



January 20, 2010

The Honorable Patrick Quinn  
Governor  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 W. Randolph, 16-100  
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Governor,

The Transportation for Illinois Coalition (TFIC) is a strong supporter of your efforts to revitalize the State's economy and quality of life through transportation capital investment. Not only do such investments have direct and indirect job creation effects, but they also give our State the ability to compete in a global economy.

Mass transit is in a unique position to assist the State with these efforts. Transit gives Illinois citizens access to jobs, and it is also good for the environment. Moreover, according to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), every \$1 billion invested in mass transit creates 36,000 jobs.

On behalf of TFIC, we are asking you to make promised capital funding to transit a priority for 2010. So far, none of the transit funding that was approved by the State in both the Jump Start and Illinois Jobs Now! programs have been made available to transit agencies that are in desperate need of capital funding. Unlike state roads, transit in Illinois has no source of state funding for capital without an active statewide construction plan.

The Jump Start transit capital funding is supported by the State's General Revenue Fund (GRF). Delaying implementation of the Jump Start program for transit means facilities and equipment continue to deteriorate while capital costs continue to rise, operating costs increase with the use of outdated equipment, and transit riders suffer through diminished system performance and reliability.

When you approved HB 289 on April 3, 2009, you said, "...the bill that was passed will result in billions of dollars being invested in transportation in the State of Illinois. **It will provide jobs, right now, for people who need work, right now, this spring, this summer, this fall and into next year and beyond.**"

Transit capital is of vital importance to Illinois, not only for the jobs that it creates, but because it enables people to have access to jobs on a safe and reliable transit system. Please move forward to provide some of the promised \$3 billion in transit capital funding.

Sincerely,

Michael Kleinik  
Director, Chicago Laborers District Council-LMCC  
TFIC Co-Chair

Douglas L. Whitley  
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce  
TFIC Co-Chair