



Regional Plan Association

Regional Plan Association is a research and planning organization supported by voluntary membership to coordinate conservation and development in the Tri-State Urban Region.

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FOR RELEASE:
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RPA APPLAUDS NEW SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AMONG REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES

Regional Plan Association called today's joint publication on transportation needs by the six largest transportation agencies in New York and New Jersey "a major step toward solving some of the most intractable transportation problems in the Tri-State Region."

John P. Keith, President of RPA, said "In the past, solutions to many issues--including traffic congestion, goods movement, air pollution, trans-Hudson mobility and access to the airports--have been stymied because the problems were broader than any single official jurisdiction. Now the groundwork has been laid for cooperative efforts to meet those challenges."

The Association also emphasized the importance of the agreement by the six agencies to coordinate trials of automated fare and toll collection systems on their facilities.

"RPA agrees with the conclusion that current levels of federal, state and local funding for transportation improvements are not sufficient to keep the regional economy competitive in the long run," continued Dr. Keith. "For years, we have contended that auto use fees, including tolls and gasoline taxes, are the most promising sources of predictable funding for transportation improvements. That's why coordinating fare collection and toll systems is such an important step. It will put in place the mechanisms needed to establish truly unified policies in the future."

Regional Plan Association is a nonprofit research and planning organization for the Tri-State Region. It has been involved in all aspects of transportation since the 1920s, and it has consistently argued for the coordination of key transportation policies across political and agency boundaries.

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