

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
4TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

August 13, 2014

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DEAN, NEW JERSEY DELEGATION

<http://chrissmith.house.gov>

Mr. Joseph Bertoni
Acting Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue
Ewing, New Jersey 08618-2309

Dear Acting Commissioner Bertoni,

Knowing that the safety of New Jersey drivers is of paramount concern to you and the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), I write to you today to ask for your assistance in mitigating a significant safety problem which currently exists in Neptune Township.

As you may know, officials from Neptune Township, NJDOT, Monmouth County and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) have met several times to discuss the ongoing need to widen New Jersey State Highway 66. The need to address the traffic, congestion and safety of this coastal evacuation route has been reviewed for the better part of the past decade. I am told the last meeting on the topic was held June 23, 2014, at NJDOT headquarters in Trenton. Though the project had previously been given a high priority status, little action has ever been taken. As a result of the delays in implementation, numerous parts of the project have already been completed by private developers.

Because Route 66 is an emergency evacuation route for Neptune Township as well as Asbury Park, Bradley Beach, Ocean Township, Loch Arbour, Deal, Tinton Falls and other area municipalities, its importance to public safety cannot be overstated. As a result, I believe it is essential to keep this thoroughfare in the best possible condition and make any and all improvements which can add to its safety and accessibility. To that end, I would like to meet with you and the appropriate partners to examine ways to achieve the shared goal of keeping residents safe by alleviating the congestion and bottlenecks on this stretch of roadway.

Enclosed please find a letter I received from the Township of Neptune which outlines the project history and the municipality's need for assistance. Please contact Jo Schloeder at my Freehold Constituent Center at 732-780-3035 to arrange for a mutually agreeable time during

Co-Chairman of the following member organizations: Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease • Bi-Partisan Coalition for Combating Anti-Semitism • Lyme Disease Caucus
Coalition for Autism Research and Education • Global Internet Freedom Caucus • Bi-Partisan Congressional Pro-Life Caucus • Bosnia Caucus • Poland Caucus
Ad Hoc Congressional Committee for Irish Affairs • Congressional Caucus on Human Trafficking • Vietnam Caucus • Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition

which we can brainstorm ways to bring the Route 66 widening project to fruition and ensure the safety of drivers on this important evacuation route.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Member of Congress

CHS:jss