

ACEC/PA

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES of Pennsylvania

July 12, 2011

The Honorable Tom Corbett
Governor of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17102

Dear Governor Corbett:

Allow this opportunity to commend the work of your Transportation Finance and Advisory Commission. The efforts led by Secretary Barry J. Schoch have been well-received and have fostered an open process for engaging in this very serious matter.

As the Commission's work nears its end, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Pennsylvania (ACEC/PA) asks that you give deep consideration to the Commission's recommendations and the impact it will have on the citizens of the Commonwealth and our fragile economy. The decision to implement these potential recommendations may weigh a heavy burden; however, if Pennsylvania is to remain an economic powerhouse in our region and for our nation, we will need a transportation system that will support the growth of our economy for the decades to come.

It is proven that building infrastructure creates jobs. According to figures from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the \$1.026 billion in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) received by our state for transportation kept our citizens employed and brought new workers into the fold. When ARRA transportation spending was in full flower, over 11,600 jobs were directly tied to these projects for the month of May 2010 alone. As ARRA spending dissipates, over 5,100 jobs were directly tied to these projects in May 2011. These figures are not conjured from an abstract formula; these are real numbers that were reported as required by the federal Act.

If Pennsylvania were to take over \$2 billion of new revenue and invest it in our infrastructure, you could ensure the long-term retention and creation of thousands of jobs in our Commonwealth. These are good-paying jobs that sustain families and promote multiple other economic impacts.

We ask that you take full advantage of this unique opportunity. We need your vision and leadership to move us forward.

Sincerely,



Eric G. Madden
Executive Vice President

cc: Secretary Barry J. Schoch, Department of Transportation

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