



CO-CHAIRS

DOUG WHITLEY

MICHAEL CARRIGAN

URGENT MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor Blagojevich, Secretary Sees and
Members of the Illinois General Assembly

FROM: Michael Carrigan and Douglas Whitley, Co-Chairmen
Transportation for Illinois Coalition

DATE: May 1, 2008

RE: IDOT Construction Projects Shutdown

It is imperative you know the Illinois Department of Transportation is pursuing severely restrictive actions that threaten to shutdown most of the very few construction projects that are currently underway in our state.

A Department directive to restrict vehicle usage because of a shortfall in the line item for purchasing motor fuel will not only idle the agency's employees, but will be devastating to all contractors, suppliers and their otherwise productive employees. Without the Department's inspections and approvals, dozens of projects, thousands of employees, and millions of dollars of work will be disrupted. Lost time and idle equipment during the prime construction season is in no one's best interests.

The TFIC is genuinely concerned with the agency's plight. It seems illogical to allow a shortage of a relatively few dollars to purchase motor fuel for the department's vehicles to disrupt construction and adversely affect so much. We request your help to find a means by which the agency can continue to function without work stoppage.

The TFIC asks that you help the Department find some way to manage the budget problem, provide additional line item transfer authority, pass a special supplemental just to replenish the exhausted FY08 motor fuel appropriation, or pass the Department's requested \$20 million dollar supplemental.

The members of the Transportation for Illinois Coalition believe it is imperative some positive action be undertaken without delay. Thank you for your assistance.