



October 21, 2003

## **TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS = ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT!**

Dear Governor Bush,

According to a report released by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in February:

- “Investments made by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) through the adopted work program will have a **significant impact on Florida’s economy**.
- Business benefits over the next 25 years will result in an **increase of \$44 billion in personal income** for Florida residents and **generate 88,000 new permanent jobs**.
- Direct benefits for personal travel, including reduced travel time, vehicle operating costs, and accidents, are estimated to be **\$74 billion**.
- Together, **these benefits yield \$5.50 for each dollar invested.** *(emphasis added).*

And in the May 19, 2003 issue of U.S. News, CNN Moneyline host Lou Dobbs wrote the following:

“If we’re trying to create jobs, let’s create jobs. Our roads, highways, and bridges are in sore need of repair. **Investing in our infrastructure would definitely create jobs and would immediately stimulate the economy, and the investment would be lasting.** “

**Transportation investments equal economic development!** Don’t divert millions from the Transportation Trust Fund; use them as promised to the public. Another \$200 million “raid” would cost \$1.1 BILLION economically!

## **STOP Highway “Robbery!”**

Floridians for Better Transportation  
Florida Transportation Builders Association  
Florida Airports Council  
Florida Public Transportation Association  
Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council  
AAA Auto Club South  
Trade and Transport Council  
Florida Limerock & Aggregate Institute  
Association of Florida Community Developers

Florida Chamber of Commerce  
Florida Ports Council  
Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers  
Florida Trucking Association  
Asphalt Contractors Association of Florida  
1000 Friends of Florida  
Florida Concrete & Products Association  
Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association