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Glynn calls for multi-modal transportation system

ALBANY - State Department of Transportation Commissioner Astrid Glynn continues to make the case for a multi-modal transportation system that would support a robust, expanding economy while promoting energy efficiency and a cleaner environment.

In a presentation to business leaders, academics and elected officials at the Rockefeller Institute of Government in Albany, Glynn said increased investment in highways, bridges, railroads and mass transit was the key to ensuring a diverse, safe, modern transportation network that would promote future long-term job growth and economic opportunity.

Glynn said a NYSDOT analysis of the state's transportation needs during the next 20 years showed

a \$175 billion investment would be required over that period to fund the major projects necessary to maintain and renew the state's current infrastructure.

She also stressed the necessity of the federal government's commitment to being a strong and reliable partner in supporting the state's transportation initiatives.

"We have a unique opportunity to have a voice in the next authorization of federal transportation programs that fund almost half of our investments in highways and mass transit," Glynn said.

"That new authorization will set the terms under which states receive funding for the multi-year period after the current authorization expires in 2009. It is crucial that we secure adequate support from both the state and federal government to provide and maintain a 21st century transportation network across New York State."