

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE

Agnoli, Barber & Brundage  
AIM Engineering & Surveying, Inc.  
Ajax Paving Industries  
Alico, Inc.  
ALLETE Properties Inc.  
Ambitrans Ambulance & Wheelchair Service  
APAC  
Arthur Rutenberg Homes  
Ave Maria University  
Barraco & Associates, Inc.  
Barron Collier Company  
Bonita Bay Group  
Bonita Springs Chamber of Commerce  
Bonita Springs – Estero Association of Realtors  
Cape Coral Construction Industry Association  
The Cape Coral Council for Progress  
Carter & Burgess, Inc.  
Centex Homes  
CH2M HILL, Inc.  
Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral  
The Chamber of Southwest Florida  
Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce  
Charlotte County Economic Development Office  
Charlotte-DeSoto Building Industry Association  
Citizens Highway Initiative Program  
City of Marco Island  
Collier Building Industry Association  
Collier Enterprises  
Community Engineering Services  
Consolidated Citrus, LP  
David Plummer & Associates  
DMJM Harris/AECOM  
Economic Development Council of Collier County  
Englewood-Cape Haze Area Chamber of Commerce  
Estero Chamber of Commerce  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Gilkey Organization  
Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce Inc.  
Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce  
Gulf Citrus Growers Association  
Harbourside Custom Homes  
Heidt & Associates, Inc.  
Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A.  
Hole Montes, Inc.  
Horizon Council of Lee County  
Johnson Engineering  
Kitson & Partners, LLC  
Landmar Group, LLC  
Landon Development Corporation  
Lee Building Industry Association  
The Lutgert Companies  
Lykes Bros. Inc.  
Ross W. McIntosh  
Miromar Development  
Naples Area Board of Realtors  
Parsons Brinckerhoff  
Pulte Home Corporation  
Realtor Association of Greater Fort Myers  
and the Beach, Inc.  
Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc.  
The Ronto Group  
South Charlotte County Coalition  
Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council  
SunTrust – Charlotte County  
Taylor Woodrow  
Touchstone at Rapallo, Inc.  
TR Transportation Consultants, Inc.  
Vanasse & Daylor, LLP  
WCI Communities  
WilsonMiller, Inc.  
Wyman Stokes Builder

August 29, 2007

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Speaker, Florida House of Representatives  
420 The Capitol  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Speaker Rubio:

On behalf of the 80-plus members and organizations affiliated with the Southwest Florida Transportation Initiative (SWFTI), we are writing to encourage you to take a forward-thinking approach to Florida's budget and revenue situation. Specifically, we would respectfully request that you consider a significant economic stimulus program focused on improving the state's transportation infrastructure.

As you know, your constituents throughout Florida continually rank transportation as one of the most important issues facing our state. An effective transportation network greatly improves mobility for freight and goods, helps to ensure the safety of our motoring families, and perhaps most importantly, adds greatly to our quality of life. Far too often, we find ourselves stuck in gridlock, which degrades each of these important factors and adds a significant level of frustration to our daily lives.

It may seem contradictory to suggest a transportation-related economic stimulus package when the state is facing the very real prospect of revenue shortfalls. However, this investment would be one of your most prudent decisions as Governor, since every \$1 spent for infrastructure results in \$7 of benefit to the state, and every \$1 billion in highway and bridge spending accounts for more than 47,000 jobs for our citizens. Clearly, there is nothing but good news here.

SWFTI encourages you to:

- 1) Identify a minimum of \$500 million, and as much as \$1 billion, in non-recurring funds to commit immediately to production-ready transportation projects throughout the state;
- 2) Protect the Florida Department of Transportation's Work Program from funding cuts;
- 3) Resist the temptation to divert any funding from the Transportation Trust Fund. Our long-term deficits are simply debilitating, and we need every resource available to address the state's critical transportation needs; and
- 4) Join your friends in the House and Senate in appointing a task force of experts from around the state to consider the future of transportation funding in Florida in the face of declining gas tax revenues.

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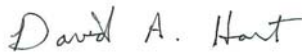
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Speaker Rubio, SWFTI stands ready to be a resource during this time of serious deliberation and review. Please don't hesitate to let us know how we can assist with the important work of the state and the Florida Department of Transportation.

With sincere appreciation for your consideration,  
SWFTI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Thomas E. Conrecode



David A. Hart



Susan Hebel Watts



Stephen D. Webb

cc: Secretary Stephanie Kopelousos, Florida Department of Transportation  
Secretary Stan Cann, District One-Florida Department of Transportation  
Senator Dave Aronberg  
Senator Burt Saunders  
Senator Mike Bennett  
Representative Gary Aubuchon  
Representative Mike Davis  
Representative Mike Grant  
Representative Denise Grimsley  
Representative Paige Kreegel  
Representative Garrett Richter  
Representative Nick Thompson  
Representative Trudi Williams