



Dear Senator:

As you know, the Senate is scheduled to debate amendments this week to the surface transportation authorization, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). The bill makes a number of improvements to the current program by consolidating programs, maintaining current funding levels, and focusing on expanding federal credit assistance tools already in place, such as the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA).

The Transportation Transformation Group (T2) is an alliance of state government, finance, academic and private industry leaders who aspire to transform American transportation policy into a goal-based arrangement that maximizes flexibility to increase the roles of the state and local public sectors and their private partners to solve the growing problems of congestion and mobility. We salute the bill's provisions to improve surface transportation program and offer these suggestions to enhance MAP-21 in order that it may better achieve our common goals.

We are concerned that the legislation includes no extension or enhancement of the existing authority for tolling. We support an amendment we anticipate that will be offered that would make the current pilots permanent and open to all applications. It would require that revenue be used for debt service or construction improvements on the facility first, and then for transportation improvements in the corridor.

This amendment is important because it is a voluntary program that gives states flexibility to use tolls to build or rebuild important road infrastructure. It would have important benefits for states that need flexibility to raise critically needed funds to rebuild their highways. The provision would add zero cost to the Treasury and would stimulate the infusion of funds from state and private sources.

We would be grateful for your support for an extension and enhancement of the existing SAFETEA-LU authority for tolling and your opposition to efforts to reduce state tolling flexibility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ned Holmes'.

Ned Holmes, Chairman  
The Transportation Transformation Group

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