

SAMPLE Lawmaker letter No. 1

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Dear (legislator),

I am writing to urge you to make transportation as high a priority as the state's other pressing needs. They might not be as "sexy" as education or insurance, but roads are essential to everything we do. They are how we get to work, take our kids to school, and go to stores, churches and beaches. This list goes on.

It's easy to take transportation for granted because we use it every day. But it is painfully obvious that Florida's existing roads and highways need serious attention and that we need new roads as well.

Almost 900 people move to Florida each day. And they probably bring 300 cars with them, all traveling on the same roads, trying to get to the same places. The traffic congestion in my city is getting out of hand. What should be a 10-minute drive has turned into a 30-minute drive. I can understand gridlock that happens because a tractor-trailer jackknifes or there is an accident. But most of the roads are congested because there are just too many people using them.

We've got to get a handle on our state's growth. We can't stop the people from coming here (nor should we), so it's critical that we address transportation NOW before congestion turns into regular gridlock and safety becomes an even bigger issue than it already is. I hope you will consider innovative ways increase funding for transportation, and I hope you will leave untouched existing funds that are earmarked for transportation.