



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

Transportation Task Force 2009 Annual Report

2009 Activities

The Transportation Task Force continued work this year advocating for programs and supports that increase the mobility for people with disabilities. Our primary areas of work were the following:

- 1) **Preparation for Transportation Legislation Reauthorization** – Though technically up for renewal this year, the major transportation reauthorization that includes many of the programs of importance for people with disabilities was postponed until next year. The Task Force spent time developing principles and meeting with key congressional staff to share the priorities of CCD.
- 2) **Negotiations with Amtrak** – The deadline for all Amtrak stations to be fully accessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is next year. For multiple reasons, it appears that Amtrak will not meet that deadline. Discussions have been ongoing with congressional staff, Amtrak and other interested parties on how to deal with this situation. The Task Force has strongly weighed in and been supported by members of Congress in efforts to oppose Amtrak efforts to gain a congressional extension of the deadline. Currently, we are looking at alternative means to work with Amtrak to make significant progress towards accessibility by the deadline and to continue to work together to reach full accessibility as quickly as possible. New funding available to Amtrak and supported by CCD should help achieve this goal.

2010 Priorities

The Task Force foresees that the reauthorization of transportation legislation will take a significant amount of effort next year and that will make up the bulk of our work. We will continue to work on issues such as appropriations for transit programs, Amtrak/rail accessibility, Air Carrier Access Act implementation and other issues as they arise.

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