

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**PORT AUTHORITY CEO ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE**

Pittsburgh, PA – Port Authority Chief Executive Officer Paul Skoutelas announced today that he will be leaving the Authority effective September 12, 2005 to join Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB), an international consulting, engineering and program management firm. He will assume the position of principal consultant with PB Consult, PB's management and strategic consulting subsidiary and will also be a senior vice president with PB.

Mr. Skoutelas has served as Port Authority's chief executive officer since March 1997. During that time, he has been responsible for the completion of such local transportation investments as the West Busway, Martin Luther King, Jr. East Busway Extension and Stage II Light Rail Transit Project. He has also overseen the expansion of Port Authority's Park and Ride Program and the advancement of the North Shore Connector – the extension of the Authority's light rail system to the North Side and to the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

Under Mr. Skoutelas' leadership, Port Authority substantially modernized its bus and rail fleets, increased ridership in four consecutive years and introduced new technologies, including the use of hybrid electric buses.

"Paul has been an exemplary chief executive officer," said Port Authority Board Chairman John A. Brooks. "Despite annual funding challenges, he has managed to maintain critical public transportation services in Allegheny County at affordable fares. He is a true champion of public transportation and his leadership and expertise will be sorely missed."

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Mr. Brooks said the Board will meet soon to discuss the transition process.

Mr. Skoutelas began his Port Authority career in 1980 and served in various planning and corporate capacities, including deputy executive director. In 1991, he left Port Authority to take the position of chief executive officer of the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority in Orlando, Fla.

Under his leadership, the Orlando system became the fastest-growing transit system in the nation, with ridership doubling over a five-year period. When Mr. Skoutelas returned to Port Authority, the nation's 15th-largest transit system in 1997, he outlined a Six-Point Action Plan designed to make it the nation's premier transit agency. Since that time, Port Authority has:

- ✓ Realized its largest ridership increase in 19 years and experienced four consecutive years of ridership increases;
- ✓ Implemented various initiatives that have resulted in more than \$210 million in operating cost savings and new revenue generation;
- ✓ Secured over \$500 million in federal discretionary funding for its major capital projects;
- ✓ Developed and sustained partnerships with several public and private organizations to bring more than \$24 million in Job Access/Reverse Commute funding to Southwestern Pennsylvania;
- ✓ Placed into service 530 new buses, including low-floor buses, mini-buses and hybrid electric buses;
- ✓ Reached innovative agreements with the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University to promote ridership and create a dedicated source of revenue; and
- ✓ Expanded its park and ride system to include 64 lots and more than 14,000 spaces.

"It has been a great honor and a privilege to have served Port Authority, its riders and the citizens of Allegheny County over these past eight plus years and to have played an

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intimate role in the numerous advancements to our public transportation system," Mr. Skoutelas said. "I feel especially fortunate and appreciative to have worked with a dedicated and supportive Board along with a talented staff and workforce."

Port Authority Board Vice Chairman Guy Mattola joined Mr. Brooks in commending Mr. Skoutelas for his achievements in advancing local public transportation as the Authority's chief executive officer.

"Although his accomplishments are many, perhaps his greatest achievement is placing the Authority and other public transportation providers in Pennsylvania in a position to secure state dedicated funding to support its operations and capital programs," said Mr. Mattola. "Allegheny County residents have been fortunate to have Paul Skoutelas at the helm of the Port Authority during some of its most challenging financial times."

Mr. Skoutelas is an industry leader who has served on numerous boards, committees and task forces, including the American Public Transportation Association, where he serves on its Executive Committee as Secretary-Treasurer and its Board of Directors. He also served on the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board. He is a Board member of the Transportation Development Corporation and Transit Cooperative Research Program; Advisory Board Chairman of the National Transit Institute; and an Advisory Board Member of the Pennsylvania Transportation Institute.

Mr. Skoutelas has received several awards and recognitions including, among other honors, being named by *Metro Magazine* as one of the Ten Most Respected Transit Managers in the U.S. and Canada and one of the 25 Most Interesting People in Transit; ranked as one of Pittsburgh's top 50 business leaders by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*; designated as one of the "People to Watch" in *The Pittsburgh Business Times*; named recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award in Business Leadership from the University of Pittsburgh's Katz Graduate

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School of Business; and named recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers.

Mr. Skoutelas is a registered professional engineer with Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Civil Engineering from Penn State University and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Skoutelas is married and has two children.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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July 12, 2005