

Citizens' Business

A Newsletter of the
Economy League of
Greater Philadelphia

March 2009



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Policy Brief: What the stimulus package means for transportation in the region

The Economy League reports that Greater Philadelphia will likely receive more than \$600 million for transportation investment in the region in a [Policy Brief](#) released Feb. 23.



- Approximately \$631 million will be allotted as follows: \$318 for highways in southeastern Pennsylvania, \$120 million for highways in southern New Jersey, and \$193 million for SEPTA.
- The "shovel-ready" stipulation limits use of stimulus funds for vision investment. Most of the region's candidate projects focus on clearing deferred maintenance.
- The stimulus package will not blaze any new trails, but it is an opportunity for the region to play catch up and look to the future on better footing.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Support Philadelphia youth by sponsoring a summer intern

League Hits

[Philly Spring Cleanup](#) -- Sign up for the 2nd annual community cleanup on April 4 sponsored by Greater Philadelphia Cares and the City of Philadelphia. -- S. Wray

[How We Decide](#) -- An entertaining and informative new book by Johah Lehrer about the neuroscience behind decision-making. Lehrer advocates that emotions aren't the enemy of good decisions. -- A. Gold

Staff News

Please join us in welcoming our new Director of Development, Theodora "Teddy" Ashmead.

In the News

[Compared to burbs, city tax burden has eased](#), *Philadelphia Daily News*, 3/16

[Ben Franklin Technology Partners invests \\$2 million in regional companies](#), *Technically Philly*, 3/13

[Nutter: Tax hike gets risky](#), *Metro*, 3/5

[Stimulus will not directly aid Philadelphia](#), *Daily Pennsylvanian*, 2/27

[Highway stimulus could boost big contractors](#), *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 2/26

[SEPTA channels stimulus](#)



The Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce is asking businesses across the region to provide a paid summer internship or sponsor one at a nonprofit organization for Philadelphia students entering the 11th grade or higher.

The Chamber's goal is to match the 1500 internships provided by 189 businesses in last year's program.

Click [here](#) or call 215-790-3732 for more information about providing or sponsoring an internship this summer.

Youth interested in an internship can call WorkReady Philadelphia at 267-502-3742.



Friday Journal



Each Friday, you'll find a feature about trends, places, programs, and ideas that pique our interest. Whatever the topic, we'll focus on things germane to issues affecting Greater Philadelphia.

[A newspaper junkie's lament](#) -- *S. Wray*

[High-Speed Rail: Obama "Signature" Issue](#) -- *N. Peirce* (guest)

[Stimulating talk about the economy](#) -- *S. Wray*

[RT @EconomyLeague w00t \(hint: it's not an html error message\)](#) -- *C. Scoville*

[funding, Delaware County Daily Times, 2/25](#)

[Philadelphia's share of the transportation billions from economic stimulus plan, Philadelphia Inquirer, 2/24](#)

[Phila. region transit projects stand to get \\$631M from stimulus, Philadelphia Business Journal, 2/24](#)

[PA Legislature's investment in Ben Franklin Tech Partners earns triple payback, Keystone Edge, 2/19](#)



Follow [@EconomyLeague](#) on Twitter, where Allison Kelsey and Christopher Scoville tweet news, events, and reports about our region.

From the Archives

"The day is coming soon, we hope, when Pennsylvanians who do not live in Philadelphia will stop telling Philadelphia how it must spend the money which its citizens pay into the city treasury."

--*Citizens' Business*
#423, July 1, 1920

Citizens' Business is a monthly publication of the Economy League of Greater Philadelphia. Founded in 1909, the Economy League is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to research and analysis of the region's resources and challenges with the goal of promoting sound public policy and increasing the region's prosperity. Working with the public and private sectors, the Economy League provides independent research and insight on emerging issues to stimulate public and private action to make the Greater Philadelphia region a better place to live, work, and play.

Chair: John F. Smith, III, Esq., Reed Smith, LLP
Executive Director: Steven T. Wray

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