



**National Association of Regional Councils**

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September 21, 2007

The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Senate Finance Committee  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) applauds and supports your Committee's efforts in putting more funding into the Airport and Airway Trust Fund reauthorization, as well as the Highway Trust Fund. With traffic congestion both in the air and on the ground defying boundaries and crippling infrastructure across the country, a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional program with increased funding will bring together and greatly assist policymakers and transportation practitioners and users in combating the challenges this problem poses to our transportation system. Your willingness to examine and find solutions to these insolvent trust funds is a necessary step in defining a commitment to improving our transportation system.

NARC, representing Councils of Government (COGs), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs), serves as the national voice for regionalism – advocating regional cooperation as the most effective way to address a variety community planning, development and infrastructure issues. COGs and MPOs are responsible for billions of dollars in transportation planning and programming each year, coordinating the overall planning and programming for projects and operations regionally throughout the country. These regional agencies are knowledgeable about the transportation issues that cut across city, county and, often times, state boundaries. Their expertise in regional transportation financing, planning and development, and new, emerging technologies will be an asset in the fight to combat congestion and improve our infrastructure. NARC strongly encourages the involvement of regional planning organizations as partners on any transportation proposals your Committee or respective personal offices might consider.

In addition to our support, NARC offers its assistance for this and all other transportation issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 202.986.1032 x 213 or [cmoore@narc.org](mailto:cmoore@narc.org). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Cameron Moore  
Executive Director