



**ASSOCIATION OF  
METROPOLITAN  
PLANNING  
ORGANIZATIONS**

November 20, 2008

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The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Speaker of the House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

The Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), which represents transportation partnerships of local elected officials, transit agencies and states in the nation's metropolitan regions, supports Congressional action to fund critical transportation infrastructure as part of a jobs/economic stimulus package. Not only would this investment improve the long-term outlook for the economy, but it would have the effect of immediately creating new jobs that could put hundreds of thousands of people back to work.

As Congress debates and shapes this stimulus package, AMPO recommends the following direction to ensure that this infrastructure investment provides both an immediate jobs benefit in metropolitan regions, which are the economic engines of the economy, and a long term basis for the nation's economic recovery through improved mobility for people and businesses in our regions:

- Funding should be allocated through the existing Surface Transportation Program (STP) allocation formula. This would guarantee that a significant portion of the funding, and the jobs that will follow, will be available for projects in metropolitan regions, selected cooperatively by local elected officials who understand regional transportation and economic priorities;
- Funding should be directed to projects that are already included in an approved metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) or State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This will ensure that the projects have been thoroughly evaluated, vetted with local communities, and are ready to go for immediate jobs benefits.

Thank you for your consideration and work on this important legislation. We urge your full support for the inclusion of infrastructure investment in an economic stimulus package. Please call upon us if we can provide additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

DeLania Hardy  
Executive Director

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*...the transportation advocate for metropolitan regions...  
committed to enhancing MPOs' abilities to improve metropolitan transportation systems...*