

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 03, 2011

The Honorable John L. Mica  
Chairman  
House Transportation and  
Infrastructure Committee  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall, II  
Ranking Member  
House Transportation and  
Infrastructure Committee  
2163 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Mica and Ranking Member Rahall,

As you continue your work in crafting the reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act, we respectfully request that you consider including a policy proposal that facilitates the development and maintenance of emergency evacuation routes.

Currently, when using federal funds, state Departments of Transportation do not prioritize projects that would improve bridges or roads that would be used as evacuation routes. We would ask that the Committee please include language that every state should give adequate consideration to the need for evacuation routes, when using federal dollars, in the reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act.

Like much of America's infrastructure, our country's evacuation routes are in need of maintenance and repair. Millions of people rely on these roads during the worst times, whether it is due to storms, flooding, earthquakes or tornadoes. Our districts include nuclear power plants located along the Pacific coast. With the tsunami in Japan leading to the meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, our constituents, and people in the surrounding communities, have concerns about the current transportation infrastructure's capability of handling a mass evacuation. Including the aforementioned language in the bill will strengthen these vital transportation corridors that so many rely upon during the gravest times.

Thank you for considering this transportation proposal. We appreciate your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Darrell E. Issa  
Member of Congress



Lois Capps  
Member of Congress

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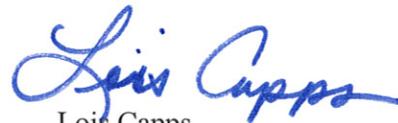
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