

Mahoney Delivers Funding for Charlotte Transportation, Infrastructure Projects

Funding for Road Construction and Expansion of the Charlotte County Family Services Center

(November 14, 2007)

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) today announced that an appropriations bill approved by the U.S. House of Representatives today included \$900,000 in funding for Charlotte County's priorities, as a part of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Conference Report. The bill funds our nation's highways and bridges, affordable housing programs, and makes other investments in our critical infrastructure.

Recently, President Bush threatened to veto this legislation.

"Our nations bridges are crumbling and our roads are clogged with congestion. Like with the WRDA bill, the President threat to veto this funding is clearly out of touch with the critical needs of Florida and the wishes of the American people," said Congressman Tim Mahoney.

The bill includes \$500,000 to expand US 41 and \$200,000 to expand Burnt Store Road, both of which are vital hurricane evacuation routes in Charlotte County. The legislation also included \$200,000 to expand the Charlotte County Family Services Center and retrofit the building so it can be used as a hurricane shelter.

"Investing in our roads and highways is not only a necessity for our economy but an issue of public safety. The money we have secured to widen Burnt Store Road and US 41 are two critical projects that we must start work on immediately. Building a sound transportation infrastructure is the foundation upon which Charlotte County will grow and prosper." said Mahoney.

The appropriations bill is awaiting final action in the Senate.

Florida's 16th District Transportation/HUD Appropriation

\$1,000,000 - Indian Street Bridge Project Martin County, FL will use this funding for right of way acquisition of land for the much needed Indian Street Bridge.

\$750,000 - Palm Beach County AVL/APC & Fare boxes

Palm Beach County, FL requested this funding to improve and expand their public transit system by acquiring an Automated Vehicle Location and Automated Passenger Counter system in their mass transit vehicles.

\$500,000 - US 41 Enhancements -

Charlotte County, FL sought this funding for improvements to US 41 in order to expand this vital South West Florida regional hurricane evacuation route.

\$300,000 - Hendry LaBelle Regional Park -

Hendry County will use this funding for starting the development of the planned recreational facilities at the Hendry LaBelle Regional Park.

\$200,000 - Charlotte County Family Services Center - Charlotte County, FL will use this funding for improvements to the Family Services Center, which provides vital community services. Funding will allow for the expansion of the building to include space for additional children's programming including Boys & Girls Clubs, Police Athletic Leagues, After School Programs and 4-H. The funds will also be used to retrofit the Center so that it may serve as a temporary shelter in the event of a natural disaster and will allow for the replacement of aging and damaged flooring and equipment damaged in Hurricane Charley in 2004.

\$200,000 - Evacuation Route Widening / Burnt Store Road Project -

Charlotte County, FL requested funding for widening Burnt Store Road to expand this vital South West Florida regional hurricane evacuation route.

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