonable, but there should be another test done and survey of the college students to see the impact. This is something the university might have to deal with on their own. This last one is both a benefit and concern for Glassboro, and that is the supporting parking/shuttles to best leverage this opportunity. For example, depending on where the station is located, without the parking, how can anyone be expected to use it in the town? Also, improved shuttle service could be used to get to the main parts of town. If this can be done, this also would open up opportunities for people living in the area to work in other areas without needing a vehicle or car.



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The proposed train line would provide a beneficial economic and environmental impact on this region. For those of us who weather the roads north for work, having an alternative, faster public transportation option is necessary. Moreover, it would also bring people to the region. The current road system is not sustainable and the train tracks, already in place, would lower the environmental destruction and upheaval that will be necessary to address growing traffic issues. It would be short-sighted and ignorant not to implement an option like this.



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I am in favor of the rail line between Camden and Glassboro NJ. The existing rail lines mean that minimal environmental impacts and community disruption would occur. The addition of mass transit would allow students and staff to access the communities along the rail line for work, school, and residences. This would reduce the traffic on the road as well.



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Name

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I am very much in favor of the proposal to create the Glassboro-Camden Line. Future generations, and the environment, will be grateful if this project is brought forward. Since the tracks are already in place, and most of the towns along the track owe their existence to the rail line, it is only a responsible use of resources to bring this proposal to fruition. As an employee of Rowan University, I have witnessed the institution's growth, and now the road systems and parking capacities are being stretched to the limits. Having the train line in place will allow more students to take advantage of Rowan's offerings, and it will also add to Glassboro's revitalization of its downtown in the form of the Rowan Boulevard project. We are all in it together, and having the train will protect the environment, ensure the prosperity of future generations, and add to the economic vitality of the region.



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Nina Isaacson

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Formal Comment *

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I support the proposal to create the Glassboro-Camden Line. As an employee of Rowan University, I have witnessed the institution's growth, and how overburdened the local road systems and parking capacities have become. I drive to Glassboro from across the Delaware River every day and would love a rail option that could allow me to ride to work on public transit. Having the train line in place will allow more neighbors and students to take advantage of Rowan's offerings, and it will also add to Glassboro's revitalization of its downtown, all while helping reduce traffic and pollution.



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I live very close to the rail line thru Pitman (three yards away), which I believe is the planned route of the Glassboro-Camden Line. I am in favor of the line, as we need to promote mass transport to improve quality of life and reduce fossil fuel consumption.



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I feel this is an amazing opportunity for Rowan students, families, and commuters. In addition, it would provide better healthcare access, open opportunities for business to grow, shopping, recreation, etc. I would use this line frequently and know others who would as well. Many of those I know are unable to drive and this would be a welcomed alternative to taking the bus, the expense of a cab/uber, or asking for friends for a ride. I support this project 100% and hope everyone can see the value in doing this. PATCO runs from Camden/Philly to the suburbs and there has been no rise in issues with property values dropping, crime, etc. I know these are some concerns around this line. Property values have, in fact, increased due to the PATCO line being so close.



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As an educator at Rowan University and a resident of Glassboro, I strongly support the Glassboro-Camden line. The infrastructure for the line is largely already in place, and I can see only benefits for our community in having a major public transportation line to our community and nearby to our university. Affordable, regular rail service between communities is a significant positive for the environment and also for economic equity and inclusivity. Many students and university employees at Rowan need to travel between Glassboro and Camden on a regular basis but may not have or be able to afford their own vehicles, and I'm quite certain the same is true for other residents of Glassboro, Camden, and the communities in between. This line would increase access to education and employment for many of the most underserved and marginalized members of our community, and as such its establishment would represent a major public good as well as a convenience.



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The Glassboro-Camden Line would relieve traffic congestion, ease the commute of students and faculty, alleviate the overburdened parking facilities at the university, contribute to the growing revitalization of the Glassboro community and decrease the region's carbon footprint. Bus service is limited and often results in long commutes and several transfers for those who depend on public transportation. The line would be another step in linking South Jersey to Camden, Philadelphia, Trenton and New York City via a more robust and interconnected rail system.



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Name

Ross Beschler

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Formal Comment *

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As an adjunct professor who (in non-COVID times) commutes to Rowan from Philadelphia without a car, the rail line would be an amazing asset. I often am unable to attend departmental functions and performances because the frequency and schedule of currently available public transportation makes it nearly impossible. A rail line would transform and enhance my contributions to the Rowan University community, and make my life a lot easier.



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Gerald Votta

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I live in Gloucester City and work at Rowan University. This rail line will not only benefit me personally, but will definitely help Rowan University. Their expansion has caused considerable parking problems across campus.

Also, as previously mentioned, students in the Camden City area will have easy access to Rowan University. This is clearly a plus for so many students both in Camden and all towns along this line. I encourage the Project Team to enthusiastically support the GLC!

Prof Votta



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08540

Formal Comment *

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I strongly support the proposed rail extension. Mass public transit services like these are crucial for our economic and environmental future.



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

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Email

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Organization

City

Haddon Township

State

NJ

Zip Code

08108

Formal Comment *

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As someone who works in Glassboro and lives in Camden county, I am very much in favor of this project. I would definitely take advantage of the train line for my commute. Every day I drive past traffic on 55 and 42 heading towards Philadelphia - this project would go a long way towards reducing traffic, and its environmental impacts, in the region, as well as making Rowan University's main campus more accessible to those who live in Camden, Camden county, and Philadelphia.



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Name

Natalie Kautz

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Rowan University & borough resident

City

Glassboro

State

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Zip Code

08028

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I am in favor of the proposal to create the Glassboro-Camden Line. The tracks are already in place. Having the train will allow Rowan students and borough residents to easily travel. This may help to alleviate the traffic and parking get problems near the campus. Also, this is good for the environment.



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Name

Bret McCandless

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Organization

Rowan University

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New Jersey

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I am very much in favor of the implementation of public transit by rail between Camden and Glassboro, as it would provide a significant alternative for transportation into Glassboro and connection between two campuses of Rowan University. Rowan University has grown significantly in the past decade, and a rail line would help lighten congestion and provide a transportation link for students in Glassboro to Philadelphia via transit in Camden. This is especially attractive given that much of the rail infrastructure is already in place.



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Name

Andrew Kautz

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Rowan student

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Formal Comment *

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I am in favor for the proposal. I believe it would alleviate a lot of the traffic and parking issues around Rowan's campus which has a been an issue for a while now. I also can see many of the Rowan students using this line, whether it be traveling to the city for internships or using it to commute to campus from nearby towns. As a glassboro resident I could also see myself using this train line to travel into the city easier



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Formal Comment *

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I am a resident of Wenonah NJ and support the development of the GCL along the existing Conrail right-of-way. I also am a proponent for establishing a walk-up station in the borough so that residents can board the train without having to drive to a station in a neighboring town. I am also an Associate Professor of Environmental Science at Rowan University and former Chairperson of the Department of Geography, Planning, and Sustainability. I recognize the potential for this project to lead to transit oriented development in the towns that exist along the line and understand that investment in mass transit also has the potential to curb carbon emissions and traffic by reducing the number of car trips taken by residents who use mass transit. That said, I am disappointed that the proposal is for diesel rather than electric and I encourage the project team to revisit this issue. I also encourage the project team to explore how the overall project can achieve carbon neutrality. Finally I encourage the project team to consider including bike lanes adjacent to the rail line (ie rails with trails) which would further enhance the sustainability benefits of this project.



