FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (July 16, 2020) – Port Authority of Allegheny County is seeking public input about the future of transit in our region as part of NEXTransit, the agency's recently-launched long-range planning effort.

NEXTransit will help inform where service should go, who it should serve, when it should operate and what projects should be given priority over the next 25 years.

The community is invited to participate in six online meetings:

- Monday, July 27, 2020 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Meetings can be accessed by visiting https://nextransit.network/series1. Participants may also call in by dialing 855-925-2801 and using meeting code 8676.

Residents from communities across Allegheny County are encouraged to attend. Those unable to attend can still participate throughout via in-person community visits and phone-based surveys to that will be conducted later this summer.

"NEXTransit will give us the opportunity to inspire, innovate and implement ideas that promote a robust transit network that is accessible, equitable, reliable, flexible, comprehensive and safe," said Port Authority CEO Katharine Kelleman. "Whether it's an extension of a busway, adding more trips to an underserved community, or placing greater importance on alternative-fuel vehicles, we want to hear what riders and non-riders want from their public transit system."

NEXTransit will help Port Authority prepare for future growth by identifying transit investments that integrate with regional plans and goals and by providing a clear roadmap on where to focus the agency's energy and resources.

The input Port Authority receives will serve as a blueprint to meet the community's vision for what public transportation in our region needs to accomplish in the coming decades to ensure residents have access to jobs, housing, healthcare, education and other services.

Port Authority launched NEXTransit on June 1. This community-based plan is being developed through a robust outreach process and conducted in collaboration with partner agencies in addition to public input.

Port Authority encourages community members, businesses and other stakeholders to learn more about NEXTransit and sign up for email alerts at https://nextransit.network/.

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