



UNITED STATES CONGRESS

**Help Ensure that Streets are Safe and Accessible for All
Give Everyone Access to Safe and Complete Streets!**

May 5, 2011

Dear Colleague,

On Thursday, May 5, we introduced the Safe and Complete Streets Act of 2011, and we invite you to cosponsor. As Congress moves to update the nation's transportation priorities it is essential that we make policy changes to ensure our transportation investments create streets and roads that are safe for everyone who uses them whether they are driving, walking, riding a bicycle, or getting on a bus.

A top priority for infrastructure investments should be safer streets for our communities and constituents. The Safe and Complete Streets Act ensures that this goal is achieved, by requiring states and Metropolitan Planning Organizations to write and adopt their own policies to ensure that federally funded transportation projects take steps to safely accommodate all motorists, freight vehicles, public transportation riders, bicyclists, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities. The bill is flexible and cost-effective, allowing several exemptions in line with the Federal Highway Administration's recommendations.

Hundreds of communities and 23 states have already adopted their own Complete Streets policies. Places with Complete Streets policies have shown that thinking of all users at the beginning of the transportation planning process saves both money and lives, and this legislation will ensure wise use of our federal transportation investments, in coordination with state and local transportation investments.

If you would like to co-sponsor, or if you have questions, please contact Joel Bailey in Representative Matsui's office at x 5-7163 or Kate Ostrander in Representative LaTourette's office at x 5-5731.

Sincerely,

/s
Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

/s
Steven LaTourette
Member of Congress