



THERESE MURRAY
PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1007

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TEL. (617) 722-1500

September 1, 2011

Richard Davey, Secretary
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
10 Park Plaza, Suite 3170
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Secretary Davey:

We write today with regard to the \$450,000 in federal Rural Roads funding that is at risk of being lost to Cape Cod and Islands due to the federal budget cuts unless it can be obligated by September 30.

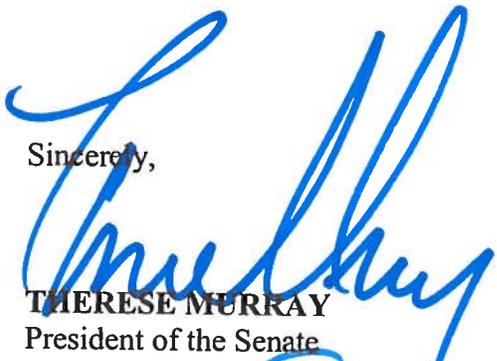
The funds would be used by the Cape Cod Commission to look at alternatives to bicycle paths on Route 6A from Bourne to Orleans, by the Vineyard Commission to do design guidelines that would help keep their rural feel for shoulders, road edges, pedestrian paths, and bike paths, and the Nantucket Commission for a Pleasant Street streetscape. For pedestrian and bicyclist safety, the Cape Cod Commission would like to look at alternatives that are parallel to Route 6A on Cape Cod that could be connected to the main roads.

We respectfully request that MassDOT approve the Cape and Islands Rural Roads Scope of Work entitled "Rural Roads Preservation Through Cape Cod's Multi-Use Path Plan" so that it can be presented as a TIP amendment, and to approve a 15 day comment period on the draft TIP amendment. Further, we ask that MassDOT convene and attend two MPO meetings; the first MPO meeting is to approve the TIP amendment for public comment for 15 days, the second MPO meeting is to vote to approve the TIP amendment.

Assuming the TIP can be amended within this tight time frame, the Cape Cod Commission has been told by the Federal Highway Administration that they will honor the full funding allocation for the Cape Cod and the Islands.

Thank you for allowing us to express our support for this very important funding. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices, should you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



THERESE MURRAY
President of the Senate



SARAH PEAKE
State Representative
Fourth Barnstable District



RANDY HUNT
State Representative
Fifth Barnstable District



DANIEL WOLF
State Senator
Cape and Islands District



CLEON TURNER
State Representative
First Barnstable



TIMOTHY MADDEN
State Representative
Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket