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**United States Senate**  
COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6075

February 26, 2003

Dear Colleague:

Among the top priorities for the Senate Banking Committee this year is reauthorization of the mass transit title of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) which expires on September 30, 2003. The full Committee and the Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation are planning an aggressive agenda of hearings in preparation for this important task. Additionally, we are in the process of conveying to the relevant Committees of jurisdiction our desire for the budgetary resources necessary to serve the growing transit needs across the country.

The Committee is interested in compiling information about specific transit needs in your state with respect to "new start" rail or high priority bus projects that you may wish to have considered in the reauthorization process. Accordingly, attached is a detailed questionnaire that you may have a member of your staff fill out to tell the Committee which transit projects are of priority to you. Please be aware that when TEA-21 expires on September 30, 2003, new start project authorizations expire as well, so please plan to include these in your response to the questionnaire.

In order to ensure the projects receive due consideration, we are requesting that they be submitted to the Senate Banking Committee not later than April 2, 2003. If you have any questions regarding the questionnaire, you may direct your inquiries to Sherry Little at 224-7391.

Sincerely,



Richard Shelby  
Chairman