



March 12, 2012

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 1,500 members of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), we write to support the advancement of S. 1813, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act” (MAP-21). We applaud the Senate for its efforts to advance a bipartisan bill that supports needed investment in public transportation and the nation’s surface transportation network.

The public transportation title of MAP-21 preserves current levels of federal investment. APTA appreciates the Senate’s commitment to continued federal funding of public transportation programs. This funding is vital to addressing investment needs for public transportation in communities across the country. The project delivery streamlining provisions and consolidation of programs contained in MAP-21 are meaningful reforms that will help move much-needed projects more quickly and efficiently, without compromising safety or environmental protections.

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. While there are differences between APTA’s authorization recommendations and the Senate bill, public transit users and providers need the certainty that a multi-year bill provides.

Thank you for your willingness to continue to work with APTA and our membership. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rob Healy, Vice President of Government Affairs at rhealy@apta.com or (202) 496-4811.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Melaniphy
President & CEO

MPM/bt

Gary C. Thomas
APTA Chair
CEO, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)

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