

Bob

REG

REMARKS OF GOVERNOR THOMAS H. KEAN

REGIONAL PLAN ASSOCIATION

NEW YORK HILTON

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1985

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THANK YOU.

"AS WE FACE SUBSTANTIAL CHALLENGES IN THE FORM OF RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND RIGOROUS INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION, REGIONAL UNITY WILL REMAIN OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE." SO SAID ALAN SAGNER IN THE PORT AUTHORITY'S RECENT ANNUAL REPORT TO GOVERNOR CUOMO AND MYSELF. WELL, I WISH ALAN WOULD HAVE ALSO SAID THAT TO ED KOCH AND GERRY MC CANN!

SERIOUSLY, THAT EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL UNITY IS THE MAJOR REASON REGIONAL PLAN IS HONORING ALAN SAGNER TONIGHT. FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, ALAN SAGNER HAS BEEN STRENGTHENING THE BONDS BETWEEN OUR TWO STATES, FIRST AS NEW JERSEY COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND THEN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY.

AS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER, ALAN SET IN MOTION THE PROCESS THAT LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW JERSEY TRANSIT. NJ TRANSIT, BY THE WAY, HAS GROWN SO MUCH AND SO WELL THAT LAST YEAR THE AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION NAMED IT THE BEST PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCY IN THE COUNTRY.

AT THE PORT AUTHORITY, TOO, HE HAS HELPED BOLSTER THE REGIONAL LINKS BETWEEN NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK. AS YOU KNOW, LESS THAN TWO YEARS AGO, GOVERNOR CUOMO AND I SIGNED AN AGREEMENT THAT WILL MAKE THE PORT AUTHORITY A MAJOR VEHICLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THIS REGION. ALAN WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING TO <sup>implement</sup> ~~enforce~~ THAT AGREEMENT.

THE WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN HOBOKEN AND QUEENS, ARE JUST TWO OF THE PROJECTS THAT WILL GROW OUT OF THIS AGREEMENT. THERE WILL BE DOZENS MORE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

UNDER ALAN'S LEADERSHIP, THE PORT AUTHORITY HAS UNDERTAKEN SEVERAL OTHER VITAL PROJECTS:

O IT EXPANDED AND RENOVATED THE PORT AUTHORITY BUS TERMINAL IN MIDTOWN.

O IT HELPED WITH A MAJOR BUS PURCHASE FOR BOTH STATES.

O IT ORGANIZED THE EFFORT TO BRING THE NAVY SURFACE ACTION GROUP TO THE REGION.

O AND NOW, IT IS (I HOPE!) WORKING INTENSELY ON WAYS TO SPEED PEAK-PERIOD TRAVEL ACROSS THE HUDSON RIVER.

OF COURSE, ALAN SAGNER'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGION HAVE NOT BEEN LIMITED TO HIS WORK AT THE PORT AUTHORITY. AS A CITIZEN, ALAN HAS SERVED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE HEALTH AND HOSPITAL COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN NEW JERSEY, A TRUSTEE OF THE NEW JERSEY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY IN NEWARK AND PRESIDENT OF NEWARK'S BETH ISRAEL MEDICAL CENTER.

IN SHORT, ALAN SAGNER EXEMPLIFIES THE IDEAL THAT WE ARE GATHERED HERE TO CELEBRATE --- A BREADTH OF VISION THAT EXTENDS BEYOND THE BACKYARD, BEYOND THE CITY LIMITS AND BEYOND THE STATE LINE, TO ENCOMPASS THE WHOLE METROPOLITAN AREA WHICH IS, IN REALITY, A SINGLE, INTERDEPENDENT ECONOMY.

I HAVE OFTEN SAID THAT A STRONG NEW JERSEY IS GOOD FOR NEW YORK, AND A STRONG NEW YORK IS GOOD FOR NEW JERSEY --- ALAN SAGNER UNDERSTANDS THIS --- AND HE HAS BEEN GOOD FOR BOTH STATES.

THANK YOU.