



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND

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THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
TRANSPORTATION (CHAIRMAN)
APPROPRIATIONS
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

August 31, 2009

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Senator Mark R. Warner
Congressman Frank Wolf
Congressman Rick Boucher
Congressman Jim Moran
Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Congressman Bob Goodlatte

Congressman Eric Cantor
Congressman J. Randy Forbes
Congressman Robert J. Wittman
Congressman Gerald E "Gerry" Connolly
Congressman Glenn C. Nye, III
Congressman Tom Periello

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to express my strong support of federal funding for the National Gateway initiative. The National Gateway is a public-private partnership that would create a highly efficient freight transportation link between the Port of Virginia and the Midwest by improving the flow of rail traffic between these two regions. This project is being developed by a coalition of states, local governments, businesses and economic development organizations.

The National Gateway initiative consists of over \$800 million in intermodal terminal and rail infrastructure projects that would be divided between the public and private sectors. When complete, this investment will deliver \$6.1 billion worth of public benefits nationally within ten years.

The private sector would fund 50% of the project, and a multi-state effort is being undertaken to secure \$258 million in federal transportation funds. In order to maximize the possibility of securing these funds, the National Gateway project is a proposed recipient of funds from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant program, the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization bill and general appropriations. I support this project as a recipient from any one of these sources. State governments along the route would provide the balance in matching funds based on their share of the clearance work in their respective states, with \$80 million being committed to date.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has incorporated the National Gateway in its statewide rail plan and has already committed funding to the initiative, including \$24 million for the critical Virginia Avenue Tunnel project.

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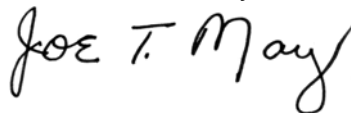
The National Gateway would provide environmental, economic development and congestion relief benefits across a six-state area, including substantial benefits that would accrue specifically to Virginia. The National Gateway delivers over \$1.2 billion of public benefits to Virginia by:

- Reducing CO2 emissions by over 650,000 tons
- Expanding rail market access potential for the Commonwealth by 141 percent
- Enhancing rail transportation infrastructure to attract new business and jobs
- Reducing the State's highway congestion by shifting freight from nearly 5 million trucks from highway to rail, saving over \$106 million in highway maintenance costs
- Saving over \$690 million in logistics costs for the State

In this time of economic uncertainty, we must take full advantage of these public-private investments in infrastructure to stimulate our economy and deliver high-paying jobs. I respectfully request your assistance in securing the federal transportation funds for the National Gateway from the TIGER discretionary grant program, the reauthorization bill, or general appropriations.

Thank you for your consideration of this important and beneficial project and I look forward to working with you to ensure the development of Virginia's transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe T. May". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe T. May