

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 9, 2015

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
U.S. House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton
U.S. House of Representatives
2136 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member DeFazio and Ranking Member Norton:

As you work on a long-term surface transportation bill, we ask that you continue your history of strong support for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

We greatly appreciate your leadership to support bicycling and walking and to defend against threats to a multi-modal transportation system. We stand with you in this fight. For the House transportation bill to be bipartisan, it must not cut funding for TAP or make policy changes that undermine the local availability of these dollars.

As you well know, TAP provides much-needed funds for local transportation priorities, including bicycling, walking and Safe Routes to School projects. All funds in TAP must be made available through a competitive process, ensuring that the mayors and local leaders who best know their own communities can seek funding for projects that fit their needs.

Communities of all shapes and sizes—rural, urban and suburban—are clamoring for TAP dollars to give their residents lower-cost transportation options that reduce road congestion, improve safety for children and families, and boost quality of life. These types of projects are also essential to helping cities and counties increase property values, grow retail sales and attract tourism. While MAP-21 gave states the option of transferring up to half of TAP funds to other transportation priorities, just 10 percent of TAP funds have been transferred—clearly showing the demand for these funds across the country. This is a good program and it deserves to continue.

Thank you again for your long history of leadership on this issue. We look forward to working with you to preserve the Transportation Alternatives Program in the House transportation bill.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress




Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

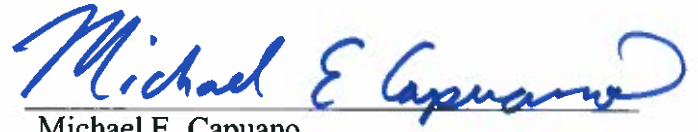


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Member of Congress




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Member of Congress


Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress


Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress

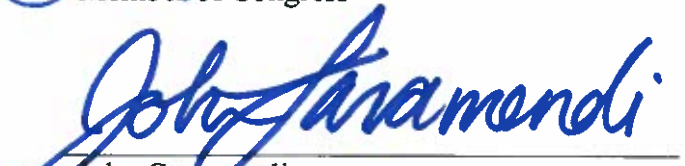

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress

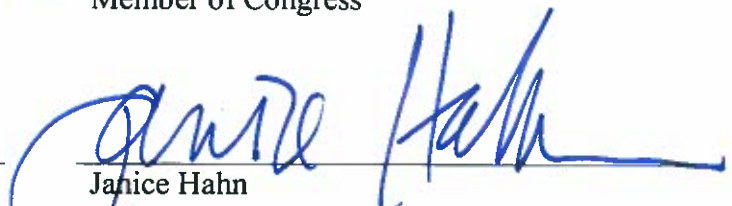

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