



**Intelligent Transportation Society of America**  
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Washington, DC 20036  
[www.itsa.org](http://www.itsa.org)

April 20, 2011

The Honorable John L. Mica  
Chairman  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall, II  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2163 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John J. Duncan  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Highways and Transit  
B370-A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Highways and Transit  
B-375 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

On behalf of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America and the more than 100 undersigned allied stakeholders, we urge your support for H.R. 995, the *Smart Technologies for Communities Act of 2011*. This critical legislation will incentivize state and local investment in 21st century technologies to improve the condition and performance of the transportation network, optimize existing capacity, and create jobs. As the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure works to reauthorize the surface transportation bill this year, we stand ready to support your leadership to include these innovative technology solutions in the legislation.

At a time when governments at all levels are being asked to do more with less, investing in intelligent transportation systems (ITS) is a cost-effective way to ensure that our transportation system is safer, more efficient and user-friendly, all the while supporting job creation and economic growth. Cash-strapped city and state governments recognize that we need to invest in technology to connect transportation modes, empower travelers to make more informed choices, improve traffic management, and keep our nation's infrastructure in a state of good repair. They also recognize that smart technologies are essential for getting the most out of our existing transportation network, from roads and bridges to ports and public transit systems.

One example of a cost-effective, quick to deploy technology solution is the use of smart traffic signals that change based on real-world conditions. This technology returns \$40 to the public in time and fuel savings for every \$1 invested, reducing travel delays by 25 percent and harmful emissions by up to 22 percent. Another example is the use of real-time traffic information. The GAO found the benefit-cost ratio of a nationwide real-time transportation information system to be 25 to 1, with a \$1.2 billion investment returning more than \$30 billion in safety, mobility and environmental benefits.

As this nation transitions to a more accountable, performance-based transportation system, ITS technologies can provide accurate, real-time traffic and multimodal information to measure system performance, as well as the tools to actively manage the transportation network to improve results.

Further, state and local agencies that are considering new financing alternatives are increasingly turning to ITS technologies to improve efficiency and user convenience, from electronic tolling, smart cards and dynamic pricing systems to potential future alternatives like a mileage-based user fee that could vary by time of day, congestion level or other factors.

From cars that avoid crashes and ‘smart highways’ that reduce gridlock to freight management systems and buses that provide real-time information to commuters, ITS technologies are critical for reducing traffic collisions, congestion, fuel consumption and vehicle emissions.

This legislation would establish several competitively selected model deployment communities for existing transportation technologies, which could also serve as real-world research and testing sites for advanced ITS solutions such as variable mileage-based user fees and a wireless communications system between vehicles and infrastructure that could help drivers avoid crashes. The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that this connected vehicle network could potentially prevent or reduce the impact of 80 percent of unimpaired vehicle crashes, saving thousands of lives each year while also providing significant mobility, environmental and e-commerce benefits.

A modern transportation network based on the best available technologies is critical for keeping our people and economy moving. Recent studies have shown that investing in ITS creates a network effect throughout the economy, stimulating job creation across multiple sectors from the high-tech, automotive and consumer electronics industries to green jobs, engineering and telecommunications. The report also found that ITS investments provide a foundation for long-term benefits including government cost savings, economy-wide productivity, and an improved quality of life.

We thank you for considering the *Smart Technologies for Communities Act* and stand ready to support your leadership to include this measure in the transportation reauthorization bill, as it will advance the deployment of cost effective, 21st century technologies which are vital for creating a safer, more efficient transportation system that will help our nation reclaim its role as an innovation and economic leader.

