



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

April 3, 2009

Chairman James L. Oberstar  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar:

Today, in response to your letters of February 27 and March 20, 2009 requesting information on the transportation and infrastructure formula programs funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), Mr. Don Winstead of my office submitted the required reports to [T&I.recovery@mail.house.gov](mailto:T&I.recovery@mail.house.gov). In addition, on March 17 and 19, 2009 I submitted the required certifications pursuant to Sections 1607 and 1201 of the Recovery Act, respectively.

Florida has moved quickly to implement these programs and I am pleased to provide this update to you and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The Florida Department of Transportation established early contact with the state's 26 metropolitan planning organizations, 67 counties and numerous cities and other transportation partners throughout the state. As you are aware, Florida identified nearly \$7 billion in "ready-to-go" projects for stimulus funding. I am pleased to report that prioritizing projects and locally determined priorities to fit within the \$1.367 billion available to Florida has been completed and Florida is well positioned to make full use of all Recovery Act funds within the "use-it-or-lose-it" deadlines.

Lists of the projects to be funded with statewide flexible funds, local-level funds, transportation enhancement funds and rural transit funds were submitted to the Florida Legislative Budget Commission (LBC) on April 1 and action on the list is anticipated by April 16. This step is required under state law to obtain budget authority for the Recovery Act funds. Upon approval, the projects will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration and the Section 1511 Certifications will be made.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection also moved quickly to solicit and identify ready-to-go local government environmental infrastructure projects and is currently awaiting award of federal Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) moneys to begin obligating them. The Department is evaluating and prioritizing some \$1.2 billion in projects for the \$132.3 million available to Florida, with particular focus on "green" projects and assistance

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to disadvantaged communities. Because these projects will all be under construction no later than February of next year, the impact on jobs and local economies will be felt soon.

Materials on these projects are available on the new Florida Recovery Website at <http://flarecovery.com>. The four transportation project lists can be located at: <http://flarecovery.com/documents> and a summary of the CWSRF program and other stimulus programs that the Department of Environmental Protection is implementing is available at: <http://flarecovery.com/about/state-and-local-projects/infrastructure>. Mr. Chairman, thank you for your excellent leadership and the Committee's continued support for transportation infrastructure improvements throughout our nation.

Sincerely,



Charlie Crist

cc: The Honorable John L. Mica  
Ranking Member