

REGIONAL RAIL NEWS

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

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Ward
Modern Transit Partnership
(717) 233-5657, ext. 143

Mark McGaffin
Sacunas & Saline
(717) 652-0100, ext. 19

Federal Transit Administration Approves Funding To Conclude CORRIDORone Preliminary Engineering

HARRISBURG, Pa. (September 13, 2004) – Capital Area Transit and the Modern Transit Partnership (MTP) today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation, through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), has approved a \$1.94 million grant that will fund the final stages of the CORRIDORone regional rail project's preliminary engineering phase.

At the request of several members of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation, Congress included the almost \$2 million in federal funds in the Fiscal Year 2004 Omnibus Appropriations Act that it enacted in January 2004. The money will be used to finalize preliminary engineering for the 41-mile CORRIDORone stretch between east Mechanicsburg and Lancaster later this year.

"Our hats go off to the state's congressional delegation that made this funding possible," MTP President John Ward said. "We are particularly grateful to Senators Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum, and Congressmen Tim Holden, Joseph Pitts, Todd Platts and Bill Shuster for their successful legislative efforts on behalf of this vital regional transportation solution.

"With this funding in place, we can continue our momentum to bring regional rail to our area within two years."

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ADD 1 – FTA Approves CORRIDORone Funding

CORRIDORone represents the initial leg of a regional rail system in southcentral Pennsylvania. Trains will run between east Mechanicsburg— through Harrisburg — to Lancaster, with 11 rail station stops.

Preliminary engineering for CORRIDORone began in 2003 and is expected to be complete by year's end. Design and construction is slated to begin in mid-2005, with initial service between Harrisburg and Lancaster launching in late 2006. Service between east Mechanicsburg and Harrisburg is expected in late 2007, and service to Carlisle in 2010. Development of CORRIDORtwo, which will include stops in Hershey, Lebanon and York, is scheduled to begin in late 2014.

The MTP is a non-profit organization that supports and promotes public transportation with the ultimate goal of bringing regional rail to southcentral Pennsylvania. Launched in 1997 by the Capital Area Transit (CAT) Board of Directors, this partnership is made up of business, community and government leaders who are striving to develop a regional congestion management plan that will meet tomorrow's transportation and infrastructure needs.

CAT is the Cumberland-Dauphin-Harrisburg Transit Authority, providing public transportation with 28 bus routes and 17 park-and-ride locations throughout the region. CAT also provides paratransit service to citizens of Dauphin County.

For more information about the regional rail project, visit MTP's Web site at www.mtptransit.org or CAT's CORRIDORone Web site at www.corridorone.info. A project communications center is also available for the public to view various project-related maps and studies, learn more about ongoing project activities, and offer feedback. The center is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is located at 207 Senate Ave. (Gannett East) in East Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County.

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