



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: July 27, 2015

CONTACT: Alexander Marion
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**MINER JOINS BIPARTISAN GROUP OF MAYORS TO
CALL ON CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP TO PASS
TRANSPORTATION BILL AND SIGNIFICANTLY
INCREASE FUNDING**

*Miner Cites Interstate 81 Project As Important Example of Why An
Immediate, Long-Term Solution for Federal Transportation Funding is
Needed*

*Miner: Fixing Our Infrastructure Should Unite Leaders to do the Right
Things for our Constituents*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner joined a bipartisan group of 104 U.S. mayors from across the nation Friday as they released a letter to Senate and House leaders calling for the swift passage of legislation that will significantly increase transit, highway and safety program commitments to cities, and provide six years of funding certainty in the transportation reauthorization that is set to expire on July 31.

“Fixing our infrastructure should not be a Democratic or Republican issue; it should unite leaders to do the right things for our constituents,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “Federal transportation funding means the difference between building a twenty-first century infrastructure so cities can thrive and the economy can grow and our communities being left behind.”

Mayor Miner a vocal record of advocating for federal aid for infrastructure projects. Earlier this year, the Mayor took meetings with U.S. Sen. Charles E. Schumer and U.S. Reps. John Katko, Bill Shuster, and Paul Tonko to discuss infrastructure funding priorities. The Mayor has attended the Clinton Global Initiative meetings in Denver, Colorado to discuss infrastructure. In 2014, the Mayor submitted testimony to the U.S. Senate committee on the Environment and Public Works regarding local infrastructure needs.

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Mayor Miner added: “As our community works to develop a solution for the future of Interstate 81, we know the lion’s share of funding will come from federal sources, including the Highway Trust Fund. It is critical for Congress to make a lasting change to infrastructure funding that we can count on.”

The group of mayors highlighted the fact that current federal commitments are insufficient to maintain, much less enhance, our nation’s transportation network. Public transit maintenance needs exceed \$86 billion and the highway and bridge repair backlog is an estimated \$808 billion. Since 2009, federal surface transportation commitments have remained stagnant.

For the full text of the mayors’ letter, including a list of signatories, please visit www.syr.gov.net.

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