

First Friday Noontime Forum Series
“Continuing the Growth and Prosperity of Downtown Lancaster”

Highlights

January 2007 - Discussion with David Kilmer—Red Rose Transit

- ❖ Due to now being classified as a “metro” area, Lancaster receives more federal funding; however, it can not be used for operating expenses—only capital investments
- ❖ Funding to Red Rose Transit Authority has been flat for 10 years.
- ❖ Fuel costs have risen substantially—4 yrs. ago \$.50/gallon—today \$2.11/gallon.
- ❖ There is a proposal to increase the PA Realty Transfer Tax to increase transit funds.
- ❖ Base rate/ride = \$1.25 Today
- ❖ May have to radically reduce services or increase fares substantially—up to \$4.00/ride.
- ❖ By the end of 2007 there will be a minimal 30% cut of bus services.
- ❖ Typical rider—60% Female—earns less than \$25,000/year and has no other transportation options for getting to work.
- ❖ “Access to Jobs” program has been slashed. On average 300 people/day ride the bus—2nd & 3rd shift—With new rules, less than 75 now qualify for assistance.