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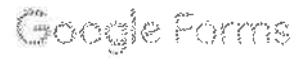
Formal Comment *

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I am very much in favor of the proposal to create the Glassboro-Camden Line. Future generations of South Jersey residents will benefit from the enhancements to their communities and the area's environment that will result from such a project. As employees of Rowan University, my wife and I appreciate the institution's growth and vibrancy, but find that the infrastructure -- road systems and parking capacities especially -- are being stretched to the limits. Having the train line in place will allow more students to take advantage of Rowan's offerings, enable employees and students to avoid congested drive to campus, and further Glassboro's revitalization of its downtown in the form of the Rowan Boulevard project. This project would also increase the integration of the University's Glassboro and Camden campuses, as well as universities, businesses, and internship locations across the river in Philadelphia. Beyond the counties' higher ed institutions, a rail line would be a boon to the economic fortunes and community vitality of towns along the line generally, as South Jersey attracts and retains a workforce. I know that recent arrivals to the area have prioritized towns like Westmont, Collingswood, and Haddonfield precisely because of the rail line and easy access to Philadelphia. My wife and I loved the look of towns along the proposed line, and we would certainly consider relocating should we have rail service to Rowan's campuses. I suspect this would also be true for others who move to the area to work and learn at its fast growing educational institutions, medical centers, and adjacent employers. As the tracks are already in place, this seems like a no-brainer.



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Name

Ryan Riccobene

Email

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Resident of Pitman

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08071

Formal Comment *

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I do understand some of the benefits of this project, but believe the current proposed implementation has too many negative impacts. Some of the stations planned pose a detrimental impacts to the well-being of residents that will wind up in close proximity as a majority of these folks live in these less disturbed and less busy areas for that very reason. There must be alternative options, perhaps less stations or adjustments to some of the routes that could be considered to accommodate these residents. The project at large really seems hyper focused on cost, which is understood to an extent, but where is the innovation!? Utilization of new-age transportation technology can future proof this project and really get residents and the public at large more excited for what's to come while also enabling a sustainable approach and lower environmental/residential impact. In areas that have a moderate noise impact based on the EIS data, couldn't underground stations be considered? I just hope the leaders in charge of this project and those that represent the residents in some of these areas would put themselves in the shoes of the people that will own homes within close proximity to these stations, can understand where the residents are coming from with their complaints, and make the right decisions to mitigate.



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Name

Goutham Kodakandla

Email

Organization

Rowan University

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Glassboro/Camden

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Formal Comment *

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This is a great idea. It will help the commute between Glassboro and Camden very easy



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Name

Elisha Moore

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Organization

Rowan University

City

Haddonfield

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08033

Formal Comment *

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I strongly support the Glassboro-Camden line. This will be a great public transportation resource for the region, decrease traffic, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and support local businesses and the local economy.



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Name

Email

Organization

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Pitman

State

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08071

Formal Comment *

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The rail infrastructure exists, there is no reason to not use it. Especially when cutting carbon emissions from personal occupancy vehicles (POVs) is critical. Increasing public transportation options (and thus decreasing trips in POVs) aligns with the goals of New Jersey's Energy Master Plan Section 6, Strategy 1 "Reduce Energy Consumption and Emissions from the Transportation Sector".



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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As a Camden resident and faculty of Rowan University in Glassboro, I support providing the proposed public transport Glassboro-Camden line. By using existing rail lines and light rail transit reduces community and environmental impacts, not to mention the potential to reduce single car use between Phila suburbs and southern NJ. This region--this country-- needs more access to public transportation.



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Name

Taylor Henry

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South Jersey desperately needs public transportation options like North Jersey has. The rails and infrastructure is already in place between Glassboro and Camden. Auto transportation is unsustainable, unreliable, expensive and dangerous. We need to #bringbacktrains



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I live in Philadelphia and I work at Rowan University. I would love to have the ability to commute to Rowan via train rather than drive. It would connect the Rowan community (especially students) to the rest of the region in really dramatic ways. It would be a huge disappointment for me if this does not happen.



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Name

Cindy Kopp

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Formal Comment *

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I heartily support the proposal for a Camden-Glassboro line! Public transportation that is affordable and convenient will help our community thrive, allowing us all to have greater access to the many opportunities that our neighboring area affords. A train will allow for greater economic development and will serve the future of our children by providing a more environmentally friendly mode of transportation.



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Name

Kelly & Chris Pomilio

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I have lived in Wenonah most of my life and i am strongly against the proposed Gassboro-Camden Line. I feel that it will negatively affect the quality of life in Wenonah and the surrounding towns for several reasons:

1. Increased noise and air pollution
2. Increased traffic
3. Safety of our children and pets (the elementary school is literally next to the RR tracks. Our children not only walk to school but literally all over town).
4. Wenonah is known as a quaint family town full of historic a charm without the chaos of bigger towns. This would literally cut the town in half and negatively impact its charm and value.
5. Emergency response will be slowed
6. Wenonah is surround by conservation area with hiking trails and wildlife that will be negatively impacted.
7. This is a quiet/safe town where people spend much of their time outside walking/jogging/biking freely without a train coming through constantly.
8. There is absolutely no use for this train...it only benefits Rowan University. This is not the area of the county that has the bulk of traffic.
9. This may increase crime
10. Increased taxes and decreased property value

The Rt 55 plan makes more sense and benefits many more people without disputing and destroying the integrity of small towns.

The whole plan is archaic, out-dated, completely short-sighted and not visionary.

PLEASE RETHINK and REPLAN!!!



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19103

Formal Comment *

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More public transportation options are desperately needed in the South Jersey area. As a commuter who uses public transit to get from Philadelphia to Glassboro, having this option would be a tremendous help.



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I fully support the Glassboro-Camden line. This would be an important resource helping to solve commuting challenges in South Jersey as Rowan University continues to grow and expand, with many students, professors, and staff traveling this route on a regular basis.



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Name

Cindy Vitto

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

Rowan University

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am definitely in favor of the GCL project; in fact, I have been waiting (and hoping) for years for progress on this rail line. Especially with the growth of Rowan University and surrounding communities, it makes sense to utilize the existing rail line in order to reduce traffic and parking congestion. In addition, as a senior citizen myself, I believe that seniors who would hesitate to drive or park in unfamiliar areas would be relieved to have local train transportation. As much as I love my home town of Wenonah, I have frequently considered moving to the Haddonfield / Collingswood area just because of the proximity of train transportation. If the train stops in Wenonah, both transportation options and property values will improve substantially. Let's stop talking about this project and get it going!



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Name

Cristine mason

Email

[REDACTED]

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City

glassboro

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I think this will be a great asset to the growing Glassboro community and Rowan University. The traffic in the area is stretched beyond capacity, and increasing numbers of students are coming from community colleges so access to campus will help them continue to utilize the area and businesses. This will also provide access to the greater Philadelphia area and its resources.



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Name

Yvonne Hammond

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I favor the proposal to establish a Glassboro-Camden line and would greatly appreciate the option for safe, reliable public transportation that would allow my two college age students to better enjoy the variety of opportunities this line would create. This is an important infrastructure for environmental reasons, but also would help keep students off busy highways, reducing traffic and ensuring safer travel from the Glassboro area all the way into Philadelphia. This line could also potential help bring more students into New Jersey, which would benefit the area colleges.



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Name

Beth Christensen

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Rowan University

City

Glassboro

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Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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The GCL is a imperative for the health and economy of this region. Climate change is a reality, as is environmental degradation from cars in general (heavy metals in runoff, hard surfaces for roads, air pollution). Having a safe and reliable transportation option that does not include personal vehicles is an important advance for Gloucester County. It seems odd to select a diesel solution, but diesel is still better than no mass transit other than buses. Please prioritize mass transportation in Gloucester County and take some of the stress off of our environment.



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Name

Erin Herberg

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Rowan University

City

GLASSBORO

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I am very much in favor of the proposal to create the Glassboro-Camden Line. Future generations, and the environment, will be grateful if this project is brought forward. Since the tracks are already in place, and most of the towns along the track owe their existence to the rail line, it is only a responsible use of resources to bring this proposal to fruition. As an employee of Rowan University and a resident of Glassboro, I have witnessed the institution's growth, and now the road systems and parking capacities are being stretched to the limits. Having the train line in place will allow more students to take advantage of Rowan's offerings, and it will also add to Glassboro's revitalization of its downtown in the form of the Rowan Boulevard project. We are all in it together, and having the train will protect the environment, ensure the prosperity of future generations, and add to the economic vitality of the region.



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Name

Diane Macris

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[REDACTED]

Organization

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Formal Comment *

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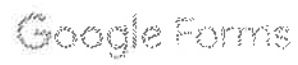
I am 100% opposed to the GCL Project. The initial studies for this proposal were done at least 10 years ago and no longer feasible. We are in the middle of a pandemic that has changed life as we knew it. I am an advocate for public transportation; the DRPA proposal for a PATCO route down the corridor of Rt 55 makes more sense. Although it appears more costly, it will serve the most amount of constituents in an area of the county with the highest traffic volume. The federal government may find this project feasible and give financial support instead of leaving the financial burden of the GCL on the taxpayers who are already struggling. The GCL will also cause a decrease in property values creating more of a hardship on constituents.

The GCL will only serve a small constituency of the county: Rowan University and its students many of whom may choose more online classes.

Most importantly, this proposal will severely affect the quality of life for those living in the small communities. Many elementary schools are located along the line causing disruption and safety issues. Emergency Services will be blocked when the train is frequently passing by causing more safety issues. The historic integrity of the area will be in danger as well as conservation areas AND the train will run on antiquated fossil fuel at a time we are fighting pollution and climate change. This proposal is shortsighted and not visionary. The DRPA plan is a more realistic option.



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Name

Lisa Fagan

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Rowan University

City

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New Jersey

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I support this rail line to improve access to education, internship and job opportunities in both directions.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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This will be great for the environment, for the students of Rutgers–Camden, Camden County College, and Rowan University (Cooper Medical School too) that all have parking issues, for those employed at those intuitions and hospital(s), the court house, etc. More access, more affordability, easy connect to the city from the borro (huge boom to grow in south jersey). Only down side is traffic on Rowan campus (only 1 main road) waiting for train to go by.



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Name

Rachel King

Email

Organization

Rowan University

City

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State

NJ

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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The economic future of our region rests on the opportunities provided by universities such as Rowan. Currently, the local highways are overburdened and parking at our campuses isn't sufficient to keep up with demand. A reliable system of public transportation is essential: A train line will help students, faculty, and staff travel to our campuses in an environmentally sustainable way.



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Name

Kim Akass

Email

Organization

Rowan University

City

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State

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08033

Formal Comment *

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I am very much in favor of this line - it would link the Camden and Glassboro campuses making travel so much easier for students and staff. In this current global warming crisis it is absolutely paramount that we get as many cars off the road as possible. This train line will help in the battle against climate change.



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Name

Holly Miloszewski

Email

Organization

Say No to GCL

City

Weninah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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Both my husband and I strongly oppose the Glassboro-Camden Line. The negative aspects far outweigh any positives (which we honestly can't really find.) Noise pollution and traffic alone are reason enough for the homeowners/residents to oppose this line. We live less than 2 blocks from the train tracks and I CANNOT imagine having a loud train, horns blowing shaking our house all day long. In addition I genuinely feel it will be an utter waste of funds and be severely under utilized. I just can't see this benefitting this town or the surrounding area and or residents. We love our small town and value our community and happiness and well-being of our friends and neighbors. This line will have a detrimental effect on this beautiful town we call home. We urge you to take our concerns and comments to heart. Thank you.



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Name

Michelle

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Organization

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Formal Comment *

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I do not want the line! I live right smack next to the tracks. My kids play outside all the time. I am concerned for their safety! Also, the horn. Now, every time the train passes my house it honks 4-6 times. It only goes by once or twice a day. I can't imagine them honking every 7 1/2 minutes! Also the traffic! I can barely get out of my street as it is. With the train stopping the traffic every 7 1/2 minutes, I will NEVER get out of my street! There is no need for this train to be in my backyard! There is another place that the train will fit right in—Rt. 55.

Thank You!



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Name

Bill Freind

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Organization

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Wenonah

State

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08090

Formal Comment *

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The GCL makes sense on almost every level. South Jersey suffers from a distinct lack of public transportation, and this will help to alleviate that. It will boost property values of the towns along the line, as well as help to reduce greenhouse gases. I grew up across the street from a commuter rail line and the noise and disruption were virtually non-existent.



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Name

DINA BECK

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Organization

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Mantua Township

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Formal Comment *

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I highly oppose the Glassboro Camden line proposal. We moved here two years ago for quiet. This new initiative will bring traffic, noise and potentially crime with loitering at the stations. I want to keep my property value. I want my family to be kept safe. We want to enjoy the quiet in the backyard we work so hard to attain. Please, please don't run this line past residential neighborhoods. Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion.



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Name

Dean Schneider

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Dean Schneider Music

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GLASSBORO

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08028

Formal Comment *

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Good evening. The proposed Glassboro-Camden Line is a most-welcome concept. The population growth in South Jersey will continue to expand into the future as well as the growth of Rowan University. Having a light rail commuter line connecting Camden to Glassboro will benefit the people of South Jersey.

The existing track right of way and the fact that it is maintained for daily freight service is a huge advantage. There may be a need for additional trackage for sidings when coordinating commuter trains with concurrent freight train service.

The potential benefit to the Glassboro area will be less traffic traveling to Rowan University and surrounding areas. It is my hope to see the Glassboro-Camden Line become a reality.

Dean Schneider
Glassboro, NJ



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Comments must be received by the Project Team no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Melissa Levay

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I think it would be convenient to be able to quickly travel to and from Philadelphia, but this plan will not accomplish that. There will be very little gain, but a huge loss felt in our community in the form of noise, danger, and expense. Please reconsider.



