

January 9, 2009

Hon. Stephen Dilts  
Commissioner, Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 600  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600

Dear Commissioner Dilts:

Congratulations on your new appointment. You have the experience and track record for effective action and will be, as you have already been, an asset to the State.

I am enclosing a copy of our latest *Speaks Out* supporting the ARC Tunnel and other transportation projects. We know that you and other leaders are working hard to secure the federal funding needed to construct this project – one of the most strategic projects for New Jersey in almost a century.

What sparks our imagination about this project is the **doubling of transit capacity** within reach of almost three quarters of New Jersey's population. We see that planning for the use of this new capacity, supported by stronger objectives in the Global Warming Response Act Recommendations, is an opportunity to transform the landscape in New Jersey: it can provide **new economic growth capacity, reduce disparities among communities** and **improve the protection of natural resources**. And PlanSmart NJ has the tools and strategies that could make this vision a reality.

We'd welcome the opportunity to discuss with you how we can be of service. Until then, we are working with the coalition convened by the Alliance for Action to secure an early federal commitment to support the project. And we are seeking private foundation funding to help get this planning off the ground. We wish you every success.

Yours sincerely,

Dianne R. Brake  
President

Enclosure: January 8 *Speaks Out*: "A New Year's Resolution for NJ: A New Strategic Action Plan for 2009"

Copies: Gerald Zaro, Governor's Office of Economic Growth  
Richard Sarles, Executive Director, New Jersey Transit  
Anthony Coscia, Chairman, the Port Authority of NY and NJ  
Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director, NJTPA  
John Matheussen, Executive Director, DRPA  
Barry Seymour, Executive Director, DVRPC