



November 22, 2010

Governor Christie
Office of the Governor
West State Street
PO Box 100
Trenton, NJ 08625-0001

RE: Redirecting ARC funds to transit and bridge repair

Governor Christie,

In light of the recent cancellation of the ARC tunnel, the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, Environment New Jersey and NJPIRG urge you to invest the remaining funds in New Jersey's transit network and existing roads and bridges.

Adopting a sustainable transportation policy that prioritizes transit and stems the future growth in vehicle trips is the best way to reduce congestion and ensure New Jersey remains an attractive place to live and work. A fix it first approach that prioritizes investment in existing roads and bridges is at the center of this policy.

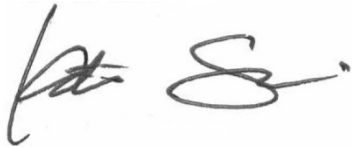
Commuters crossing the Hudson River have a particularly difficult situation. According to the ARC tunnel EIS, trips across the Hudson River are expected to increase 25% by 2030 and so far, the state does not have a specific plan to ameliorate the situation. One way to improve regional commuting would be to invest Port Authority funds in improved cross-Hudson bus service. NJ Transit and private buses carry 315,000 people across the Hudson River every day, and without improvements allowing for better flow of vehicular traffic and increased capacity, additional bus service cannot be added.

Similarly, we ask you to commit remaining state monies to investment in transit, and to repair of existing roads and bridges as part of the Transportation Trust Fund renewal. NJ cannot afford the high construction costs and future maintenance and upkeep of its current roads and bridges, let alone new highways; a fix-it-first policy would go a long way toward making certain NJ has the means to existing roads and bridges in a state of good repair. Regular maintenance, repair, resurfacing, reconditioning and

reconstruction ensure the longevity of the existing system. We believe this is the most fiscally prudent approach to the reallocation of state funds previously dedicated to ARC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kate Slevin
Executive Director
Tri-State Transportation Campaign



Dena Mottola Jaborska
Executive Director
Environment New Jersey



Jennifer Kim
Advocate
New Jersey PIRG

Cc: James Weinstein, Executive Director, NJ Transit
James Simpson, Commissioner, NJDOT
Christopher Ward, Executive Director, Port Authority of NY and NJ
John Wisniewski, Chair, Assembly Transportation Committee