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**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

James H. Oberstar  
Chairman

May 2, 2008

John L. Mica  
Ranking Republican Member

David Heymsfold, Chief of Staff  
Ward W. McCurragher, Chief Counsel

James W. Coon II, Republican Chief of Staff

The Honorable Charlie Crist  
The Honorable Ken Pruitt  
The Honorable Daniel Webster  
The Honorable Steven Geller  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

URGENT

Dear Governor Crist and Members of the Florida Senate:

As the Legislature concludes its business it is absolutely imperative that the legislature grant final approval to proceed with the Central Florida Commuter Rail project. Failure to do so will have dire consequences affecting all transportation projects and federal transportation and infrastructure revenues to the state, affecting all districts.

Members of the Crist Administration and the Legislature should know that in 2009 the Congress will be required to take up a new five-year transportation and infrastructure project authorization bill. Inaction by the Legislature on this project will significantly damage Florida's credibility and standing on every future project that requires federal authorization. I have today consulted with Congresswoman Corrine Brown who chairs the Railroad Subcommittee, and who is my senior Democratic Transportation and Infrastructure Committee colleague in the House, and she joins me in expressing our concern at this critical juncture.

We cannot stress enough the importance of approving this project prior to the conclusion of this session or if necessary a special session of the Florida Legislature.

Sincerely,

John L. Mica  
Republican Leader  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

JLM/trr

cc: Florida Senate Members