The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for NJ TRANSIT’s Raritan River Bridge Replacement Project. The FONSI, issued on October 13, 2017, followed FTA’s review of the June 2017 Raritan River Bridge Replacement Project Environmental Assessment (EA) and Section 4(f) Evaluation for the project, which was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A FONSI is issued when a determination is made that a project or action will have no significant effect on the environment.

Recognizing that bridge resiliency is essential to safe and reliable operations along the North Jersey Coast Line (NJCL), the Raritan River Bridge Replacement project will replace the existing swing bridge that carries NJ TRANSIT’s NJCL trains over the Raritan River between Perth Amboy, NJ, and South Amboy, NJ. The new bridge will be on an alignment adjacent to, and west of, the existing bridge to allow train operations to continue without interruption as the new bridge is being constructed. Built in 1908, the Raritan River Bridge suffered damage in 2012 during Superstorm Sandy. It is the sole rail link for 17 of the 20 stations on the NJCL to the major job centers of Newark and Jersey City in New Jersey and the New York City borough of Manhattan. It carries almost 10,000 NJ TRANSIT customers daily and moves two million tons of freight annually via Conrail.