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Senator McConnell Presents \$1 Million to TANK

(Ft. Wright, KY) TANK's bus replacement program received a sizable boost on January 16, 2008 when Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) traveled to the TANK headquarters to present a \$1 million check.

The earmark was secured to boost TANK's bus replacement program. This investment into the program will allow TANK to replace older buses with newer, safer, more fuel-efficient vehicles. Furthermore, these federal funds will reduce the need for local tax dollars by reducing TANK's costs to maintain, repair and fuel aging vehicles.

At the ceremonial presentation, TANK Board Chair, Dale Furtwengler praised McConnell's efforts in Washington. "Senator McConnell's support of TANK, public transportation and the citizens of Northern Kentucky are shown once again through his efforts to secure federal funds for buses. With the help of the Senator and his hard work in Washington, TANK will continue to support this community well into the future."

McConnell, currently serving as Republican Leader of the Senate, spoke about the importance of supporting transit. "Northern Kentucky is one of the most important 'economic engines' in the state and that kind of success comes with growth. Obviously, with growth comes more population, more people moving around and clearly a need for a good public transportation system."

Over the last ten years, McConnell has played a role in securing a total of seven million dollars of federal earmark funding for TANK. The majority of this funding has

benefitted TANK's Bus Replacement Program, which calls for the replacement of aging buses as they reach the end of their useful life.

The Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky provides transit services to Northern Kentucky and downtown Cincinnati, operating more than 100 buses and carrying 4 million passengers each year on 27 fixed routes. TANK contracts with First Transit for top-level management services and is on the web at www.tankbus.org.

Photo Attached

Pictured from left:

Steve Pendrey (Campbell County Judge Executive), Dave Sogar (TANK Board), Senator Mitch McConnell, Dale Furtwengler (TANK Board Chair), Gary Moore (Boone County Judge Executive), Jean Miller (TANK Board), Steve McCoy (TANK Board) and Mary Lou Franzoni (TANK/First Transit)

