



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

*The Voice For Real Estate®*

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March 1, 2005

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative:

I am writing regarding the Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (H.R. 3) that was recently introduced. The National Association of REALTORS® has identified transportation as an important issue for REALTORS®, has studied the issues in depth, and has adopted official policy on the reauthorization of transportation funding. In brief, we support the approach taken in predecessor authorizations, ISTEA and TEA-21, and urge that this basic approach be continued in the next reauthorization.

One of the toughest and most important issues you will have to decide is the overall level of funding for the next six-years. We urge you to approve a funding level that goes beyond merely maintaining current levels of congestion and that makes a substantial investment that will pay dividends in jobs and economic growth.

I am pleased to note that H.R.3 contains provisions that align with NAR's views on such topics as taxation of ethanol fuels, interest on the Highway Trust Fund, spending firewalls, flexibility in the Surface Transportation Program, the federal share for capital projects, and streamlined environmental review of transportation projects. We urge you to retain these provisions in the final bill.

An investment in transportation is an investment in quality of life for American citizens and in the machinery that drives the American economy. I urge you make it a substantial investment. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Al Mansell'.

Al Mansell, President  
National Association of REALTORS®