



March 6, 2017

The Honorable Leslie Richards
Secretary of Transportation
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
400 North Street, 6th Floor
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Secretary Richards:

On behalf of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, we would like to extend our support for increasing passenger rail service along Amtrak's Pennsylvanian service route located between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. Communities and counties along this passenger railroad corridor would benefit from an increase in rail transportation, servicing commuters, travelers and businesses.

According to a recent study by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership entitled "On Track to Accessibility," increasing the rail service between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg from the current one eastbound train from Pittsburgh and one westbound train from New York City to three eastbound and westbound round trips is estimated to provide direct, indirect and induced benefits to this area of the Commonwealth and beyond. Providing more multi-modal transportation options has many far-reaching benefits for Pennsylvania, its residents and economy. CCAP believes that public transportation is critical in meeting the needs of our business and the workforce, and we support increased and dedicated funding for all forms of public transportation across the Commonwealth, including passenger rail services.

We appreciate your consideration related to this transportation option, and encourage you to work for additional service from Amtrak along the Pennsylvanian service route.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Hill', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Douglas E. Hill
Executive Director