



CORRIDORone Project Update

Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Services

July/August 2004

Funding

- The fiscal year 2005 state budget includes \$29.2 million for the **CORRIDORone** project. The funds will be released through PennDOT's annual transit plan.
- MTP is working with the state House Transportation Committee for operating subsidies.
- Federal monies will probably not be appropriated in a separate transportation budget. Funding will be assigned to New Starts projects once the Omnibus Bill is signed, which will happen later this year or early next year.

Current Activities

- The Susquehanna River Bridge inspection is complete ahead of schedule. Further analysis continues.
- The Environmental Assessment (EA) is complete and conceptual plans are being prepared. A final draft of the EA will be sent to the Federal Transportation Administration by the end of summer and a Finding Of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) report by November.
- Work on preliminary engineering will continue through the end of 2004.
- Gannett Fleming is working with the Tri-County Planning Commission to produce updated ridership data. Initial numbers indicate ridership will be higher than expected.
- The Air Quality Analysis is complete. Preliminary conclusions show no areas of impact.
- The Noise and Vibration Assessment is complete and the report is currently being drafted. Results show no impacts from highway or other sources. Any impacts will come from the rail line. At this time, no major problems are expected.
- MTP contracted with the Pennsylvania Transportation Institute to conduct a study on the reports that have been produced for **CORRIDORone** to date, to gain an independent view on the status of the project and next steps. The project is being funded through the Community Action Committee and state funding. A first draft is expected in September.

Meetings

- A meeting was held with SEPTA officials to discuss interfacing **CORRIDORone** with the SEPTA system.
- A meeting was held with Terry Kauffman on the Mount Joy rail station. Mount Joy is purchasing two properties to create additional parking at the station. Additional meetings will be scheduled to discuss the specifics of the project.
- Meetings with a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) developer were held, focusing on the east Mechanicsburg station. The TOD developer could use his own money to fund the project, which would include some form of high density housing and mixed-use development. Further discussions will be held on development around the Lancaster, Mount Joy and Elizabethtown stations.

Business & Partner Relations

Amtrak Discussions

- A meeting was held with Amtrak officials to discuss modeling for the Keystone Corridor and what type of facilities will be required to maintain vehicles.
- Amtrak reported that it needs eight months advance notification before the notice to proceed on any construction. Gannett Fleming is currently reviewing and coordinating dates to notify Amtrak of future work on **CORRIDORone**.

Norfolk Southern Discussions

- Norfolk Southern requested that a proposal be created, outlining how West Shore operations will be handled.
- **CORRIDORone** representatives are working with Norfolk Southern officials toward final decisions on track layout.