

February 3, 2010

Hon. Harry Reid, Majority Leader
S-221 The Capitol
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader
S-231 The Capitol
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510



Hon. Richard J. Durbin, Majority Whip
S-321 The Capitol
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Jon Kyl, Minority Whip
S-208 The Capitol
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senate Leaders:

On behalf of our 270 motoring clubs, non-profit associations and businesses with an interest in safe and efficient highways, the American Highway Users Alliance asks for your support for the highway bill extension and Highway Trust Fund restoration in the initial "jobs bill" pending in the Senate.

Our members represent millions of motorists, RVers, motorcyclists, as well as hundreds of truck and bus companies. It is critical to us that the Highway Trust Fund remains solvent, that the expired highway bill is extended through the current fiscal year, and that rescissions that took effect on September 30, 2009 are repealed.

Compared to last year, the Federal Highway Administration is distributing about \$1 billion less per month to the States in budget authority for highways. This cut is devastating all 50 state highway programs and will create serious impacts on the safety and efficiency of our nation's commerce corridors.

If the initial job bill is enacted with an extension of the highway bill and a restoration of funds to the Highway Trust Fund, FY10 contract authority will be restored to pre-rescission FY09 levels and the highway program will remain solvent through the summer construction season.

We also take this opportunity to urge your support for additional highway funding in future jobs bills to be considered this year. The House has proposed that \$27.5 billion be appropriated for highways in their bill. We strongly support this funding level and ask that the Senate concur with the House on this provision. The use of jobs bill funding for highways will not only add immediate construction jobs, but will also create and support hundreds of thousands of supply chain and induced jobs in every part of our country.

Thank you for your leadership on highway issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me at gregcohen@highways.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory M. Cohen". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Gregory M. Cohen
President and CEO