§ 2642-d. Purposes of the authority. 1. The purposes of the authority shall be the continuance, further development and improvement of railroad transportation and other services related thereto within the counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany and Steuben, in accordance with the provisions of this title. It shall be the further purpose of the authority to develop and implement a unified railroad transportation policy and strategy for such counties.

2. It is hereby found and declared that such purposes are in all respects for the benefit of the people of the state and the authority shall be regarded as performing an essential governmental function in carrying out its purposes and in exercising the powers granted by this title.