



# LiUNA!

February 17, 2012

**TERRY O'SULLIVAN**  
*General President*

**Senator Harry Reid**  
**Majority Leader**  
**United States Senate**  
**Washington, D.C. 20510**

**ARMAND E. SABITONI**  
*General Secretary-Treasurer*

**Senator Mitch McConnell**  
**Minority Leader**  
**United States Senate**  
**Washington, D.C. 20510**

*Vice Presidents:*

**VERE O. HAYNES**

**MIKE QUEVEDO, JR.**

**TERRENCE M. HEALY**

**Dear Senator Reid and Senator McConnell:**

On behalf of the 500,000 members of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA), I want to express our support for S. 1813 the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). I would also like to commend the Senate for crafting a bipartisan proposal that will fully fund surface transportation programs for the next two years at current investment levels. The process by which the Senate has considered MAP-21 stands as a model of what the Congress can accomplish when partisan bickering is laid aside in order to work together in the best interest of the Nation.

America's roads and bridges were once the envy of the world. Today, unfortunately, too many of them are congested, aging and desperately in need of repair. Nearly a fourth 1/4 of U.S. roads, 66 million miles of them, are in poor condition, and more than one in four bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. Traffic congestion costs commuters and businesses \$170 billion a year, while wasting 4 billion gallons of gas annually. America's bridges, typically built to last 50 years are, on average, 43 years old. Meanwhile, the construction industry faces unemployment levels that still far out-pace the national average, which was at 17.7% in January, 2012.

MAP-21 will reauthorize the Federal-aid highway program for two fiscal years and consolidate the number of Federal surface transportation programs by two-thirds 2/3, reducing duplicative programs and targeting federal resources on key national goals. Funded at the Congressional Budget Office's baseline level, equal to current funding levels plus inflation, the legislation also included important program reforms that will expedite project delivery. Additionally, the legislation strengthens the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program (TIFIA), which provides direct loans, loan guarantees and lines of credit to surface transportation projects at favorable terms that will leverage private and other non-federal investment in transportation improvements.

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*Feel the Power*



Senator Reid and Senator McConnell  
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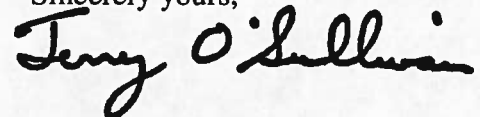
Infrastructure investments create jobs and return value to the American economy, making it possible to grow wealth for both workers and businesses. For millions of Americans, and hundreds of thousands of LiUNA members, a robust transportation bill is perhaps the most important single piece of legislation that Congress could enact this year.

LiUNA supports the bipartisan legislation that has been crafted and is under consideration in the Senate. It is important that this effort continue in the spirit that has characterized much of the Bill's consideration so far. Efforts to include extraneous, non-germane amendments should be rejected, so that the desperately needed based surface transportation programs can be reauthorized as soon as possible.

This important legislation will put millions of Americans to work, rebuilding the United States' crumbling transportation networks. MAP-21 will provide essential investments that can create good, high-road jobs and get our economy back on track. I urge you to support S. 1813.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "T" and "S".

TERRY O'SULLIVAN  
General President

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CC: Members of the U.S. Senate