

May 8, 2013

Senator Jay Rockefeller
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
254 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Senator John Thune
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
254 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairman Rockefeller and Ranking Member Thune:

We are writing to urge the swift confirmation of Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx to be the next Secretary of Transportation.

The undersigned are members of the Equity Caucus, which is formed by the nation's leading civil rights, community development, racial justice, economic justice, faith-based, health, housing, labor, environmental justice, tribal, public interest, women's groups and transportation organizations. The Equity Caucus drives transportation policies that advance economic and social equity in America. We believe that Foxx's background prepares him well to advance an agenda at the US Department of Transportation that affords all Americans the opportunity to participate and prosper.

As a mayor of a growing and diverse city, Foxx has shown a commitment to ensuring that transportation policies increase opportunities for all of the city's residents. During his tenure, Foxx has demonstrated how a transportation system of highways, light rail, street cars, and buses, can drive growth by serving a broad cross-section of city residents, as well as suburban and exurban commuters.

The undersigned organizations strongly believe that federal transportation investment must create a bridge to opportunity for all Americans – regardless of their race, income, age, physical ability or zip code. As such, we look forward to working with the Department of Transportation under Foxx's leadership to best leverage federal transportation policy and investments to:

- Expand access to jobs created by USDOT-funded projects for low-income people, individuals with disabilities, women, and communities of color.
- Support public transportation, as well as other essential transportation options (e.g. bicycling and walking) with dedicated federal funding.
- Bring federal transportation resources to the people and places most in need of accessible, affordable transportation options (i.e. low-income communities, rural communities, people with disabilities, and transit-dependent populations.).

- Promote compliance with and enforcement of existing civil rights and Americans with Disabilities Act provisions for transportation projects.
- Foster healthy, safe and inclusive communities.

We urge you to hold confirmation hearings soon and recommend Foxx's confirmation to the full Senate. We stand ready to support you to that end. For more information about the Equity Caucus, please contact, Anita Hairston, Associate Director, PolicyLink, at anita@policylink.org or 202-906-8034.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Biking and Walking
Alternatives for Community & Environment
Amalgamated Transit Union
Americans for Transit
America Walks
Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living
Center for Social Inclusion
Compliance USA Inc.
FRESC: Good Jobs, Strong Communities
Gamaliel Foundation
Green for All
Greenlining Institute
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
League of American Bicyclists
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Madison Area Bus Advocates
NAACP
The National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations
National Housing Conference
On Equal Terms Project
Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.
Partnership for Working Families
PolicyLink
Poverty and Race Research Action Council
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Safe Routes to School National Partnership
Transportation Equity Network
Women In Non Traditional Employment Roles