



February 15, 2012

The Honorable Tim Johnson  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Banking Housing  
and Urban Affairs  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing  
and Urban Affairs  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Shelby:

On behalf of the more than 1,500 members of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), I applaud the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee for its efforts to advance a bipartisan public transportation title to S.1813, "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act" (MAP-21). Reported from the full committee by a unanimous vote, the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2012 demonstrates the Banking Committee's strong commitment to advance surface transportation legislation.

The public transit title of MAP-21 preserves current levels of federal investment, authorizing funding at \$10.5 billion annually over two years. APTA appreciates the Banking Committee's strong commitment to continued federal funding of public transit programs. This funding is vital to addressing investment needs for public transportation in communities across the country.

We are encouraged by the level of bipartisan support that MAP-21 has so far received with the Senate last week voting overwhelmingly in favor of invoking cloture and moving forward with consideration of the bill. We urge the Senate in the strongest possible terms to advance this much needed surface transportation bill now. It is our sincere hope that extraneous amendments do not prevent the Senate from further consideration of this important bill, which is essential to job creation, economic growth and to the long-term stability of vital transportation programs.

Again, thank you for your long-standing support of federal investment in public transportation. We look forward to continuing to work with you on the details of this bill to ensure the needs of the public transportation industry are adequately met.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Melaniphy  
President and CEO

MPM/bt

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