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Name

Kelly Murphy

Email

Organization

N/A

City

Sewell

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08080

Formal Comment *

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My family has many concerns over the proposed GCL Line which would run at the end of our street. The first being the safety of the children in the neighborhood. Second being the noise and pollution. We moved to this town 25 years ago for the quiet, small town feel. Third being the impact on the traffic situation, we have already seen an enormous increase with the addition of Target and Lowe's shopping centers. We also have serious concerns over crime, since the line would run to and from Camden, which is one of the most dangerous cities in the country. In addition, the cost, which I'm sure will increase our taxes yet again. We've already seen our taxes more than double since moving here. We, unfortunately, will have no choice but to leave this town and the friends that we have grown to call family for the last 25 years. I hope you can find an alternate solution to this proposal. **WE, THE PEOPLE, DO NOT WANT OR NEED THIS TRAIN!** Thank you!



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Name

Heather Petolicchio

Email

Organization

Mantua Resident

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I am not in favor of the GCL in the proposed location. The proposal has the train traveling through several communities multiple times a day which will create traffic congestion, safety concerns, interruption to the communities with increased noise, potential damage to the houses along the tracks, environmental concerns from the Diesel engines and the destruction of trees currently lining the tracks. Residents along the tracks have not been notified of the resurgence of the proposed train route which appears to lack transparency and confidence in the proposal to withstand public scrutiny. The train in the current proposal is extremely expensive and the projected ridership numbers are not realistic in 2020 post COVID-19. Alternate routes and greener more environmental friendly, fiscally responsible alternatives should be considered. Thank you for your time.



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Name

Dara Johnson

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

Nj

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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My family and neighbors are COMPLETELY against this train going where it is currently plotted for. This is a family friendly neighborhood which would be forever changed and most likely cause for most of us to pack up and move. It would bring almost constant noise, increased traffic, increased crime, it would interfere with fire and EMS response, decrease of property value, increased taxes and the list goes on. I have lived in Sewell, Mantua Twp for almost 40 years, I chose to buy my parents(my childhood) home because of the area and schools. This will force us out. It needs to go in the median of route 55 where it was originally designed to go.



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Name

Trevor Smith

Email

Organization

City

Glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I would like to express full support for establishing a light rail public transportation service between Glassboro and Camden. I live in Glassboro, and I have seen the volume of vehicle traffic increase dramatically in recent years. The GCL would be a huge benefit to the environment by providing an alternative to personal vehicles for commuters both to and from Glassboro. The GCL would also be a benefit to the local economies for all municipalities along the line by providing greater access for those who may wish to visit but do not have access to personal transportation.



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Name

Dr. Timothy Schwarz

Email

Organization

Rowan University

City

Glassboro

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I would like to highly encourage a rail line from Glassboro to Camden. As music teacher, it is frustrating to have so many excellent musical organizations in Philadelphia that are extremely difficult to get to unless you have a car, which students are not allowed to have for their first two years of school if they live on campus. Having this line would make the music department much stronger for our students.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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This train line would change the lives of myself and so many South Jersey commuters. As a former student of Rowan University, I found myself commuting from Camden for four years. Now employed by the University, I continue the commute five days a week.

Trains are a safer alternative to driving on highways and will offer more time for a commuter to de-stress from their day in a safe, relaxing way. Not only will this train line connect communities, it will bring economic growth to every station proposed. I am 100% for this train line.



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Name

Arianna

Email

Organization

City

State

NJ

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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This line would bring south Jersey forward into the future and create join opportunities for people who don't own cars. This would elevate traffic in the surrounding areas. This is long over due!



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Name

Damian Orlando

Email

Organization

City

WEST CAPE MAY

State

NJ

Zip Code

08204

Formal Comment *

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A new train line like the proposed Glassboro-Camden Lime would would be a huge improvement to the communal connectivity of South Jersey. This would provide more opportunity for commuters to take jobs that they might otherwise pass up because of distance and inability to get to it. This train line would literally bring people together and make for a stronger hub of living in the South Jersey communities.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I feel as though this will be a waste of money. I don't see that many people planning on using it. I think you have to come up with a better way to generate money because this isn't it.



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Name

William Worthy

Email

Organization

NA

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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As someone who lives directly next to the train tracks I feel that without the proper research that this rail line is a terrible idea. No consideration has been put in place for the homes of the people directly next to the railroad tracks, is the foundation of my home even designed to withstand multiple passes a day. The sound pollution will be significantly worse and you want to raise my taxes which are already sky high for something that brings no benefit to the town. This is just wasting tax money for something that helps no one in these towns. The infrastructure is not in place to handle this change and from reading the site no thought has been put in place to appropriately make the shift. Don't do this.



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Name

Michael Robbins

Email

Organization

GNWPCD

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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More transportation development is needed for suburban/urban outside of major cities. The economic advantages of new train stations can curb the need for personal vehicle transport. Make the stations and trains bike friendly to encourage health as well. Property values in Philadelphia will price out lower income residents and this project would provide opportunities for happiness.



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Name

Eric

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I would like to express my support for this project. It's been a long time coming but it comes at a good time given the recent downtown revitalization projects in towns along the route. My only concern as a Pitman resident is given the train crosses our three main roads in Pitman (Holly, Broadway, and Cedar), my hope is that significant mitigation techniques are used to limit traffic disruption and noise. The convenience of the train should not be outweighed by any disruption it causes.



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Name

William Hanstein

Email

Organization

City

Woodbury Heights

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08097

Formal Comment *

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I am a resident of Woodbury Heights in very close proximity of the tracks of the proposed rail line. I very strongly disagree with this project for many reasons. First, the quality of life in my neighborhood will be absolutely destroyed with noise and traffic that we do not have now. The proposed parking lot will be right next to my home. I enjoy a quiet neighborhood and all of that will come to an end if this is allowed. The value of my home will decrease if this project is allowed to occur. No one will want to live next to this! As a small town, I already pay higher taxes than our surrounding towns. This project has so many implications where it is not beneficial to these small communities that you plan to run this rail line through. I am a retired 32 year Chief of Police and from a safety perspective, I see many security concerns arising out of this project. The train runs directly behind Woodbury Heights Elem. School. Of course noise and safety are a high concern. The tracks will hamper traffic flow on Elm Ave, which is also a location that most of our children cross to walk to school. Our town does not have school buses and all children walk to school. The tracks are right next to our one and only Fire Company. The frequency of these trains will literally cut off half of our town from rapid fire response, when sometimes minutes count. The rail line will cripple our small town and diminish our quality of life as we know it. The proposed parking/ station area proposed on Chestnut/Academy Ave will bring additional traffic down our small streets where our children play. Speeding cars, accidents are a huge concern that should be considered. With that comes the need for additional police officers to combat this problem and of course that will be passed onto us the local taxpayer. The salary, benefits, equipment to hire police is well over \$100,000. Next, the Fire Department will need additional equipment and firefighting materials in the event of train crashes and accidents. I am sure there will "reports" that will tell everyone how safe it is. Opposing parties could produce reports that say it is not safe. The point is, that any good emergency management coordinator will plan for the worst and purchase what is needed for when that emergency happens. Again, these costs are passed onto us as the local taxpayer. I have mentioned we are taxed higher because we are a small town and adding these additional burdens onto us will price us right out of homes. Next we look at the proposed station and what that has the potential to bring to our communities. My experience is that these areas breed crime and other public nuisance issues. There will be people proposing this project that say it "won't happen". I am telling you from experience that it will be an issue to contend with. Many law enforcement professionals will agree with me on this topic. This project really does not make any sense in this location. I believe the negative aspects far outweigh any positive benefit. It certainly does not benefit any of the small towns or residents where it runs right through their residential communities. We have seen that rail systems do not really have the usage that the proposers claim they will, and I am concerned with the amount of money that will be spent on this project. Is it sustainable? I don't believe it will, but I will have to hear empty trains running by my house about every 9 minutes. The list of reason(s) why I and many others have expressed opposition to this project clearly outweigh any benefit it may have to a select few.



