



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Jessica Conaway
(617) 557-7342
(617) 851-7968

TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT COALITION FORMS TO ADVOCATE FOR INCREASE IN TRANSPORTATION REVENUE

BOSTON (April 26, 2007) – A diverse group of business, environmental, public interest and planning organizations today announced that they have formed a first-of-its-kind statewide coalition to support actions that will address the state’s transportation finance woes. In a letter to Legislators the groups said, “We are united in our belief that we cannot allow our transportation systems to deteriorate further and that we should not cease advancing strategic expansion and enhancement projects that will provide immense economic and environmental benefits to the Commonwealth.”

Naming itself the Massachusetts Transportation Investment Coalition, this group formed in response to the alarming findings recently released by the state’s Transportation Finance Commission. These findings indicate that the Commonwealth faces a \$15 - \$19 billion dollar maintenance and operations funding shortfall over the next 20 years.

Phil Warburg, President of the Conservation Law Foundation and a forming member of the coalition, said “The Transportation Finance Commission has articulated a bleak outlook for the future of our transportation system if we don’t take action. It is critical that we work together to address our funding challenges.” Richard A. Dimino, President & CEO of A Better City, added, “There is no easy solution to this problem. But, not taking action will put our future economy, our safety, and our environment at risk.”

Still growing, the Transportation Investment Coalition is comprised of almost 20 organizations and includes many business, industry, labor, environmental, environmental justice, and municipal and regionally focused organizations. Tim Brennan, Executive

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Director of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, located in West Springfield, said “I joined this coalition because I think it is incredibly important for a diverse group of organizations, from throughout the state, to work together and support solutions to our transportation finance problems.”

Transportation Investment Coalition Members:

Joe Bator, Chair, Transportation Priorities Task Force
Urban Land Institute

David Begelfer, CEO
NAIOP Massachusetts (National Association of Industrial and Office Properties)

Eugene B. Benson, Legal Counsel & Program Director
Alternatives for Community and Environment

Eric Bourassa, Consumer Advocate
MASSPIRG

Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Francis X. Callahan, Jr., President
Massachusetts Building Trades Council, AFL-CIO

Marc Draisen, Executive Director
Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Richard A. Dimino, President & CEO
A Better City

Kristina Egan, Director
Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance

Brian Gilmore, Executive Vice President, Public Affairs
Associated Industries of Massachusetts

Jim Gomes
Environmental League of Massachusetts

Abbie R. Goodman, Executive Director
American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts (ACEC/MA)

Aaron Gornstein
Citizens' Housing and Planning Association

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Mossik Hacobian, Executive Director
Urban Edge

Ginny Hamilton
Fair Housing Center of Greater Boston

Richard Keenan, Executive Director
Boston Society of Civil Engineers Section/ASCE

Art Kinsman, Director of Government Affairs
AAA Southern New England

Joe Kriesberg
Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations

Anne M. Lynch, Executive Director
Massachusetts Motor Transportation Association

John Pourbaix, Executive Director
Construction Industries of Massachusetts

Paul Regan, Executive Director
MBTA Advisory Board

William J. Rizzo, Jr., President
The Engineering Center

David Straus, Assistant Program Manager
MassCommute

Phil Warburg, President
Conservation Law Foundation

Jay Wickersham,
Boston Society of Architects Civic Initiative for Smart Growth

The Transportation Investment Coalition Mission:

To meet mobility needs, foster economic growth, create jobs, increase economic competitiveness and sustain a healthy environment, the Massachusetts Transportation Investment Coalition advocates for an efficient, equitable and effective transportation system for the Commonwealth. To this end, the Coalition supports legislation, programs and policies to adequately fund the repair and maintenance of the Commonwealth's existing transportation system, as well as investment in strategic expansion and enhancement projects.

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