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Mr. Augie Torres  
Opinion Page Editor  
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### **Enjoy LSP with shuttle bus**

Dear Editor Augie Torres,

At this time of the 35th birthday of Liberty State Park (June 14) the Friends of LSP thank citizens and officials for advocating to save the park shuttle bus from NJ Transit's budget axe. Caring people have spoken out for LSP since it opened as NJ's Bicentennial gift to our nation.

I thank all those who worked to save the shuttle bus from the LSP Light Rail station into and around our waterfront urban state park. The bus will run on summer weekends through Labor Day and on July 4th - making stops every half hour - and it costs \$1 per ride. The first shuttle loop leaves the Light Rail station at 9 am and the last loop around the park leaves at 9:30 pm.

**I urge people to use the shuttle to enjoy LSP's terrific destinations including the lawns, picnic areas, playgrounds; the historic train Terminal where the Statue Cruises ferries leave for Lady Liberty and Ellis Island; Liberty Science Center; Liberty Landing Marina with its restaurants, Liberty House Restaurant and Maritime Parc and also the Offshore Sailing School; and also Pole Position Raceway (outside LSP off of Caven Point Road and a short walk from LSP's southwest corner's Liberty Park Café Diner).**

Those businesses thankfully joined the Friends in contributing about half of the shuttle bus costs and we are also very grateful to Hudson County Executive Tom DeGise and NJ Transit for rescuing the shuttle bus by agreeing to fund the other half of the costs.

This saving of mass transit into our inspiring waterfront park is an important, collaborative solution achieved by caring officials, park users and park businesses to enrich the lives of our county's residents, and also so tourists can enjoy LSP's attractions.

Though The Friends are delighted that the shuttle bus has been saved again, we strongly urge the state for next year to fully fund the shuttle bus to bring people into our great urban state park.

Hudson County Freeholder Chairman Bill O'Dea played a leadership role and worked to obtain the unanimous and appreciated support of the Freeholders for a Resolution calling on NJ Transit to restore the shuttle bus.

LSP officials also played a key advocacy role, as did Director Bill LaRosa of the County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs who urged local hotels and other businesses to contact NJT about saving the shuttle.

The determined behind the scenes official, who believes strongly in this mass transit link into LSP and who worked out the bus contract details, was Director Jay DiDomenico of the Hudson Transportation Management Association.

We also thank Senator Sandra Cunningham, Senator Brian Stack and Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy for their support.

For the LSP shuttle bus schedule and route map, and also summer events including the schedule of eleven free “Summerfest” park concerts, presented by the JC Division of Cultural Affairs, please go to our website, [www.folsp.org](http://www.folsp.org) and see the home page and “Upcoming Events” page.

Sincerely,

Sam Pesin  
president of The Friends of LSP