

Mahoney Delivers Funding for Martin and Palm Beach County Transportation Projects

Funding for Indian Street Bridge and Palm Beach Transit Improvements

(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 nearly \$1.75 million in funding for local 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 \$1,000,000 to purchase land needed to build the Indian Street Bridge and \$750,000 to assist Palm Beach County's Transit System in purchasing new equipment.

"Investing in our roads and highways is not only a necessity for our economy but an issue of public safety. The moneys we have secured to help build the Indian Street Bridge is an important to growing Martin County's economy and vital for public safety" said Mahoney.

"Our seniors and neighbors with disabilities rely on Palm Tran to get to work, go to the doctor, and other necessities. This funding will help Palm Tran better serve those who rely on public transportation to live their lives," Mahoney added about the funding for the Palm Beach Transit.

The appropriations bill is awaiting final action in the Senate.

Florida's 16 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 capital 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.