

REGIONAL RAIL NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senate Appropriations Committee Approves Legislation Containing \$1.5 Million in CORRIDORone Transit Funds for 2006

Region to Benefit from New Starts Grant Program

HARRISBURG, Pa. (July 22, 2005) – The United States Senate Appropriations Committee approved legislation that provides funding for the U.S. Department of Transportation for the upcoming federal fiscal year that includes \$1.5 million for continued design, engineering and construction work on the CORRIDORone regional rail project.

Senator Arlen Specter's office notified the Modern Transit Partnership (MTP) that these funds will be made available through the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts capital improvement grants program pursuant to Congressional authorization of the project. This program is solely devoted to support "fixed guideway" transit systems, such as regional rail.

"We thank Senator Specter for working to support the CORRIDORone project as a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee," Modern Transit Partnership (MTP) President John Ward said. "It is critically important to our region that the federal government recognizes that outside of major metropolitan areas like New York, Los Angeles, and other cities, there is a growing need for regional rail solutions that improve mobility, reduce air pollution and create jobs right here in our region."

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ADD 1 – Senate Approves \$1.5 Million for CORRIDORone

CORRIDORone represents the initial leg of a regional rail system in southcentral Pennsylvania. Trains will run between Cumberland County — through Harrisburg — and Lancaster County, with 11 rail station stops. The CORRIDORone regional rail system will use existing freight and passenger tracks in the area, and passenger trains similar to those used by AMTRAK. Service between Harrisburg and Lancaster is slated to begin in 2008, with Hampden/Sporting Hill to Harrisburg service to follow in 2009.

The MTP is a non-profit organization that serves as the leading advocate, facilitator, promoter and visionary for regional, integrated, multi-modal transit featuring regional rail. Launched in 1997 by the Capital Area Transit 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 in southcentral Pennsylvania. 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 CORRIDORone, visit www.corridorone.info.

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