

**PITTSBURGH
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Editorial**

The Steel City Flyer: A private solution

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Paris and Harrisburg have something in common for Pittsburghers: We can no longer get to either place directly by air.

It's not just annoying; it's costly and time-consuming. Since US Airways dropped its direct service to the state capital in September, flying to visit your favorite legislator now costs about \$300, four to six hours of travel time and a change of planes in Philly or Newark.

Two local entrepreneurs, however, have devised a plan to transport people to Harrisburg quickly and comfortably the old-fashioned way -- by bus and, even more amazingly, without a dime of public subsidy.

The Steel City Flyer, which begins service Nov. 24, is the brainchild of Robert A. Pietrandrea and Henry Posner III, two executives of Green Tree's international Railroad Development Corp.

With a nonstop running time of 3 1/2 hours and two round trips a business day, the luxury coach is aimed primarily at business travelers who want to get to Harrisburg or to that city's recently improved Amtrak service to the East Coast.

For an introductory one-way cost of \$69, amenities eventually will include continuous Wi-Fi service, tray tables, pillows, movies, reserved seats and attendant service. (Schedule details are at steelcityflyer.com.)

Messrs. Pietrandrea and Posner deserve capitalist high-fives for putting up their own money for this venture. If it becomes a profitable enterprise — and we hope it does — perhaps there's a career for the daring transportation duo at the Port Authority of Allegheny County.