

## CorridorOne isn't dead

Editor, New Era:

Jan 30, 2007

In response a New Era news article that was published on Dec. 21, 2006, I'd like to correct some incorrect information that appeared in that article that gives the impression that the effort to bring regional rail to southcentral Pennsylvania — **CorridorOne** — is dead.

The federal appropriation that was omitted from the 2007 budget was \$2.5 million — not \$25 million as the New Era reported. A decimal point makes a big difference. The entire capital budget to begin rail service between Harrisburg and Lancaster is less than \$25 million.

The appropriation request for \$2.5 million was sought to begin final design of the system between Harrisburg and Lancaster and was one of many earmarks that Congress eliminated from the federal budget. Modern Transit Partnership has begun seeking a new earmark from Congress in 2007.

Another misstatement was that "the \$10 million annual subsidy ... from the state ... is also now unfunded." The request for \$10 million was never officially submitted to the state Legislature for funding, so a more accurate portrayal would be to say it has yet to be funded.

This request is part of the Transportation Funding and Reform Commission's work to find a dedicated and reliable source of funding for transit systems throughout the state.

Again, Modern Transit Partnership has begun efforts to secure this state funding in the 2007 Commonwealth budget.

The Modern Transit Partnership and Capital Area Transit continue to work diligently to follow the guidelines established by the Federal Transit Administration in implementing a new rail transit system in Pennsylvania.

We continue to receive strong support from the County of Lancaster and the City of Lancaster, as well as many other communities, businesses and individuals throughout Lancaster County.

We firmly believe our regional commuter rail system will be up and operating between Lancaster and Harrisburg within the next three years.

**Gerald K. Morrison**

Chairman

Modern Transit Partnership

*(Editor's note: The writer is correct; the New Era erred in its original story. A correction appeared in the Jan. 2 edition of the paper.)*