



New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness **NEWS**

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New Jersey to Share Almost \$ 64.2 Million in Regional Grants to Enhance Mass Transit and Port Security

(WEST TRENTON) – New Jersey will share in almost \$64.2 million in supplemental transit and port security grants announced today by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), said state Homeland Security and Preparedness Director Richard L. Cañas.

“We are thankful for the additional funding, the bulk of which will go toward improving security for mass transit, which is one of our state’s highest priorities,” Cañas said. “The funds will help continue efforts with our regional partners to improve security for hundreds of thousands of commuters in the New Jersey/New York and South Jersey/Philadelphia metropolitan areas.”

In the northern part of the state, New Jersey is eligible to share in approximately \$37.2 million for transit security. In addition to New Jersey Transit and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, regional mass transit systems covered by New York’s Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the Connecticut and Westchester County departments of transportation are eligible for grants in the tri-state area. The state is also eligible to share in just under \$14.9 million in supplemental port security grants for the New Jersey-New York metro area.

Added to the base amount of \$61 million already awarded to the NJ/NY/CT region in fiscal year 2007 transit security funds, Cañas said the supplemental award brings the regional total for rail and bus systems to \$98.2 million. The supplemental \$14.9 million for port security is on top of the \$27.3 million already announced for the region, bringing the total to nearly \$42.2 million.

In the southern part of the state, New Jersey is eligible to share in \$5.9 million in transit security grants in the Southern New Jersey/Philadelphia region and almost \$6.2 in port security grants for the ports in the Delaware Bay Area. This is in addition to the more than \$ 9.7 million for transit security and almost \$13.3 million for port security already announced for fiscal year 2007. The agencies eligible to share in the transit security funds in this region are New Jersey Transit, the Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO), the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT),

The state is also receiving an additional \$1.3 million in funds for state and local emergency management operations as part of the Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG) program. This is on top of approximately \$4.9 million in EMPG funding the state has already been allocated for fiscal year 2007. EMPG funding pays for all-hazards emergency management planning, operations and personnel.

This is the first time DHS has issued supplemental Infrastructure Protection Program (IPP) grants.



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