Thank you for your efforts to advance our nation’s transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Scott F. Belcher  
President and CEO  
ITS America



Ann Flemer  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Chair, ITS America Board of Directors

**Supporting Organizations (signatories attached):**

**Industry Leaders**

Affiliated Computer Services, Inc., A Xerox Company  
Aldis, Inc.  
ARCADIS U.S., Inc.  
AT&T  
Avego  
Berkeley Transportation Systems, Inc.  
Carr & Duff, Inc.  
Chrysler  
Clark Hill PLC  
Consensus Systems Technologies (“ConSysTec”)  
Cubic Transportation Systems  
Daktronics  
Delphi

**National Organizations**

AAA  
Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers  
American Highway Users Alliance  
American Public Transportation Association (APTA)  
American Public Works Association (APWA)  
American Traffic Safety Services Association  
Association for Commuter Transportation  
Association of Global Automakers  
CTIA – The Wireless Association  
Digital Energy Solutions Campaign  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (ITIF)  
Information Technology Industry Council (ITIC)

Eberle Design Inc.  
Econolite Group, Inc.  
Federal Signal Corporation  
Ford Motor Company  
General Motors  
GEWI North America  
Global-5 Communications  
Global Traffic Technologies  
Harris Corporation  
HNTB Infrastructure  
IBM  
INEX/ZAMIR Technologies  
Intel  
Image Sensing Systems  
Intelligent Devices, Inc.  
Iteris, Inc.  
Kapsch TrafficCom IVHS  
LeddarTech Inc.  
LogicTree Corporation  
McNamara Technology Solutions, LLC  
MeritorWABCO  
Microsoft  
Motorola Solutions, Inc.  
Mygistics, Inc.  
Nakanishi Research and Consulting, LLC  
NTEL-X  
Olsson Associates  
Open Roads Consulting, Inc.  
Perceptics LLC  
Peracchio & Company, LLC  
PIPS Technology, A Federal Signal Company  
PRC Associates  
Qualcomm  
Raytheon Company  
RouteMatch Software  
RGA, LLC  
Rhythm Engineering  
Savari  
Sensys Networks  
Siemens  
Strategic Telemetry  
Telvent USA Corporation  
TransCore  
Vaisala Inc.  
Verizon  
Volkswagen Group of America  
Volvo Group North America  
Ygomi, LLC

Institute for Transportation and Development Policy  
Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)  
International Road Federation  
National Association of State EMS Officials  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Pew Center on Global Climate Change  
Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)  
Ridesharing Institute  
Transportation for America (T4 America)

#### **State & Local Agencies and Organizations**

Carnegie Mellon University  
Florida MPO Advisory Council  
Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association  
ITS California  
ITS Connecticut  
ITS Florida  
ITS Heartland  
ITS Michigan  
ITS Midwest  
ITS New York  
ITS Pennsylvania  
ITS Rocky Mountain Chapter  
ITS Tennessee  
ITS Virginia  
ITS West Virginia  
ITS Wisconsin  
Metro Transit (Minneapolis, MN)  
Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)  
Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute  
Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology (PATH), University of California at Berkeley  
Road Commission for Oakland County, MI  
The University of Memphis  
The University of Michigan  
Traffic Improvement Association (Birmingham, MI)  
Utah Transit Authority

**See attachment for additional signatures**

Robert L. Darbelnet  
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Mayor Richard J. Kaplan  
Chairman  
Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Advisory Committee (MPOAC)

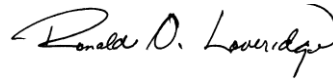
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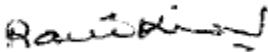
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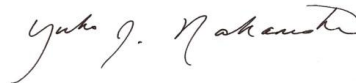
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Delphi



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Federal Signal Technologies



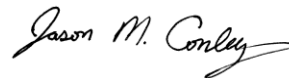
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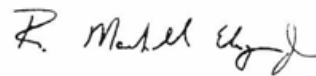
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PRC Associates



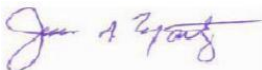
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Mrs. Sibylle Rupprecht  
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International Road Federation



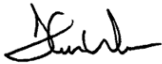
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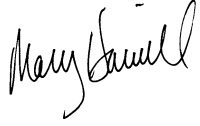
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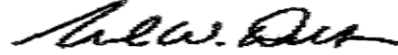
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NTEL-X

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RGA, LLC

