

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 29, 2007

Senator Harry Reid
Majority Leader
S-221 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Speaker Nancy Pelosi
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
S-230 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Congressman John Boehner
Minority Leader
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Reid, Speaker Pelosi, Senator McConnell and Congressman Boehner:

We are writing to encourage you to make a targeted investment in transportation infrastructure as part of any stimulus package.

Infrastructure spending is one of the best investments the federal government can make in the economy: every dollar spent generates about \$5.70 in economic activity, and more than 47, 000 jobs are created for every \$1 billion provided. This important investment carries the additional benefits of reducing traffic congestion, improving the flow of freight, and saving lives through increased safety.

Infrastructure projects in each of our States are ready to go. The design and engineering work is done; the only thing missing is funding. Once these projects are funded, it will be only three months before supplies are purchased and workers start receiving, and spending, their paychecks. We have attached information compiled by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials on the 3,027 projects in 46 states have ready to start within 90 days.

We ask that the Stimulus package include \$5 billion from the General Fund for transportation infrastructure spending, to be allocated to states in accordance with the FY 2008 SAFETEA-LU formula. States should be required to obligate the money within 120 days. To help states meet this requirement, the state match should be temporarily reduced or delayed.

To ensure that this funding is used where it is needed most, individual states would be responsible for allocating funding to those projects where construction can begin immediately.

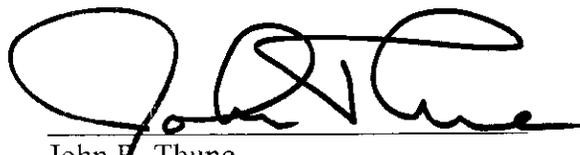
During his testimony before the Senate Finance Committee, Peter Orszag, director of the Congressional Budget Office, said that targeted infrastructure spending as we suggest would be a rapid and effective boost to our national economy.

By targeting transportation infrastructure projects that are ready to go, Congress can provide both an immediate economic boost to the economy and a sustained economic benefit to the country. Because of this, we believe transportation spending should be a key part of any economic stimulus package.

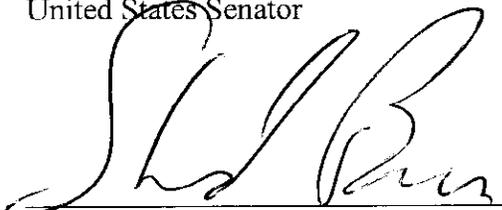
Sincerely,



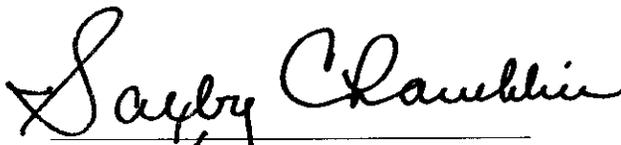
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



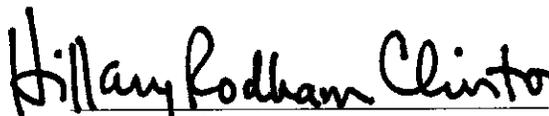
John R. Thune
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Saxby Chambliss
United States Senator



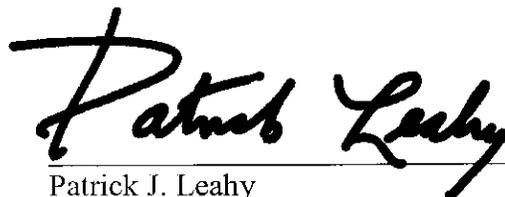
Hillary Clinton
United States Senator



Tim Johnson
United States Senator



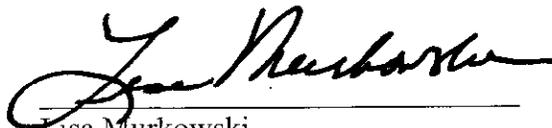
Ted Stevens
United States Senator



Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senator



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

Bert Sanders

Bernard Sanders
United States Senator

George V. Voinovich

George V. Voinovich
United States Senator

Tom Harkin

Tom Harkin
United States Senator

Allen Ford

Highway 15

Jim Webb

Shirley

Susan M. Collins

John F. Kerry

John Reed

Carl Levin

Bob Casey, Jr.

