



October 23, 2003

REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION!

Dear Governor Bush,

On September 30th, the annual Urban Mobility Report, published by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University, was released and it showed that traffic congestion levels in 75 urban areas have increased costing these communities **\$69.5 billion each year** in lost productivity and wasted fuel. **Florida had the most congested cities in the top 58 urban areas** listed. In fact, **drivers in Orlando waste more time in traffic than do New York City drivers!** The eight Florida areas with the worst traffic congestion are:

- Miami-Hialeah
- Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood-Pompano Beach
- Orlando
- Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater
- West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach
- Fort Myers-Cape Coral
- Jacksonville, and
- Pensacola

Delays caused by congestion rob us of the most valuable commodity any of us has ...TIME. Congestion means missed business opportunities, increased operating costs, and lost time that could have been spent with families, friends, and loved ones. That's why it is imperative that you prevent another multi-million dollar "diversion" from the Transportation Trust Fund in 2004, and not include a transportation diversion in your proposed budget.

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