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Name

Mellany Alio

Email

Organization

Resident

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I oppose the current plan but support the idea of a line DIRECTLY to Philadelphia. I use mass transit when going to the city but see little value - and several downsides - to the current plan. As a mass transit user, I don't see myself taking this train when I could easily drive to Ferry Ave and take a direct line. The train would be a noisy addition to town and it is hard to imagine people taking advantage of it. I would fully support a rail that goes directly to Philadelphia.



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Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Trish lilley

Email

Organization

City

Mantua

State

NJ

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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The train line would be a positive introduction of environmentally beneficial access to various points on the line, would increase cultural activities and the number of visitors to towns offering them and would make this area more attractive as a "destination" so I am in favor



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Name

Mary Beth Koniecki

Email

Organization

Pitman Tax Payer

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I am opposed to the Glassboro-Camden Line for numerous reasons but the MOST important one to me is the safety of our children. In Pitman in particular, our children walk to school, walk uptown, walk or bikes to their friends' houses' etc. How will our children be able to do this safely with a train speeding through town every 7 minutes during peak hours? This is a colossal waste of my hard earned dollars and I do NOT want this coming through my town.



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Name

Andrew Gooch

Email

Organization

Rowan University

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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The rail line is a great idea for the Rowan community, and it will provide tremendous added value to the region. A rail line would expand access to under-resourced communities, where students might not be able to afford a car to attend classes at Rowan. In addition, a rail line will help Rowan students become more employable in an already competitive region by giving them easy access to Philadelphia for internships and potential future employers. Even if students have cars, they might be deterred from internships and interviews because getting in-and-out of Philadelphia from Glassboro by car is difficult and expensive. A rail line into Camden will give students an easy way to then get into Philadelphia to expand their hiring network and improve on-the-job training skills, even if they decide to work long-term in New Jersey after graduation.



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Name

Tom Fusco

Email

Organization

Rowan University, Stage Rats LLC

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I fully support this project. It is the environmentally and fiscally responsible thing to do.



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Name

Ted Howell

Email

Organization

Rowan University

City

Glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I recently moved to Glassboro from Philadelphia and am wrapping up my 5th year teaching at Rowan. I think the GCL is a fantastic idea that will make this neighborhood more accessible and environmentally-friendly. The ability to get to Philly, via Camden, will increase my own mobility. I'd also happy to be able to get to nearby towns like Pitman and Mantua without driving.



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Name

Charles Tyson

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I think it's a wonderful and valuable idea to add Sewell to a broader transportation network. Providing a direct conduit to Philadelphia via Camden can only enhance the vibrancy of the area. I am definitely in favor of this proposal!



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Name

Elizabeth Whitehead

Email

Organization

City

Glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I've come here to state that I am enthusiastically for the Glassboro-Camden Line! As a person who doesn't mind driving but hates sitting in traffic, hates looking for parking once I arrive by car, and can't afford a private driver, I am really looking forward to a light rail system coming to my city, and excited about all the possibilities that it will bring. I had heard from some in my community that this system was considered once before, but negative public sentiment had stopped it, so I didn't want to allow the opportunity to offer my opinion pass. I am enthusiastic not just for an easier commute, but for the prospect of public transit removing cars from our roads. This project will reduce our use of fossil fuels, which is so important to our future health and the health of our planet. It's time for the Glassboro-Camden Line-All Aboard!



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Name

Michele M. Tobin

Email

Organization

Resident

City

Sewell

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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As a resident of Sewell, NJ for forty years, I write to you in strong opposition to the proposed Glassboro-Camden Line using existing rail tracks through towns from Glassboro to Camden. Currently ONE freight train travels through Sewell per day.

You may think I am a NIMBY (Not In My Backyard), however that is not true. I am NOT against progress and new approaches for change if that change makes sense, is well thought out, cost efficient and above all, benefits most people, not just a few.

I oppose this rail expansion through small, quaint towns with limited land space between tracks and homes. A grueling schedule of trains every fifteen minutes beginning at 6AM to midnight is beyond comprehension. The impact on our town of Sewell will have a detrimental effect on major access roads (Center Street and Mantua Blvd) both of which take residents to and from Rt 55, Woodbury-Glassboro Rd., Rt 45 and Rt 47. Also, Sewell's Fire and EMS Companies are located on opposite sides of town, using Center Street as an access route. If trains travel every fifteen minutes, receiving assistance from fire and ambulance will endanger the lives of residents.

I also fear emissions from the diesel engine and decibel levels affecting the health of residents and their children who live in close proximity to the tracks..... a train every fifteen minutes.

Additionally, I bring to your attention NJ Transit Routes 55/42/676, Locally Preferred Alternative, April 2012, that encouraged a need for increased rapid bus service along these corridors with park and ride, transferring to the Walter Rand Center to go on to Philadelphia via Patco.

On page 9 of the analysis:

"The LPA is consistent with statewide "Smart Growth" policies and programs. Park and ride stations are located in areas that are planned for development, thereby enhancing the transportation/ land use connection at critical nodes."

I invite you to visit our small community. We are not just a name or tracks on a map. We are residents that deserve a healthy environment to live and work , to raise our children, and enjoy our homes. Thank you for your time reading this important matter.

Respectfully,

Michele M. Tobin



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Name

Troy Everwine

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I'm very much in favor of this project. I believe public transit would add an extra layer of vitality and convenience to the area, providing access to Philadelphia via Camden without requiring car transit. I grew up in Sewell and am returning to the area after living in Philadelphia for 33 years. I remember hearing about when our railroad station allowed folks to commute easily and have always hoped to see it return.



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Name

Edith Giberson

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

Citizen

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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This needs to be presented on a voting ballot.



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Name

Lauren D Canna

Email

Organization

AfterSchool Music

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071-1568

Formal Comment *

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I am very much in favor of the GCL line. I own a home 2 blocks from the rail line and am not concerned with noise or traffic disruptions - I think it will all be minor and a small price to pay for the benefit to the community. I also own a business one block from the rail line and I look forward to the increase in business this line may bring as well as greater convenience for my employees. I am particularly happy that this train will run through the town center and not along the highway. Thank you for your work to make it happen.



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Name

Daniel Daneker

Email

Organization

City

Mantua (Sewell)

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08080

Formal Comment *

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I live on Salem Ave. I am totally against this project. Im all for making it easier for people to travel and helping the economy but not when I have to listen a train come by more than a few times a day. My neighborhood is quiet and secluded. It's peaceful. Adding this line will jeopardize the quality of this neighborhood and add too much noise pollution. Also if I ever decide to sell in the future, who to say I won't have issues. Who wants to live 3 houses away from a busy rail line? This isn't the City. It's a quiet rural neighborhood and it needs to stay that way. NO TO GCL.