Dick Durbin

AASHTO Survey Results on Ready-To-Go Projects

Alabama	128	\$671.1
Alaska	7	\$92.6
*Arizona	39	\$790.0
Arkansas	107	\$728.3
California		\$800.0
Colorado	52	\$395.1
*Connecticut	20	\$728.5
*DC	1	\$50.0
Delaware		
Florida	3	\$150.0
Georgia	32	\$397.3
Hawaii	6	\$42.0
Idaho	11	\$174.8
*Illinois	212	\$831.4
Indiana		
Iowa	40	\$152.0
*Kansas	126	\$68.0
Kentucky	4	\$200.0
Louisiana	208	\$351.4
*Maine	15	\$94.1
*Maryland	32	\$94.6
*Massachusetts	45	\$134.4
*Michigan	43	\$257.0
Minnesota	30	\$217.8
Mississippi	33	\$176.2
*Missouri	127	\$546.6
Montana	70	\$116.0
Nebraska	5	\$20.0
Nevada	4	\$120.0
New Hampshire	11	\$81.3
*New Jersey	7	\$50.8
New Mexico	77	\$1,400.0
*New York	40	\$200.0
North Carolina	44	\$231.4
North Dakota	90	\$71.0
*Ohio	114	\$299.3
Oklahoma	73	\$146.4
Oregon	50	\$251.2
*Pennsylvania	524	\$1,300.0
Rhode Island	41	\$102.0
South Carolina	58	\$510.0
South Dakota	142	\$181.0
Tennessee	74	\$184.1
Texas	44	\$1,800.0

Utah	84	\$425.1
*Vermont	11	\$62.6
Virginia	1	\$101.9
Washington		
West Virginia	67	\$1,200.0
*Wisconsin	20	\$35.0
Wyoming	55	\$287.2
Total	3027	\$17,319.5

* Arizona, Connecticut, DC, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Wisconsin also have Transit/Aviation/Waterways Ready to Go Projects not included in the above chart.

Arizona = 2 transit projects (5 park-and-ride lots and 100 articulated buses) at \$785 Million.		
Connecticut = 11 transit projects at \$579 Million.		
DC = 1 transit project at \$6.4 Million.		
Illinois = 43 aviation projects (rehabilitation, widening, construction) at \$170 Million, 22 transit projects (CTA, Metra, Pace and downstate agencies) at \$1.2 Billion and 19 rail projects (9 passenger and 3 freight and 6 rail freight) at \$327.7 Million		
Kansas = 6 transit projects at \$9 Million.		
Maine = 1 transit project at \$6 Million (bus replacement) and 1 ferry/waterways project at \$12.5 Million (governor curtis replacement).		
Maryland = 3 transit projects at \$21.2 Million.		
Massachusetts = 11 transit projects at \$50.2 Million and 19 rail trail projects at \$57.9 Million		
Michigan = 4 transit projects (buses/van, bus rehab, facility and support equipment) at \$82 Million.		
Missouri = 4 aviation projects at \$12.5 Million, 21 transit at \$12.8 Million and 2 waterways at \$26.0 Million.		
New Jersey = 5 transit projects (1 light rail extension, 1 commuter rail station and 3 platform reconstructions) at 152 Million.		

<p>New York = 1 transit project (400 buses) at \$200 Million and 1 rail project (passenger improvements) at \$10 Million.</p>		
<p>Ohio = 19 transit projects at \$17.9 Million</p>		
<p>Pennsylvania = 22 transit projects (3 SEPTA, 2 Port Authority and 17 other transit systems).</p>		
<p>Vermont = 1 transit project at \$18.5 Million (capital replacements), 1 aviation project (improvements and maintenance) at \$0.5 Million and 2 rail projects (facilities improvements and materials) at \$10.5 Million.</p>		
<p>Wisconsin = 2 rail projects at \$50 Million (1 track realignment and 1 rail line improvement).</p>		