I am Talia Crawford, the Campaign Organizer for the Tri-State Transportation Campaign. Thank you for the opportunity to provide a public comment before the Board this morning.

The Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a 501(c)(3) non-profit policy and advocacy organization dedicated to mobility, accessibility and livability in New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut.

Newark Penn Station is a hub for riders taking NJ Transit, Amtrak, PATH, and the Newark City Subway, and Tri-State Transportation Campaign is excited for the Modernization Project as it provides an opportunity to reimagine the experience for any traveler. Newark is such a culturally diverse city that the modernization of Newark Penn Station should reflect those values making it inclusive and accessible for all.

Transfers should be easy to navigate and the modernized station should comply with ADA standards but also consider broadening beyond physical disabilities—focusing on how to make the station more accessible for those with cognitive disabilities. The station's signage should reflect the three most prominent languages spoken there: English, Spanish, and Portuguese. Making the modern Newark Penn Station language accessible to all travelers.

During this revitalization project, NJ TRANSIT should garner the input from those who live in Newark by holding multiple public outreach stakeholder meetings/hearings to discuss the project details and listen to what Newark citizens want and need. What does the upcoming public participation process look like?

Also, as the city of Newark is engaging in its progressive and impressive master plan, Newark 360, we urge NJT to work in lockstep with the city during this process.

Regarding the Trenton Transit Center, TSTC emphasizes the need to prioritize ADA accessibility on all platforms and ensure elevators are in good working order. As we seek to reduce GHG emissions and address equity concerns, it is essential to include bike infrastructure including fix-it stations, better and sheltered bike racks and explore the feasibility of clear bike lockers. TSTC remains engaged in the Trenton Artwalk initiative and would welcome the opportunity to discuss how the scope of this project fits into the Trenton Transit Center vision.
Tri-State applauds the continual progress of the Portal North Bridge Project. This is a critical step to reach full capacity and eventually realizing the Gateway Project.

Thank you again and looking forward to a continued dialog.