



## SOUTH JERSEY BUSINESS COALITION

IN SUPPORT OF THE



GLASSBORO-CAMDEN LINE

### **Op-Ed: A Turning Point for South Jersey Transportation Future and the Glassboro-Camden Line** **By Marlene Asselta, President, Southern New Jersey Development Council**

The recent appointment of Kris Kolluri as President of NJ Transit is a pivotal moment for the future of transportation in New Jersey, particularly for the South Jersey region. Kolluri's extensive background in infrastructure development and public service positions him as an ideal leader to move forward transformative projects like the long-anticipated Glassboro-Camden Light Rail Line (GCL).

The Southern New Jersey Development Council (SNJDC) has been a strong partner advocating for and supporting the GCL project. For years, the Council has championed the GCL project as a critical component of South Jersey's transportation network, spearheading the South Jersey Business Coalition in Support of the Glassboro-Camden Line. By providing a reliable, efficient transit option, the GCL is expected to alleviate traffic congestion, reduce travel times, and stimulate economic development along its route.

For decades, South Jersey has faced persistent challenges in transportation connectivity. Unlike North Jersey, which benefits from an extensive transit network linking it to the economic hubs of New York City and beyond, South Jersey residents often find themselves reliant on personal vehicles or limited bus services. The GCL project promises to bridge this gap, providing efficient, reliable, and environmentally friendly transportation that will revitalize the region.

The benefits of the Glassboro-Camden Light Rail Line cannot be overstated. This 18-mile rail corridor will connect communities, reduce traffic congestion, and create a seamless link between Glassboro, Camden, and Philadelphia. By doing so, it will support local businesses, attract new investments, and open up job opportunities for residents. Additionally, the light rail will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, aligning with our state's commitment to sustainability.

Kris Kolluri's leadership could be the catalyst to finally push the GCL project from concept to reality. His tenure as CEO of Camden Community Partnership, Inc. and his deep ties to South Jersey give him a unique understanding of the region's needs. Moreover, his expertise in navigating complex infrastructure initiatives will be crucial in addressing any remaining hurdles to the project's progress.

I urge NJ Transit, under Kolluri's guidance, to prioritize the GCL project and engage with South Jersey communities and stakeholders to ensure its successful implementation. The Glassboro-



## SOUTH JERSEY BUSINESS COALITION

IN SUPPORT OF THE



Camden Light Rail Line is not just a transportation project; it's an investment in the future of South Jersey and a step toward a stronger, more connected state. It is for these reasons that we, the Southern New Jersey Development Council, fully support the Glassboro Camden Line and will continue to work and advocate on its behalf for the successful completion of extended rail service in southern New Jersey.

Marlene Asselta, President  
Southern New Jersey Development Council

*The SNJDC is a non-profit organization advocating for responsible economic development in New Jersey's southern eight counties.*

###