



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The Voice For Real Estate®

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March 9, 2009

The Honorable Tom Harkin
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Harkin:

I am writing on behalf of more than 1.2 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) to thank you for taking leadership to complete America's streets by sponsoring the Complete Streets Act of 2009. This legislation complements state and local efforts across the country and is vital to making our streets accessible and welcoming to all of our citizens regardless of age, ability, or chosen mode of transportation.

REALTORS® support improving mobility in communities so that all citizens have access to transportation means best suited to their needs. With this in mind, the NAR Board of Directors has officially embraced the concept of Complete Streets and it is our policy that transportation improvement planning should consider the needs of all transportation users along a transportation corridor and provisions should be made to accommodate a variety of users in transportation projects, where possible.

By completing the streets, we can reduce congestion and increase safety for everyone using the road. We will also be encouraging active, healthy living by making walking and bicycling safe options. In opening streets to multiple modes of transportation, we are giving people the option to get out of their cars, which promotes energy efficiency and reduces the production of greenhouse gases even as it saves them money. Complete streets also help create a sense of community in our rural areas, small towns and cities. Communities across the country have already seen the potential to promote economic growth by improving their streetscapes.

Once again, thank you for taking action on this important issue. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Charles McMillan, CIPS, GRI
2009 President

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