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****PRESS RELEASE****

CRDA CREATES PLANNING FUND FOR MUNICIPALITIES

ATLANTIC CITY – The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority Board today approved South Jersey Transportation and Land Use Program as follow-up to the release of the Atlantic City Regional Transportation Plan (ACRTP) at the recent South Jersey Economic Development Forum.

CRDA approved the establishment of a \$1 million fund which would enable municipalities to perform multi-jurisdictional, regional, smart growth planning and engineering analyses in the South Jersey region that include the concept of connecting workforce housing to transportation. CRDA will work in cooperation with Office of Smart Growth (in the Department of Community Affairs) to develop detailed criteria for the program that will ensure the municipal planning efforts meet CRDA investment and policy goals. These planning funds would help municipalities create sound land use patterns that take into account the effect of development on neighboring municipalities as well as on the region as a whole.

“CRDA’s intention has always been to align transportation and land use initiatives in an effort to ensure these key elements of economic development are in concert, not in isolation. The action today does that and follows the findings of the Atlantic City Regional Transportation Plan,” stated Thomas D. Carver, CRDA Executive Director.

Over the years, the CRDA has worked in partnership with public sector agencies and private investors, to partially fund transportation projects, in Atlantic City and the region including: the Atlantic City Expressway Corridor, the Brigantine Connector, the widening of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and the Atlantic City Express Train Service (ACES).

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