

REGIONAL RAIL NEWS

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. Senate Passes Legislation Containing CORRIDORone Transit Funds

MTP unveils completion timeline

HARRISBURG, Pa. (January 28, 2004) – The U.S. Senate passed last week the FY04 Omnibus Appropriations bill that includes \$2 million earmarked for the CORRIDORone regional rail project. The funding will enable the project’s preliminary engineering phase to now be completed by year’s end.

“We were extremely excited to hear of the legislation’s passage in the Senate,” Modern Transit Partnership (MTP) President John Ward said. “I would like to extend my gratitude to Pennsylvania’s congressional delegation in securing these critical funds, with special thanks to Sens. Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum, and U.S. Reps. Tim Holden, Joseph Pitts and Todd Platts for their demonstrated efforts.

“With the funding now in place, we can continue our momentum of bringing regional rail to our area within two years.”

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ADD 1 – Federal Transit Funds Earmarked for CORRIDOR*one*

CORRIDOR*one* 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.

Preliminary engineering for CORRIDOR*one* began in 2003 but was slowed until the \$2 million in federal funds could be secured. According to Ward, preliminary engineering can now move forward and is expected to conclude later this year. Design and construction is slated for completion in late 2005, with initial service between Harrisburg and Lancaster launching in mid-2006. Service between east Mechanicsburg and Harrisburg is expected in late 2007, and service to Carlisle in 2010. Development of CORRIDOR*two*, 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 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.

For more information about CORRIDOR*one*, visit www.corridorone.info.

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