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Name

Samantha

Email

Organization

n/a

City

Pitman

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08071

Formal Comment *

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As a resident of Pitman I am against this project. Having a train go through town almost 100 times a day would be incredibly disruptive, especially to the residents who live right along the tracks. The houses shake enough with the existing train that comes through. Traffic would be more congested. The town would lose parking which is already an issue. It would pose a safety issue for the children who not only cross the street to go to school, but who traverse the town on a daily basis. There are several other transportation options that would get you to Philadelphia quicker without having to change trains at Camden. I also don't want a direct line from one of NJ's most dangerous cities to our quiet small town. If you want noise pollution and crime, go to the city. There is no need to bring the city here.



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Name

Jonathan Warren

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08090

Formal Comment *

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The Borough of Wenonah does not possess the infrastructure to support the GCL and building such infrastructure will result in a net negative for the town. Currently, there is no parking available near the train station for commuters. Building parking lots would require the destruction of either existing residential or public park space. Such destruction would result in the loss of homes, loss of tax revenue, loss of public space and possibly the loss of businesses along Mantua Avenue. Further, building large parking lots would destroy much of the small-town character which Wenonah is known for. Instead of tree lined streets, visitors to and residents of Wenonah will see concrete lots filled with commuter vehicles. Additionally, the influx of commuter vehicles will require the upgrading of existing streets. Currently, Mantua Avenue is arguably the only major thoroughfare through the borough, and it is incapable of supporting the projected vehicular traffic. If Mantua Avenue were upgraded to support this increased traffic, it would again require the destruction of existing residential homes and public space. Further, the train would cross over at least 2 major roads in Wenonah. The increase in train traffic would slow vehicular traffic along these roads. Lastly, the GCL will require a major adjustment to public safety concerns and planning. Police presence will have to increase to support the larger numbers of people moving inside Wenonah. Police patrols will also have to increase to protect the large number of families with small children who live on the roads adjacent to the railroad line. This will be especially important during school days as many children walk to school. Now instead of walking along relatively quiet residential streets, children and their parents will be walking along roads with commuters traveling to and from the train station. Wenonah will have to hire large numbers of crossing guards to ensure child safety. The Mantua Police Department will also have to increase the number of officers present in town during arrival and dismissal hours. In summary, the GCL does not provide benefits which outweigh the substantial negative impact this project brings to Wenonah.



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Name

David Stewart

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

South Jersey Athletic club

City

Haddonfield

State

NJ

Zip Code

08033

Formal Comment *

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What a wonderful proposal this is. I am especially excited by extending service to Wenonah, which I have visited recently for events and for use of the trail network. Having rail service to the town would allow a great opportunity to attend downtown events and, especially, to access these trails while minimizing the effects of additional vehicles. The environmental costs described seem well-managed and remedied, and should be more than compensated for by promotion and support of the outdoor areas made more accessible, and the reduction of dependence of motor vehicles to use them.



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Name

Steven O'Mara

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

Private citizen

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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There is no value to this train coming through this town. The need for this train from the townspeople is zero. The amount of time it would take to travel from one end to the other does not make it an optimal mode of transportation and only depreciates home values. Lindenwold and Camden come to mind as examples. What is the purpose of it I'd it takes 1:48 to travel one end to the other end? which essentially would require a person to leave at 5am to get to work for 8:30am. If you're looking for home sale signs to appear magically, then I predict you will see this if approved. You will surely turn this quaint small town into a dump, littered with trash and crime. Nobody wants this except the town leadership and people will remember this come election time. I will make sure if that fact. Try me!!



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GCL Draft EIS - Formal Comment Submission

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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

Jacqueline Dадario

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Private citizen

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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The necessity of this train and the usefulness of it border on insanity. This area does not have a demand for its people to travel almost 2 hrs just to get to a connecting train to the city. With the need for our towns to upgrade its services, the cost and associated tax implications for the homeowners is suffocating. Connecting our town with two bookends of Camden and Glassboro is an invitation to dismantle this quiet little area into a possible crime induced "stop" along the way. The people of this town keep voting for the same leadership who are in favor of this idea. DO NOT be fooled and believe this mayor and loyal subjects are opposed to this, if they were....this would've never gotten any traction (pun intended)



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Name

Robert E Litzinger

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am opposed to the proposed rail extension from Camden to Glassboro, GCL. It will be running directly through Wenonah and cut our town in half. The volume of trains proposed will be disruptive to traffic flow and cause undue expenses to gate multiple crossing streets. The noise from the trains will be a frequent disturbance to residents and I think the negative impact far outweighs any benefits that would result from this proposed rail service.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I am very excited about the possibility of the Glassboro-Camden Line. I live in Philadelphia, and it would give me an environmentally friendly way to get to work at Rowan University. It would also help make the public resources of Rowan more widely available to New Jersey residents. Please move forward with this plan!



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Name

Cristi and MikeBoddy

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

WENONAH

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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As residents of the community expected to be directly impacted by this line we oppose it. We moved here to retire and this will destroy the value of our home as it is right next to the proposed acquisition on S Clinton Ave. You would be invading the private space we were offered in this purchase by removing the barriers we have between the tracks and our home. Displacing our neighbors as well as disrupting the natural habitat that the community sought to establish. We will not quietly sit and watch this happen and plan to take all legal and public action necessary to oppose it and get it stopped. Given the current economic situation this state faces and the change in commuting expected as fallout from this pandemic it is an irresponsible project put on the back of

The tax payers of this state that continually get used and abused for your folly.



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Name

Diana Gable

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Mantua Township - Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I writing to express my opposition to the proposed rail line. The existing tracks run through neighborhoods and cross our streets at grade level. The noise and traffic will disrupt our lives, threaten the safety of our children, and tear apart our quiet residential communities.

It is absurd to commit to this project which will consume taxpayer funds. The River Line is not utilized enough to turn a profit- it is a failure. Why continue with the nonsensical notion that this line will be wanted by the community or of use to local residents?

It is apparent that this line is being endorsed by politicians and connected businessman to support Rowan University campuses. A rail line is not necessary to shuttle students. Electric buses running on a loop would be far more cost effective and environmentally friendly.

This project is a colossal waste of money and needs to be stopped. Please listen to the people of the community.



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Name

Laurie Brewer

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I am strongly in favor of this train. The traffic on Route 55 is awful. This train should have a stop in Pitman. This will benefit our downtown business community.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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On the positive side this will bring construction jobs to the area as did the River Line. On the negative side it will disrupt the quiet residential communities along the route. It is bad enough now with the freight trains sounding their whistle at each vehicular crossing. It would appear that this is primarily a proposed "college student" rail line. How many people actually work near any of the proposed stations? If you work in Philadelphia or Trenton this may help with the commute, but there remains a lot of leg work to reach your final destination as is the case at the Trenton terminus of the River Line (unless you are transferring to reach New York). What about using the Route 55 corridor? Yes, it will cost more to construct new track rather than upgrade the existing freight line, but there would be less impact upon the serenity of the adjacent residential communities. The bottom line is please do not construct this light rail line along the proposed route.

Thank you.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am concerned about the amount of noise pollution adding this rail will cause. The risks of this project vastly outweigh the proposed benefits, especially when we are in a pandemic where most people are avoiding mass transportation. I feel it's a waste of money and resources that could be better used to benefit the city of Camden.



