

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 1, 2011

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

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

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Majority Whip
H-107, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader Cantor and Whip McCarthy:

As the country faces growing economic problems, Republicans in the House of Representatives continue to be focused on removing government barriers to private-sector job creation. We continue to stand up for the American people as we create an environment that promotes growth and creates economic opportunity.

Uncertainty over tax policy and regulatory burdens are impediments to job growth, but so is uncertainty over major federal infrastructure programs. Republicans recognize the importance of our nation's infrastructure. We know a strong transportation network is needed to accommodate economic growth. Specifically, we believe that Congress should pass a multiyear reauthorization of the federal surface transportation programs.

Republicans support transportation infrastructure investment because the economy needs a national system to safely deliver goods and people from place to place and to effectively compete in the global marketplace. Republicans also understand that to repair and improve our infrastructure we must have responsible spending at levels that truly support long-term economic growth and job creation while retaining our commitment to conservative principles. We support the efforts to provide a long-term sustainable revenue source for our nation's transportation network. Congress should prioritize efforts to create efficiency, reduce bottle necks and cut red tape. Now is the time to reform and streamline the federal program so that it delivers value to taxpayers. House GOP leaders have talked about the importance of a long term transportation plan while making necessary improvements to the current program.

Quite simply, the multiyear transportation reauthorization is a common sense alternative to the President's stimulus approach. The program needs long-term funding certainty and the program is in need of reform, two critical elements missing from the president's proposal. We are committed to eliminating waste, providing localities with more participation in project selection, speeding up the project approval process and getting people back to work. Passing this bill is an important aspect of the Republican Jobs Agenda. It is critical, however, that we act now.

We respectfully urge you to move a reformed and streamlined multi-year surface transportation bill that will support much needed economic growth throughout our nation.

Sincerely,