



January 4, 2006

Honorable Tom Lee
404 S. Monroe St.
Suite 409 The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Lee:

"There is no end in sight to Florida's growth, so we need to get serious about transportation."

*Robert W. Poole, Jr., Founder and past President of The Reason Foundation,
and current Director of Transportation Studies for the Foundation*

According to a December 22, 2005 Tampa Tribune story, Florida is the fastest-growing state in the U.S. (<http://www.tampatrib.com/FloridaMetro/MGBV2ZDLIHE.html>) with growth numbers now exceeding even California and Texas! While this information probably won't come as a surprise to anyone, this extraordinary growth presents unique challenges for Florida. One is transportation.

A negative consequence of this remarkable growth is a rapid escalation in the costs associated with transportation improvements – such as materials (asphalt, concrete, and steel), land values, and even the dirt used for fill. (*The old phrase, "cheap as dirt" no longer applies!*) Regrettably, these increased construction costs have forced FDOT to delay several vitally-important transportation projects ... perhaps even some in your district!

That's why I want to encourage you to use a significant portion of the additional \$3.2 billion in state revenue that is expected over the next two years to RESTORE these projects and help "**Keep Florida Moving!**"

Simply put, Florida's outstanding quality of life and vibrant economy is threatened by increasing traffic gridlock and escalating construction costs fueled by this growth. We need YOUR HELP to Keep Florida Moving!

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Callaway
FBT President

***Use the \$3.2 billion to
Keep Florida Moving!***

FBT – Your "Voice" for Transportation!

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