

Summer

2014



LACKAWANNA LUZERNE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

CONNECTIONS

COLTS Breaks Ground for Downtown Hub

Local and state officials came together on Friday, August 1, 2014 to break ground for the County of Lackawanna Transit System (COLTS) \$12.4 million Downtown Intermodal Hub.

The project, 18 years in the making, will be located on the south side of Lackawanna Avenue next to the entrance of the Mall at Steamtown.

It will serve as a central location for COLTS buses, Martz and other commercial buses, taxis, and possibly, passenger train service to the New York City area in the future.

Lackawanna County Commissioners, Scranton Mayor William Courtright and COLTS officials attended the groundbreaking, and all agreed that the Downtown Hub will attract new businesses to the area and prompt economic growth.

COLTS Executive Director, Bob Fiume, said, "This is going to be a great economic development, not only for the City of Scranton, but for Lackawanna County and the whole region."

Ted Patton, Martz Vice-President of Corporate Traffic, added, "Combining the transit and the taxi and inner-city buses is a thing that the federal government has been trying to do for years, and we're finally accomplishing it."

Larry Malski, President of Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority, when asked about the potential future resumption of passenger rail service said, "The key, though, is that it's under construction and the federal government considers it a project-started. Once they start a project, they usually continue funding it, and

funding will take a while, but the key is, it's under construction."

Bus passengers think that the new facility will provide safer access to the buses and taxis, and appreciate that it will provide a covered area to board and de-board.

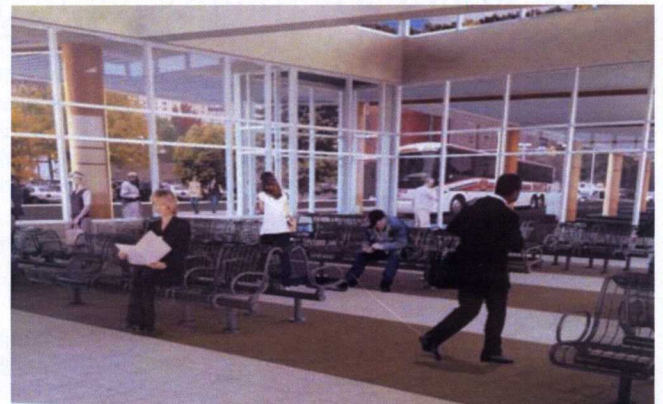
Construction of the Downtown Transportation Hub is slated to be completed by the fall of 2015.



Groundbreaking Ceremony for COLTS Downtown Intermodal Hub



Artist's Rendering of the outside of the Downtown Intermodal Hub



Artist's Rendering of the inside of the Downtown Intermodal Hub