



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The Voice For Real Estate®

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December 10, 2009

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Blumenauer,

On behalf of 1.2 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), I thank you for your leadership in introducing the Active Transportation Act of 2009. The Act will encourage communities to create active transportation networks that provide safe and convenient access for pedestrians and bicyclists. Our research shows that people prefer not to be dependent on automobiles for the entirety of their travel needs. For example, a survey NAR conducted in 2007 showed that 83% of Americans would prefer more walkable communities so they could use their cars less and save energy. In our 2009 survey, 73% responded that the environmental benefits of walking and cycling were a convincing reason for the federal government to reorder its transportation priorities beyond traditional highway and bridge construction.

The National Association of REALTORS® supports the concept of “complete streets” as an approach to make communities more livable by addressing the needs of all citizens as a matter of course in transportation planning. The Active Transportation Act, through its competitive grant program, will provide an incentive to communities to make their streets complete by building facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

We look forward to working with you to ensure the passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vicki Cox Golder".

Vicky Cox Golder, CRB
2010 President
National Association of REALTORS®