

MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Representative Eli Evankovich

Date: June 5, 2012

Subject: **A Resolution urging the Federal Government to support the issuance of a TIGER grant for a multimodal facility in New Kensington, PA**

In the near future, I will be introducing a resolution which will urge the Federal Government to support the issuance of a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant in order to fund the New Kensington Smart Growth and Sustainable Corridor & Multimodal Facility.

The New Kensington Smart Growth and Sustainable Corridor & Multimodal Facility is the driving force of the community's vision for regenerating economic development and job creation in a distressed community and in 17 surrounding communities. The city's proximity to Pittsburgh and Route 28, a major arterial that connects New Kensington and surrounding communities with Pittsburgh, makes New Kensington an ideal location for a multimodal facility.

This project will centralize multiple transportation modes in the heart of the City of New Kensington and improve the current antiquated state of the corridor including utility infrastructure, safety, and walk-ability—at the core to the project will be a commuter rail system. This project would provide a rare opportunity to demonstrate the use of an existing corridor to move goods and people to provide more effective transportation and provide necessary relief to the congested regional roads.

In addition, the plan provides a bicycle and pedestrian throughway trail and seeks to build local and regional innovative education resources to support early childhood education through the partnership with the Valley Points YMCA and the New Kensington-Arnold School District.

The City of New Kensington has been investing in this project for a number of years and I have been personally supporting this project. The Pennsylvania House in general has supported this project through the Public-Private-Partnership legislation that we passed earlier this session.

Creating a multimodal facility will provide more transportation choices, promote recreation activities, enhance economic competitiveness, support existing communities, and improve the quality of life in the community. The opportunity that this grant provides for the rejuvenation of this region cannot be overstated.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Amanda Hart in my Harrisburg office at ahart@pahousegop.com or 717-260-6129. Thank you.