

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan
Chairman

June 16, 2010

Secretary Stephanie C. Kopelousos
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee St.-MS 54
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Dear Secretary Kopelousos:

I believe that Howard Glassman, Executive Director of Florida's Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) has spoken to your staff about the organization's interest in conducting a Transportation Revenue Study. Based on action taken by its Governing Board, the MPOAC is beginning the 24-month effort to develop recommendations for addressing the issues of sustainable revenue for surface transportation (transit and highway) capital investments and operations in Florida.

The initiative will document Florida's existing surface transportation needs, identify future revenue options, analyze the impacts of funding options, and develop legislative recommendations for consideration. An advisory committee is being formed to assist the MPOAC in its efforts to analyze the issue and to aid in the development of recommendations. Organizations being invited to participate with the MPOAC on the Revenue Study Advisory Committee include:

Florida Transportation Commission
Florida Public Transportation Association
Floridians for Better Transportation
Florida Transportation Builders Association
Florida Association of Counties
Florida League of Cities
The Nature Conservancy in Florida
Florida Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Michael Howe, Executive Director of the Sarasota- Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization, will chair the advisory committee and Mr. Howard Glassman will manage the study. We have engaged the services of the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida (CUTR) to staff the effort. The funding for staff support was provided by Florida's Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

We understand that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has developed extensive data and information that will be critical to the analysis and hope that your staff can assist us in

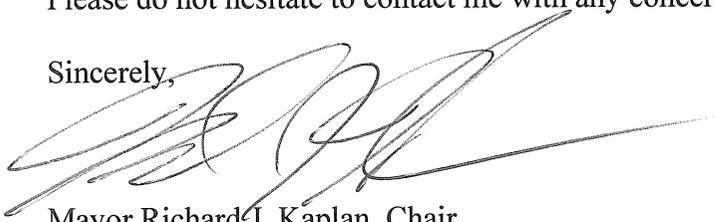
not having to duplicate efforts that have already been undertaken by FDOT. Further, it would be helpful if representatives from CUTR could interact with your staff to ensure the accuracy of the data that they will be assembling.

I know that you of all people are keenly aware of the challenges to providing transportation services and infrastructure presented by the combination of declining traditional funding sources, increases in construction and fuel costs, and the current economic situation. Increasing fuel efficiency of automobiles along with the development of alternative fuel technologies also threaten the main transportation funding source, the fuel tax, at both the state and federal levels.

I am anticipating the results of our efforts will be available for consideration by the spring of 2012. In the meantime, I hope that you call on us to give you updates and status reports on our Transportation Revenue Study and trust that we will have the opportunity to hear your opinions as we proceed with this work. I hope that you agree that the effort to identify and recommend forward-looking, sustainable and innovative solutions to the state's transportation funding issues is an important one, and that we may call on the Department for technical advice on our staff analysis.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns that you may have with this study.

Sincerely,



Mayor Richard J. Kaplan, Chair
Florida MPOAC

cc MPOAC Members
Michael Howe, Chair, MPOAC Revenue Study Advisory Committee
Howard Glassman, Executive Director, MPOAC
Stephen Reich, Center for Urban Transportation Research at USF

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan
Chairman

June 16, 2010

Honorable Jeff Atwater
President of the Florida Senate
824 US Highway 1, #210
North Palm Beach, FL 33408

Dear President Atwater:

I am writing to make you aware of an important initiative that the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) is launching this month. The MPOAC is embarking on a two-year study effort to develop recommendations for addressing the issues of sustainable revenue for surface transportation capital investments and transportation operations in Florida. The MPOAC Governing Board recently took action to begin a process that will document Florida's surface transportation needs, identify future revenue options, analyze the impacts of funding options, and develop legislative recommendations for your consideration.

As you are well aware, the pressures on state resources have reached a critical condition. The recent legislative session was certainly a difficult one dealing with the impacts of declining revenues for all public services. Stagnant or declining traditional transportation funding sources, increases in construction and fuel costs, and current economic conditions are all among the factors placing increasing pressure on transportation providers across Florida. Increasing fuel efficiency of automobiles along with the development of alternative fuel technologies will also present challenges to a gallon-based gasoline tax. These dynamics, coupled with the lack of any widespread support to further adjust traditional fuel taxes and fees, are causing dramatic reductions in capital investments statewide and reductions in public transportation services in some metropolitan areas.

Although there have been actions in recent years to adjust some selected fees that provide funding to Florida's State Transportation Trust Fund, the MPOAC is committed to trying to identify non-traditional, sustainable, innovative and politically feasible solutions to Florida's transportation funding dilemma that will be needed to address the existing and future transportation needs of the State.

We, as elected officials, certainly understand the difficulty of considering such issues in the midst of this economic environment. That said, we also understand, as do you, the importance of a first rate transportation system for the quality of life for the citizens of and visitors to our state. You recently demonstrated that understanding in your unprecedented actions to support passenger rail in Florida.

It is our aim to present the leadership of the State with a set of similar opportunities for bold and creative action as a result of our efforts. We expect this initiative to be deliberative, analytical and, frankly, to take some time. I am anticipating the results of our efforts will be available for consideration by the spring of 2012. In the meantime, I hope that you call on us to give you updates and status reports on our Transportation Revenue Study and trust that we will have the opportunity to hear your opinions as we proceed with this work.

In closing, I should mention that this effort is being underwritten by all of the 26 Metropolitan Planning Organizations from across Florida, demonstrating that this issue is recognized statewide as critical to our economic well being. We look forward to sharing our findings with you and encourage you to share your views and input as we proceed with our deliberations.

Sincerely,



Mayor Richard J. Kaplan, Chair
Florida MPOAC

cc MPOAC Members
Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos, Florida Department of Transportation
Michael Howe, Chair, MPOAC Revenue Study Advisory Committee
Howard Glassman, Executive Director, MPOAC

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan
Chairman

June 16, 2010

Honorable Larry Cretul
Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives
Capitol Office
420 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Speaker Cretul:

I am writing to make you aware of an important initiative that the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) is launching this month. The MPOAC is embarking on a two-year study effort to develop recommendations for addressing the issues of sustainable revenue for surface transportation capital investments and transportation operations in Florida. The MPOAC Governing Board recently took action to begin a process that will document Florida's surface transportation needs, identify future revenue options, analyze the impacts of funding options, and develop legislative recommendations for your consideration.

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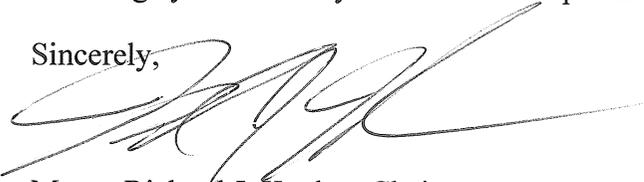
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Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos, Florida Department of Transportation
Michael Howe, Chair, MPOAC Revenue Study Advisory Committee
Howard Glassman, Executive Director, MPOAC

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan
Chairman

June 16, 2010

Honorable Charlie Crist, Governor of Florida
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Crist:

I am writing to make you aware of an important initiative that the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) is launching this month. The MPOAC is embarking on a two-year study effort to develop recommendations for addressing the issues of sustainable revenue for surface transportation capital investments and transportation operations in Florida. The MPOAC Governing Board recently took action to begin a process that will document Florida's surface transportation needs, identify future revenue options, analyze the impacts of funding options, and develop legislative recommendations for your consideration.

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Howard Glassman, Executive Director

605 Suwannee Street, MS 28B · Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450
1-866-374-3368 x 4037 or 850-414-4037 · Fax 850-414-4895

www.mpoac.org

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