

February 10, 2015

**RE: Urgent Legislative Alert, Your Action Needed on Transportation Trust Fund**

Dear Mayor:

On Monday, the League joined key members of the Forward NJ Coalition to support efforts to replenish the State’s vital Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) and to increase funding for local roads and bridges. Senate President Sweeney and Speaker Prieto have proposed a significant increase in TTF Local Aid funding - from the current level of about \$190 million, per year, up to \$400 million.

As you know, the reauthorization of the Transportation Trust Fund is a major legislative priority for local governments.

League Executive Director, Bill Dressel noted, “...we need to fund our transportation infrastructure and we need to do it quickly. Our focus is on the local level and we truly appreciate efforts to double the Local Aid TTF funding. ... Local officials know that investments in these assets (local roads and bridges) must be made. Failure to do so can compromise the safety of the public, the economic vitality of our communities and the security of our neighborhoods.”



*League Executive Director Bill Dressel notes that a failure to determine a funding source has property tax implications.*

New Jersey's municipalities are responsible for 64 percent (28,539 center line road miles) of our roads. County governments are responsible for another 22 percent (6,649 center line road miles). Together, local governments are responsible for 39 percent of our bridges. Local

governments bear the brunt of dealing with our state’s crumbling infrastructure, but have not received the funding we need to make the necessary improvements without impacting property taxpayers.



*Cathleen Lewis, the director of Public Affairs and Government Relations for the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club and Mayor of Lawrence Township (Mercer) speaks at the press conference.*



*Tom Bracken, President of the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce and Chair of ForwardNJ kicks off the press conference in support of a re-authorization of the Transportation Trust Fund.*

At the League’s Mayors’ Legislative Day, DOT Commissioner Fox said that we are at the “ten yard line.” At this critical juncture, **we urge to speak to your Legislators and the Governor’s office to ask for their commitment to support a solution to the Transportation Trust Fund and for an increase in the local aid funding.**

For more on this press conference, please see the following media links:

NJTV: <http://bit.ly/1KEA7ft>

NJ Spotlight: <http://bit.ly/16P1y7y>  
Star-Ledger/Advanced Media: <http://bit.ly/1KIUN48>  
Bergen Record: <http://bit.ly/1M9GUj0>

For further information contact Mike Cerra, Director of Government Affairs at [mcerra@njslom.com](mailto:mcerra@njslom.com) or 609-695-3481 ext. 120

Very truly yours,

Brian Wahler  
President, NJLM  
Mayor, Piscataway

Timothy C. McDonough  
Chairman, NJLM  
Transportation  
Trust Fund Task Force  
Mayor, Hope

Robert D. Jackson  
Co-Chairman, NJLM  
Transportation Trust Fund  
Task Force, Mayor,  
Montclair