



# **The United States Conference of Mayors**

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## **Statement by U.S. Conference of Mayors President Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa Calls on Congress to Pass Clean, Timely Extension of Surface Transportation Bill**

### ***165 Bipartisan Mayors Send Letter to Congress Urging Expedited Action***

**Washington, DC** - "On the very day that President Obama is delivering a critical jobs speech, Congress is considering transportation legislation that could affect millions of workers.

"With nearly 2 million jobs on the line, and historic unemployment across the country, there is no more important issue facing Congress today than providing for a timely extension of the nation's surface transportation law. There is no more time to waste. We need Congress to act now.

"The clock is ticking and if an extension is not signed by the President before September 30, the entire program will be suspended and threaten the loss of 1.8 million jobs. That is an additional blow that our workers, our economy, and our crumbling infrastructure cannot bear.

"Once hundred and sixty-five Democratic and Republican mayors nationwide have sent a letter urging Congress to act swiftly and in a bipartisan manner to save these American jobs.

"We commend Chairman Boxer, Ranking Member James Inhofe and Committee Members in the Senate for their unanimous action this morning to pass a 120-day extension and we urge the House to take action now.

"American workers and their families are concerned with a paycheck, not partisanship. Congress must put politics aside and the people first and pass a clean extension of the transportation bill as soon as possible."

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