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**From:** [REDACTED]@aim.com  
**Sent:** Friday, July 17, 2009 2:19 PM  
**To:** info@r8newtown.com  
**Subject:** R8 Expansion Supporter

I am an avid supporter of expanded R8 service from Fox Chase. I live in Montgomery County and cannot for the life of me understand why Montco officials are so opposed to the restoration of rail service. Yes, it would be expensive to re-extend service, but with today's gas prices as unstable as they are and with the over-crowding seen on the R2 Warminster and the delays on the R3 West Trenton line, expanded R8 service would be worth the costs.

More often than not, when I take the train, I use the R2 Warminster line to and from Roslyn Station. However, I frequently use the R3 West Trenton line for school purposes- I am an education major and am required to observe and work in the classroom. I do my work at Lower Moreland High School, where the nearest train station to and from Center City is Bethayres on the R3 line. More than once I have experience severe delays (up to 20 minutes in some cases) on this line. I have even had a train pass by me on one occasion, stranding me, and many other people, at Bethayers for another hour. Luckily, I was able to catch the route 24 bus to Fox Chase. For the entire ride into Center City, I kept thinking to myself, 'Huntingdon Valley Station needs to be re-opened. There is no reason it should remain closed.' Needless to say, I was still late to class that day. I've known for years that the Fox Chase line once extended up past Huntingdon Valley. That day that the R3 passed by me made me really wish for, and start adimently supporting, a re-expansion of R8 service.

R2 service recently has not been much better. I have never had an R2 Warminster train pass by me, but I have, more often than not, stood for miles on a Warminster-bound train. I remember once getting on the R2 at Temple to come home for the weekend and having to stand all the way to Glenside, 2 stops away from Roslyn, where I was to get off. This is unfortunate because of the bad reputation it gives SEPTA and rail service in general. When it works, rail service to and from Center City is wonderful. However, it must be updated to keep it running smoothly. SEPTA has already begun restoring service to Wawa, along the former PRR West Chester Line. It is time they do the same for the former RDG Newtown Branch.

-Tom G

PS- I am researching and putting together a PowerPoint advocating the exention of R8 service to at least Bryn Athyn (for the time being). When it is finished, if you'd like, I would be more than happy to send it to you so it can be sent out to County officials and possibly get the support it needs/deserves. I would also like to use some of the documents you have gathered on your site as sources, if that is alright with you.