

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2012

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
Majority Leader
H-329 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Minority Whip
H-148 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader Cantor, Minority Leader Pelosi, and Minority Whip Hoyer:

As you know, providing authorization for transportation and infrastructure projects is a core function of the government. With the current transportation bill set to expire on March 31, 2012, we write to emphasize the importance of the House taking action to immediately provide some certainty in the transportation sector.

The last major transportation bill expired September 30, 2009, and since then Congress has been unable to put in place a long-term reauthorization of the Surface Transportation bill. This lack of certainty has hampered state transportation departments' ability to commit to long-term transportation projects, which has impeded the ability of local governments to adequately plan for their community's transportation needs. Additionally, this has increased instability within the construction industry.

The Senate recently passed the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, known commonly as MAP-21. While by no means perfect, this legislation passed unanimously out of committee, and received significant bipartisan support on the Senate floor with 74 votes. While we believe that a longer term bill is ideal, the Senate bill would provide the transportation stakeholder community with two years of certain funding and policies that will allow state Departments of Transportation and other transportation agencies to embark on the work necessary to keep American goods and people moving. Providing this certainty as soon as possible is particularly important in colder weather climates, where the construction season is short and just beginning for 2012.

With no indication that an alternate longer-term bill will be brought to the House floor by March 31, 2012, we urge the House to reconcile any potential blue slip procedural

issues and take up the House-version of S. 1813, the Mobility, Access and Progress for the 21st century. Transportation is a priority for all Americans. Our constituents deserve to see Congress act swiftly and in a bipartisan way on this important issue.

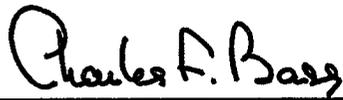
Sincerely,



Robert J. Dold
Member of Congress



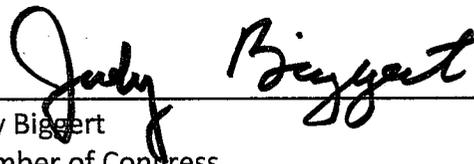
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Charles F. Bass
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Judy Biggert
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress