

GREATER JOHNSTOWN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

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First National Bank of PA

June 27, 2016

The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor:

The Greater Johnstown Regional Partnership vigorously supports increasing passenger-rail service on Amtrak's Pennsylvanian line between Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. With only one stop in each direction through Johnstown, passenger-rail service in the Western half of Pennsylvania is underutilized. Three eastbound and three westbound departures per day are necessary in order to reach the potential for passenger-rail service. This will reduce congestion on our highways, improve safety and be far more beneficial to the environment.

The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership's study, "On Track to Accessibility," projected nearly double the current ridership with the additional daily stops. Because many existing costs are fixed, adding more passenger service will cost less proportionally compared with the cost of the existing, limited service. With air and bus service declining and highway congestion growing, passenger-rail service is now much more important. More people prefer rail travel, but the extremely limited service through our area deters them from visiting or living here. The Cambria County Comprehensive Plan calls for more passenger-rail service as an economic catalyst.

Providing additional multi-modal transportation options has many far-reaching benefits for Pennsylvania, its residents and economy. We urge you to press for more Amtrak service on the Pennsylvanian. Thank you for your leadership regarding this important transportation option for residents of Cambria County and surrounding areas.

Sincerely,



Mark Pasquerilla, President