



Kathryn A. DeFillippo, Chair
Mary D. Ameen, Executive Director

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Chris Smith
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

I am writing regarding the proposed inclusion of funding for the Route 35 Bridge Over North Branch of Wreck Pond project in Wall Township in the next surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for northern and central New Jersey, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) oversees the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). It is our understanding that the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee requires that any projects funded through the reauthorization legislation either be currently in the TIP or that they can and will be added to it. This letter serves to confirm that the above-referenced project is currently in the NJTPA's TIP, listed as #14429.

It is our understanding that the funding for the project will be used to rehabilitate or replace this structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridge, which was built in 1931.

This project is fully consistent with *Plan 2045: Connecting North Jersey*, the current long-range plan for the NJTPA region. *Plan 2045* encourages investing federal transportation funds to rehabilitate or replace existing infrastructure as needed in order to improve mobility and safety.

Thank you for your ongoing support of federal transportation investment in the NJTPA region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mary D. Ameen'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary D. Ameen
Executive Director