



Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
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**Safe Routes to School
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saferoutespartnership.org



**International Mountain
Bicycling Association**
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American Trails
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California Bicycle Coalition
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June 6, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boxer,

We, the undersigned California organizations, greatly appreciate your remarks from your May 25, 2011 press conference indicating that there will be dedicated funding for bicycling and walking in the transportation bill. We ask that you deliver on that promise by preserving the Transportation Enhancements, Safe Routes to School and Recreational Trails programs. Funding for bicycling and walking currently represents only about 1.5% of all federal transportation funding, but bicycling and walking represent 12% of all transportation trips.

We are very concerned about the fate of these programs as Congressman John Mica, Chair of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, has publicly stated that his transportation bill will make funding for bicycling and walking optional.

Without dedicated funding, critical federal funding for bicycling and pedestrian facilities and projects will be decimated. Prior to 1992, bicycling and walking projects were eligible for federal transportation funding but had no dedicated funds. All states combined spent just \$2 million per year on these projects. Even today, state DOTs disproportionately return funding from bicycling and walking programs whenever rescissions happen. California is no exception—Cal Trans has returned 20% of Transportation Enhancements funds over the years.

Our communities desperately need funding for bicycling and walking. In California, 20% of traffic deaths are pedestrians and bicyclists. This is because so many of our communities have been built to move as many cars as quickly as possible. We have a long way to go to make it safe and convenient to walk and bicycle in our communities by creating networks of infrastructure such as sidewalks, bike lanes, trails and crosswalks. Our communities struggle with burgeoning traffic congestion, low levels of physical activity, traffic emissions that impact air quality and greenhouse gases, and lack of affordable transportation options. Bicycling and walking is a cost-effective way to address all of these challenges. But we can only make progress with dedicated funding.

We are counting on you in your role as Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to stand up for funding for bicycling and walking and to preserve dedicated

funding for Transportation Enhancements, Safe Routes to School and Recreational Trails. We greatly appreciate your leadership on transportation.

Sincerely,

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, San Francisco
Safe Routes to School National Partnership, Fairfax
International Mountain Bicycling Association, Sacramento
American Trails, Redding
California Bicycle Coalition, Sacramento

Adobovelo, San Gabriel
All City Management Services, Inc., "The Crossing Guard Company", Santa Fe Springs
Alta Alpina Cycling Club, South Lake Tahoe
Bay Area Bicycle Coalition, Oakland
Beach Cities Cycling Club, Redondo Beach & the So Bay
Bicycle Club of Irvine, Irvine
Bicycling Advocates for Rancho Cordova, Rancho Cordova
Bike Bakersfield, Bakersfield
Bike Buddies Bike Club, La Mesa
Bikestation, Long Beach
Brentwood Bike Club, Brentwood
California Conservation Corps, Sacramento
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network, Oakland
California WALKS, Berkeley
Center for Nutrition and Activity Promotion, Chico
Channel Islands Bicycle Club, Ventura
Chico Velo Cycling Club, Chico
City of Mission Viejo, Mission Viejo
City of Oxnard, Oxnard
Coachella Valley Community Trails Alliance, Palm Springs
Coalition for Sustainable Transportation, Santa Barbara
Cool the Earth, Kentfield
Dahon North America, Duarte
Different Spokes San Francisco, San Francisco
Different Spokes Southern California, Los Angeles
East Bay Bicycle Coalition, Oakland
Ecology Action, Santa Cruz
Endangered Habitats League, Los Angeles
Equestrian Coalition of Orange County, Orange County
Equestrian Trails Int'l (ETI), Trabuco Canyon
Fallbrook Land Conservancy, Fallbrook
Firesafe Council Orange County Canyons, Silverado
First United Methodist Church, Redding
Folsom Area Bicycle Advocates, Folsom
Fresno County Bicycle Coalition, Fresno
Fresno Cycling Club, Fresno
Gianni Cycling Club, Occidental

Goleta Valley Cycling Club, Goleta
Green Octopus Consulting, Long Beach
Hilride Progression Development Group , Kensington
Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters Association, Eureka
Humboldt Trails Council, Eureka
Kathleen Mohla Design, Redding
Lassen Land and Trails Trust, Susanville
Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Los Angeles
Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, Los Angeles
Los Angeles Unified School District-Nursing Services, Los Angeles
Los Angeles Walks, Los Angeles
Marin County Bicycle Coalition, Fairfax
NorCal High School Cycling League, Berkeley
Oxnard City Corps, Oxnard
Pacoima Beautiful, Pacoima
Palm Springs Sustainability Commission, Palm Springs
People of Progress, Redding
People Power, Santa Cruz
Prevention Institute, Oakland
Public Health Law & Policy, Oakland
Redlands Water Bottle Transit Company, Redlands
Ryan Snyder Associates, Los Angeles
Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates, Sacramento
Sacramento Bicycle Kitchen, Sacramento
Safe Kids Greater Sacramento, Carmichael
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition, San Diego
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, San Francisco
San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition, San Luis Obispo
Save Burney Falls, Burney
SCOR Cardiac Cyclists Club, Brea
Shasta Cascade Bicycle Coalition, Redding
Shasta Living Streets, Redding
Sierra Express Bicycle Club, Grass Valley / Nevada City
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, San Jose
Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, Santa Rosa
South Bay Wheelmen, Redondo Beach
Strategic Alliance for Healthy Food and Activity Environments, Oakland
The City Project, Los Angeles
The Santa Cruz Hub For Sustainable Transportation, Santa Cruz
Trails and Bikeways Council of Greater Redding, Redding
TransForm, Oakland
UC Davis, Davis
Velo Allegro Cycling Club, Long Beach
Walk Oakland Bike Oakland, Oakland
WALKS Sacramento, Sacramento
WalkSanDiego, San Diego