



NARC

Building Regional Communities

National Association of Regional Councils

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May 17, 2006

Norman Y. Mineta
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Thank you for launching the National Strategy to Reduce Congestion on America's Transportation Network. As the President of the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), as a Board member of a major Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and on behalf of our members, I hope you will consider us a resource as you move forward. We believe implementation of the National Strategy is an important step in reducing the costs of this national dilemma - in both time wasted and dollars lost.

MPOs and COGs are a critical part of our transportation system, providing a crucial link between local elected officials and their state and Federal partners. Therefore, many of our members are looking for new tools and resources to help ease congestion in their communities and make the transportation system more efficient. We hope that through this new initiative we will form new partnerships and unlock new opportunities.

As USDOT moves forward with the Strategy, please do not hesitate to call on me, my Association, or the members I represent.

Sincerely,

Randall C. Morris
President, National Association of Regional Councils
Commissioner, Seminole County, Florida
Member, METROPLAN Orlando

Cc: Marion C. Blakey, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration
Joseph H. Boardman, Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration
Sandy Bushue, Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration
J. Richard Capka, Acting Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
Ashok G. Kaveeshwar, Administrator, Research and Innovative Technology Administration