

For immediate release

Tuesday, February 5, 2013

***Statement on behalf of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development
by CEO Dennis Yablonsky on Governor Corbett's transportation and transit funding proposal
announced today during his budget address***

“On behalf of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, we applaud Governor Corbett for his leadership today in beginning an important process that is critical to economic growth across the Commonwealth.

Governor Corbett has expressed his clear commitment to comprehensive transportation funding. He recognizes the vital importance of the entire transportation network – roads, bridges, transit, highways, ports, railroads and airports – in moving goods to market and people to work, school and other daily activities.

I appreciate the opportunity I had to serve on the Governor's Transportation Funding Advisory Commission (TFAC) which put forward a set of recommendations for stable and predictable funding, system efficiency improvements, and new tools such as public-private partnerships to strengthen our transportation and transit systems across the state.

Since the Commission issued its recommendations, we have already seen progress in some of these areas, including new public-private partnership legislation.

It is time now to address the long-term, comprehensive and sufficient funding we need to operate, maintain and improve our transportation system in the years to come.

The funding proposal put forward by Governor Corbett today follows many of the TFAC recommendations. We will be looking at the details carefully to ensure that this comprehensive package has sufficient funding for the Port Authority, SEPTA and the other transit systems in the counties across our state. Transit is vitally important to the competitiveness of our region in today's global economy.

In the weeks ahead, we look forward to working with the Governor, his administration and the General Assembly on this vital issue.”

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