August 3, 2010

Mayor Richard J. Kaplan
Chair, Florida MPOAC
605 Suwannee Street
MS28B
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0450

Dear Mayor Kaplan:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the efforts of the Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) to identify the state’s transportation needs and funding issues. I appreciate and applaud the efforts of the council to take a pro-active stance in developing strategies for maintaining and improving Florida’s transportation systems.

As Governor, I remain committed to the development and maintenance of safe, dependable transportation systems that ensure the efficient movement of people and goods throughout the state. Successful transit systems enhance the lives of every family as they travel to work and school, every business owner seeking to move goods to market, and every tourist visiting the Sunshine State. Our commitment to Florida’s roads, railways, ports, airports and a spaceport is vital to improving residents’ quality of life, diversifying Florida’s economy and managing Florida’s explosive growth. The funds spent to improve our transit systems provide critical boosts to our state economy by creating thousands of jobs.

I share your concerns regarding availability of funding to support our transportation systems and look forward to hearing about the council’s progress on this effort. You may provide any updates to Ms. Lisa Saliba, Policy Coordinator of my Transportation and Economic Development Unit. Ms. Saliba can be reached at (850)487-1884 or mail her at:

Ms. Lisa Saliba, Policy Coordinator
Governor’s Office of Policy and Budget
Transportation and Economic Development Unit
The Capitol, Room 1801
Tallahassee, FL 32399
I continue to seek innovative strategies for addressing our vast transportation needs. It is an important public service to ensure that Florida stays on track in meeting its transportation needs while balancing the priority funding needs for health, education and public safety for our most vulnerable citizens. I am appreciative that the council is a partner in the work before us.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist