

For Immediate Release

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Rep. John Carney (D-DE) hailed the commitment of a \$2.25 million federal planning grant to improve freight and passenger rail operations in Newark. The grant, administered as part of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER II, program, will help in the development of plans to transform the Newark Train Station into a Regional Transportation Center. Today’s announcement confirms the federal Department of Transportation’s intent to fund the grant, which was initially awarded in October 2010 through a competitive application process.

“I applaud the Department of Transportation for recognizing the importance of this project for Delaware and the entire region,” said Rep. Carney. “Investments in rail are investments in the long-term future of our economy. Newark has the potential to take advantage of significant economic development opportunities in the very near future, particularly with the military base relocation to Aberdeen Proving Grounds and the University of Delaware’s plans to build a science and technology campus immediately surrounding the Newark Train Station.”

“It’s critical for the future of these projects and our overall economy that we have a viable, modern rail system that both passengers and businesses can access. This grant is a significant step toward improving freight and passenger rail in Newark, and I will continue working with my colleagues in Congress and the Administration to improve rail infrastructure and service throughout Delaware and the entire region.”

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