

REGIONAL RAIL NEWS

901 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
Phone: 717-233-5657

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
John S. Ward, President
Modern Transit Partnership
717-238-2400

James H. Hoffer, Executive Director
Capital Area Transit
717-233-5657

CORRIDORone Preliminary Engineering Plans Submitted for Federal Approval

Harrisburg (September 15, 2006) - Mid-state commuters moved another step closer to regional rail when the Modern Transit Partnership (MTP) and Capital Area Transit (CAT) submitted the Preliminary Engineering Report for CORRIDORone to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for approval. The Preliminary Engineering Report, a three-year study required by the FTA for new start projects, includes project costs, environmental impacts, transit use plans and economic development opportunities. This critical milestone paves the way for the final design and construction phase, leading to rail service beginning by the end of 2008. FTA approval is anticipated shortly after the Pennsylvania Legislature adopts a transportation funding bill that includes operating assistance.

MTP plans to partner with Amtrak to open CORRIDORone service, which will benefit from the

-more-



\$140 million upgrades to the Keystone Corridor recently announced by Gov. Ed Rendell and Amtrak Chairman David Laney. MTP is working to finalize a rail schedule and commuter-friendly ticket pricing for the service. CORRIDORone will use existing rail stations in Harrisburg, Middletown, Elizabethtown, Mount Joy, and Lancaster. Trains will also reach new stations, such as the planned station for Harrisburg International Airport and the new community of Independence being planned in East Hempfield Township, Lancaster County.

CAT began working in 1991 to investigate regional rail as an option to combat growing highway congestion. MTP has worked in conjunction with CAT to undertake major studies over the past 10 years to evaluate the viability and success of regional rail service. At every step, regional rail has proven to be the best solution for south central Pennsylvania.

###