



October 20, 2015

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2251 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Subcommittee on Highways and Transit
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2251 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Highways and Transit
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
592 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Shuster and Graves, and Ranking Members DeFazio and Norton:

On behalf of the National Association of Counties (NACo), I am writing to commend your leadership and efforts to support local governments and our nation's transportation infrastructure through the introduction of the Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform (STRR) Act of 2015 (H.R. 3763).

As the owners of 45 percent of the nation's road miles and 39 percent of the National Bridge Inventory, and stewards of a nearly a third of the nation's transit systems, counties know firsthand the importance of passing a long-term reauthorization bill. The STRR Act provides a multi-year framework and policy reforms that will help counties respond to the needs of their communities and make critical infrastructure investments.

Our members are encouraged by provisions included in the bill aimed at increasing the amount of Surface Transportation Program funding distributed to local governments, expanding the funding available for bridges off the National Highway System, supporting urban and rural public transportation and expediting project delivery. As intergovernmental partners, we are committed to working with you to advance these critical issues and secure a long-term vision for our nation's transportation system.

Sincerely,

Matt Chase
NACo Executive Director