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Name

Stephanie Graves

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I do not support the GCL running through my town of Wenonah. The noise will disturb the peace that we have and a train running so often will ruin the safety we and our children experience



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Name

Edward

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

None

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am against the glassboro/ Camden line due to its effects on the environment



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I have lived in Wenonah my entire life and I oppose the gcl train. I'm worried about the environmental effects and that it will ruin the integrity of the towns.



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Name

David Flynn

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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As a resident of Wenonah who lives a block away from the proposed rail line, I am strongly against this plan. There are several very negative impacts with this plan, such as an absurd frequency of trains that will stop traffic, an unhealthy and unwelcome amount of noise associated with the trains, and the pollution associated with a diesel train. These impacts to the community can easily be averted if the proposed rail line is instead run along route 55. Please do not run this train through residential areas and ruin the quality of life of those living along it when there is a perfectly good solution elsewhere.



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Email

Organization

City

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Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I am heavily concerned about the effects of the GCL on small towns such as Wenonah. I see absolutely no need for a passenger train that probably wouldn't get much use to be disrupting the everyday lives of small towns by running through constantly. It will be both noisy and a pollutant, and I see no benefits at all.



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Name

Rebecca Gandy

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

None

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am against the proposed Glassboro-Camden train line and concerned about the impact it will have on Wenonah. I am concerned about the impact of rail pollution, and noise pollution.

Living near rail has been linked to higher rates of cardiovascular disease, anxiety, cognitive issues, etc. The sound will drastically impact students at Rowan and the residents of Camden as well. If the GCL is being heralded as a revitalization effort for the communities along the 18 mile stretch, it's worth noting that Camden, along with the rest of us, will be negatively impacted with more noise and air pollution.

If the goal of the GCL is to reduce pollution, it's failing in two areas- noise and air. Low income and minority communities are the most disproportionately impacted by air and noise pollution, and this GCL line will only compound that problem, especially in Camden.

I am against this train line proposal.



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Name

Jaclyn Graves

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I believe the noise pollution, traffic problems, and safety issues that this train line would cause would have a significantly detrimental impact on all the small towns that this train would run through.



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Name

Andrea Dahlberg

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I am totally against the proposed rail line. All facets of environmental impact have not been looked at with a critical eye. It seems as though a quicker, cheaper route is being taken. There is a better way, to utilize the route alongside route 55, which will have a better long term economical, environmental, and community impact.

There is a difference between politicians and public servants, politicians work for themselves and public servants work for the people. It's time to be public servants.



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Complete details about the project and the Draft EIS can be found by visiting the project website, <http://glassborocamdenline.com>

Name

MaryKate Kearney

Email

Kearney

Organization

Resident of Wenonah

City

Wenonah

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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This is poorly planned and will be a detriment to ever single community on the proposed route. The only beneficiaries will be to politicians who will make money from this deal while hurting their constituents. Even Rowan will not really benefit. They could just as easily and much more cost efficiently run a shuttle between campuses to get their students there and back faster.



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Ms. Victoria Malaszecki, Public Involvement Liaison
P.O. Box 536, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

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Name

Dr. Edward Smith

Email

Organization

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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I am a Pitman resident and I am very much in favor of this light rail line. The environmental benefits far outweigh any costs, perceived or otherwise. Having lived in Europe for many years, I know what a wonderful asset such a commuter rail can be and I support it wholeheartedly.



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Name

Shaun Eagan

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

Wenonah Resident

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I say NO to the GCL!!



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Name

John Hasse

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

City

Glassboro

State

NJ

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I am a resident of Glassboro and live on the 200 block of Villanova just over a block from the rail line. I am strongly in favor of the line as proposed for the many environmental and economic benefits discussed in the document. I provide the following comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Opportunities for Essential Environmental Improvements

- 1) **Bike/Pedestrian Network:** A comprehensive Bike and Pedestrian network serving all stations and their communities should be developed and integrated simultaneous with the light rail design and construction. Such planning will have multiple environmental benefits and provide a safe, non-auto mode of access to stations. The cost to develop a coordinated bike/ped network design will be much less at the time of construction than retrofitting after light rail completion and will increase the ridership of the train and reduce car travel. This should occur in partnership with municipal, county and regional stakeholders.
- 2) **Trails with Rail:** As part of an integrated rail/bike network mentioned above, opportunities for designing Rails-with-Trails infrastructure should be included in the design and construction. This is especially critical for particularly difficult/dangerous bicycle bottlenecks and barriers such as Route 55 which has no safe bicycle crossing point in Gloucester county. An example of a Rail-with-Trail design is the RiverLine bridge across Crosswicks Creek that has an integrated pedestrian/bicycle bridge lane. There are many opportunities for integrating pedestrian and bike infrastructure into the rail construction that will be lost if not planned at the outset.
- 3) **Lower Carbon Footprint:** Since the Glassboro-Camden initiative was started, the urgency of climate change has risen in seriousness. A renewed effort must be given to reduction of green house emissions in the construction and operation of the GCL. The carbon footprint should be more fully evaluated and every solution considered for its potential to reduce the impact. For example, there are new battery-powered trains being developed that should be considered instead of the diesel hybrids. There is also low-carbon concrete that should be used in construction.



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Name

Maria Mas

Email

Organization

City

Glassboro

State

New Jersey

Zip Code

08028

Formal Comment *

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I am in support of the GCL commuter rail service. I believe it will bring environmental and economic benefits to Glassboro and the region.



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Name

Email

Organization

City

State

Zip Code

Formal Comment *

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I think this line should be made as soon as possible



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Name

Charles foster

Email

Organization

Concerned Citizen

City

Wenonah

State

Nj

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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This project is a polluting money drain that is going to cost multiple billions of dollars to “construct”. This project will increase both air pollution and noise pollution in the communities that it cuts through. This project will gridlock traffic across south Jersey at every intersection with a train crossing. This waste of money is being marketed as a way for people to get to Philadelphia however any rider would have transfer in Camden in order to get into Philadelphia, this is conveniently left out of the literature. Any politician that votes for this project is trying to appease their donors. Rest assured that my fellow community members and I will never again support or vote for any political “leader” shows support for this GCL project.



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Name

Frances Harwell

Email

Organization

DVRPC PPTF & RTC member

City

Woodbury

StateNew Jersey

Zip Code08096

Formal Comment *

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My questions are related to: 1) The type of rail that will be running on the line and the impact on air quality. 2) The frequency of trips, related to existing disruption to traffic flow and conjection. 3) The noise and impact on houses which are located very close to the line. Thank you for addressing these questions and concerns.



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Name

Paige Bathurst

Email

Organization

Resident along GCL & Rowan University student

City

Sewell (Mantua)

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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In 2014, I sat in my 6th grade social studies teacher's classroom and for the first time I learned about the Glassboro Camden Line. Now I am a first year student at Rowan University and have become aware of the reborn idea of this transportation system. I'm sure you don't get many messages like this but I couldn't go any longer without writing to you about my immense support of this. As a Mantua Township resident for my entire 18 years of life, I have watched this town grow and evolve and to see community members say that this time, we shouldn't grow is so hard for me to understand.

I am quite honestly flabbergasted by the outpouring negativity against this system. I write to tell you that I refuse to believe any of their concerns are valid. One that I see very often is the idea that the crime and drug rates will go up profusely, especially drug use of minors. To begin, I believe we have a very good police department here in Mantua and throughout Gloucester County and do not believe we should be concerned about crimes. Also, as an 18 year old, one thing that has always horrified me is the drug and alcohol use by my peers. To see parents imply that their child will be tempted to use drugs because of the location that this line will connect to is just so wrong to me. Another point I continue to see brought up is that emergency vehicles would be stopped by traffic at these train stops. I don't believe this is a real issue and if it was, how does the rest of the country manage with rails like these?

My initial support of the GCL was honestly for personal reasons. As I mentioned previously, I have been aware of this idea for many years. I grew up dancing at a studio along the tracks in Wenonah. Sometimes I would daydream about what it would be like to take a 1 minute drive to the stop by my house and take a train ride to my dance class. Now similarly, I imagine how different my experience and so many others' experience would be if they could simply hop on a train to head to their class in Glassboro on the Rowan University campus or to be able to easily come home on the weekends. On a similar idea, this line could give Gloucester County residents an easier pathway to commute to schools in Philadelphia such as Drexel University or University of Pennsylvania. Conversely, we could see a higher population of Philadelphia & Pennsylvania suburb residents enrolling at Rowan. To continue, I also support this line because the Mantua Township I grew up in is not the Mantua Township I live in now. With stores like Target and Lowe's along with restaurants like Chick-fil-A, I believe this line could help our economy grow. With the initial and continued discovery of the fossil pit, Inversand as I like to call it, I believe Mantua is going to be put on the maps and this line will just help us.

To end, I urge you to go through with this project. I believe many are uneducated and don't know what the benefits of this could be. Thank you for your time and stay well.



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Name

Shelly Cortés

Email

Organization

Private citizen

City

Mantua

State

NJ

Zip Code

08051

Formal Comment *

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I am against the GCL for many reasons. I don't think it is necessary. I also feel that if it ran along major roads it would have less of an impact on our small towns. I grew up in Collingswood, which has a Patco stop. Having that stop in town brought crime in and enabled criminals to flee quickly. I just don't think the benefits are worth it.



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Name

Tammy Ludwig

Email

Organization

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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This project is a total waste of money & completely unnecessary! Let's look at the Riverline! It operates at a loss every year! Let's look at the studies of crime increases in the towns it runs through! This train will run through many small towns and neighborhoods with Small children who do not want that!!! I moved to Gloucester county from Burlington county to get away from the hustle & bustle now you want to run a rail train through my neighborhood?? For what? To go where? I am very upset that this project is even being considered without some kind of vote from the people would would be directly affected by it! I don't know of anyone in my town who is for this project! It is a HUGE project and a total waste of money! Especially right now with the pandemic!!! I really hope that you will consider the opinions of the people who will have to deal with this train every 7 minutes every single day before moving forward with this project! The residents of Mantua do not want this!!



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Name

Nicole Galanti

Email

[Redacted]

Organization

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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I do not agree with the GCL line being suggested. It is a strong no from me. The detrimental impact that this line will have is not worth the gains. Again those wishing to push this through look to line their pockets and do not consider anything else. There are real consequences to the local wildlife, the quality of life including and not limited to noise pollution. The negative impact it will have on the residents in the towns it will run through is simply not worth it.



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Name

Joseph Lippincott

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Resident

City

Pitman

State

NJ

Zip Code

08071

Formal Comment *

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Dear Ms. Malaszecki,

I would like to express my support of the Glassboro-Camden Line project. I believe if this project is done safely, and with residents in mind, that it will significantly impact both the economy and the impending climate crisis. Hopefully it also impacts it taking 45 minutes to drive down Rt. 55/42. Towns like Haddonfield in South Jersey, and Red Bank in Central Jersey, have shown what can happen when people can easily jump on a train and enjoy restaurants and shopping in your small downtown. People who work in Philadelphia will have a more affordable way to commute to the city everyday.

I hope this project models itself after what is happening in countries like Germany, China, and even Canada, and not the antiquated rail we currently have. This is an opportunity to combine clean energy, create jobs, boost revenue in small towns, and provide people with a way to get to work and seek entertainment and adventure. Our region is growing and changing for the better, and a modern transportation solution would positively impact residents and small business alike.



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Name

Anthony Ludwig

Email

Organization

Homeowner on proposed route

City

Sewell

State

NJ

Zip Code

08080

Formal Comment *

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I moved to the town of Sewell in 2005. I was hesitant to purchase a home right next to rail lines but did so knowing it was only a short freight train twice a day. That kind of rail traffic is just fine but what you are proposing is NOT what I would like to live next to. I don't see the benefit at all with a light rail line, all I see is decreased property values, unsightly fences, increased traffic and NOISE!!! Who wants to hear train horns and bells every 7.5 or 15 mins???? Imagine if I drove by YOUR house with that same frequency and blasted my horn! How would YOU feel about that? I don't personally know ANYONE who wants this!!! If you want to run a light rail line through existing neighborhoods you might want to have the people living in these neighborhoods take a vote on whether they want it or not. It's irritating to think you people think it's ok to put a noisy light rail line in someone's backyard that no one will use and no one wants or in my case my front yard. In closing that's a HARD NO for me and my family. No thanks. -Tony Ludwig 741 West Atlantic Ave. Sewell.



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Name

Paul Henjes

Email

Organization

N/A

City

Wenonah

State

NJ

Zip Code

08090

Formal Comment *

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As a resident of Wenonah, I am generally supportive of the project. I see immense potential in making the communities along the GCL more walkable town centers anchored by strong transit connections. I, however, have several questions and concerns.

I am potentially concerned with tree removal in Wenonah Borough. What steps will be taken to mitigate tree removal and reduce it as much as possible? This is a major concern for many in the community.

Additionally, I am concerned with the difficulty to transfer to the PATCO Speedline for service to Philadelphia. Is the Cooper Hospital GCL station being constructed to allow for a transfer to the PATCO Speedline? If not, why not? This location is a major employment center in the city and is a perfect spot for a cross-platform transfer between the two systems, which would speed up transfer time to Philadelphia and increase ridership. A transfer at the WRTC would take several minutes more given the lack of a cross-platform transfer.

Additionally, why is the line not being electrified? If the intent of this line is to reduce auto emissions, diesel light rail seems like a half-hearted answer to the problem. Moreover, electric light rail vehicles are quieter than diesel, potentially mitigating the severe noise pollution associated with this project.

Moreover, several of the stations seem overbuilt and unnecessary. Both Mantua/Pitman and Mantua Blvd stations are located in wooded areas with little to no places of employment or residences nearby, unless nearby areas were developed. Given their low projected ridership (particularly Mantua/Pitman), why is there such a large lot?

Additionally, the ridership forecasts at several stations seem wrong. If the intent is to connect Rowan with Rutgers, why is it projected that less than 800 people will board at Rowan Station?

What steps will be taken to prioritize bus/light rail transfers along the corridor? Bus ridership in the area is much higher than any of the area's rail services and provides a perfect opportunity to build strong transfers between the GCL and the bus system. Will the bus routes be optimized to bring riders to the GCL?

Lastly, I am concerned about the service frequency. The 30 minute headways at nighttime seem more akin to commuter rail services, and likely will drive away ridership given their infrequency.

Thank you,
Paul Henjes



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