

April 2009

# NomineeAlert

## Kienitz's Background

Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor  
Ed Rendell (D-PA)

Secretary of Planning, State of  
Maryland

Executive Director, Surface  
Transportation Policy Project

Director, International Transporta-  
tion Program, Center for Clean Air  
Policy

Chief of Staff, U.S. Senator  
Patrick Moynihan

Professional Staff, U.S. Senate  
Committee on Environment and  
Public Works

## EDUCATION

B.A. U.C. Santa Barbara  
M.S. Dartmouth College



## this issue:

Roy Kienitz, Nominee for  
Under Secretary of  
Transportation for Policy

## Who is Roy Kienitz? Drive slow, if at all...

On March 16 President Obama nominated Roy Kienitz to be Under Secretary of Transportation for policy.

Kienitz previously served as Deputy Director for Federal Affairs and Executive Director of the Surface Transportation Policy

Project (STPP), an organization arguing that more roads breed more cars, not vice versa. It claims that cars, the resulting urban and street design from their dominance disproportionately affect "the health of children and people of color..."

Under Kienitz's direction STPP issued a paper on aggressive driving claiming that aggressive driving is due to frustration with driving itself, stating, "people get frustrated when they have to spend so much time in the car, and that frustration can come out as aggressive driving." Their solution to aggressive driving is to limit how much people drive and how fast they can drive. Fn.1

In 2000 Kienitz was one of the founding members and Steering Committee Chair of

Smart Growth America.

The organization exists to, "promote a better way to grow: one that protects farmland and open space, revitalizes neighborhoods, keeps housing affordable, and

provides more transportation choices," while decrying "the asphalt-intensive sprawl that dominates our landscape and is no one's idea of the American Dream." Fn.2

During his tenure at the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), Mr. Kienitz intervened directly in three land use proceedings in 2001 including supporting the Kent County Planning Commission's decision against allowing Wal-Mart to build in Kent County. The department also issued a paper under his leadership advocating limiting "Big Box" stores in MD as much as possible. Fn.3

**“ people get frustrated when they have to spend so much time in the car, and that frustration can come out as aggressive driving.”**

# More information you really need to know about Roy Kienitz.

## Kienitz currently...

serves as Gov. Rendell's Deputy Chief of Staff, and is "a leader... for Transportation, Alternative Energy, and Environment."

During his tenure the Governor proposed a two track transportation plan that would impose tolls on I-80 through PA, and that have would leased the PA Turnpike to a private company. Later that year the state legislature passed Act 44 of 2007 under which an application was made to the Federal Highway Administration to place state tolls on I-80. The application was denied.

On May 20, 2008 Abertis Infraestructuras, a publicly held Spanish company, in conjunction with Citigroup, won the competitive bidding on a lease of the PA Turnpike, and a bills approving the deal were introduced in both houses of the legislature. Both bills died after much public controversy and Abertis withdrew the bid after it expired on September 30, 2008. Fn.4.

### Fn. 1.

- *Transportation and Health*, Surface Transportation Policy Project website. Available online at: <http://www.transact.org/library/factsheets/health.asp>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Statement of Roy Kienitz Executive Director Surface Transportation Policy Project*, April 15, 1999, U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. Available online at: [http://epw.senate.gov/107th/kie\\_4-15.htm](http://epw.senate.gov/107th/kie_4-15.htm). (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- Surface Transportation Policy Project report. Available online at: <http://www.transact.org/report.asp?id=57>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Speaker Biographies*, TCSP Grant Workshop, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, September 2000. Available online at: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tcsp/wdcsb.htm>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Why are the Roads so Congested? – Overview*, Surface Transportation Policy Project report. Available online at: <http://www.transact.org/report.asp?id=64>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)

### Fn. 2.

- *Smart Growth Coalition*, American Planning Association. Available online at: <http://myapa.planning.org/resources-yc/smartgrowth.htm?>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- Smart Growth America website. Available online at: <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)

### Fn.3.

- *Maryland Department of Planning Takes Action in Support of Smart Growth First Use of Long-Standing Intervention Authority*, Maryland Department of Planning press release. Available online at: <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/education/growfromhere/lesson15/MDP/NEWS/PR082301.HTML>. Accessed (April 2, 2009.)
- "Big-Box" Retail Development, Maryland Department of Planning. Available online at: [http://www.mdp.state.md.us/mgs/bigbox/bigbox\\_v3.pdf](http://www.mdp.state.md.us/mgs/bigbox/bigbox_v3.pdf). (Accessed April 2, 2009.)

### Fn.4.

- *Testimony of Roy Kienitz, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor Edward C. Rendell, Regarding a Possible Lease of the Pennsylvania Turnpike*, Pennsylvania General Assembly, March 19, 2009. Available online at: [http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/TR/transcripts/2008\\_0044\\_0005\\_TSTMNY.pdf](http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/TR/transcripts/2008_0044_0005_TSTMNY.pdf). (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Concerns About Turnpike Lease Misguided*, Commonwealth Foundation for Public Policy Alternatives, March 19, 2008. Available online at: <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.org/commentary/concerns-about-turnpike-lease-misguided>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Just how good a deal is privatizing the PA Turnpike?*, [www.unbossed.com](http://www.unbossed.com), June 27, 2008. Available online at: <http://www.unbossed.com/index.php?itemid=2161>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Federal Highway Administration Does Not Approve Pennsylvania's Plans to Toll Interstate 80*, U.S. Department of Transportation press release, September 11, 2008. Available online at: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pressroom/fhwa0820.htm>. (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *Transcript of Public Hearing on Transportation Funding Issues*, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, March 19, 2008. Available online at: [http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/tr/transcripts/2008\\_0044T.pdf](http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/tr/transcripts/2008_0044T.pdf). (Accessed April 2, 2009.)
- *House Bill No. 2593*, General Assembly of Pennsylvania, 2008 Session. Available online at: <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/CFDOCS/Legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?>

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