

# Office of Mayor and City Councilmembers

Phone: (949) 361-8322 Fax: (949) 361-8283

E-mail: CityCouncil@san-clemente.org

Jim Evert, Mayor
Tim Brown, Mayor Pro Tem
Robert "Bob" Baker, Councilmember
Jim Dahl, Councilmember
Lori Donchak, Councilmember

George Scarborough, City Manager

May 18, 2012

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein United States Senate 750 "B" Street, Suite 1030 San Diego, CA 92101

Via Facsimile: (202) 228-3954

RE: Cardin-Cochran Agreement to Additional Activities in Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21)

#### **Dear Senator Feinstein:**

I am writing to urge you to support the Cardin-Cochran agreement to Additional Activities in MAP-21, a provision that gives local governments a voice in transportation planning decisions that affect their streets. As you deliberate to produce a consensus transportation bill, please prioritize giving local elected officials a voice in constructing street features such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and bikeways.

San Clemente is leading the way in Orange County. On January 18, 2012, the San Clemente City Council made Orange County history. In response to 90% of our town's surveyed residents who want a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly community, the Council unanimously passed the following resolution: "San Clemente's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan shall be fully integrated with the City's updated Circulation Element so as to comply with the letter and spirit of California's Complete Streets Law, thereby creating a balanced multimodal transportation system for all."

Continuing its progress in transportation planning, on March 10, 2012, two members of our City Council, two members of our General Plan Advisory Committee, a City Traffic Engineer, City Planner, and PEDal Founder, Brenda Miller, toured Long Beach, California by bicycle. The goal of the officials' tour was to understand how easily bicycles and automobiles can coexist when infrastructure projects are designed and implemented from a multi-modal perspective. The tires-on-the-ground perspective was essential for San Clemente's leadership, particularly since we're presently rewriting our General Plan.

Multi-modal transportation in Long Beach has revitalized that town's economy by attracting new businesses and enabling existing ones to expand. All of that continues to be catalyzed by non-motorized transportation infrastructure tailored to local needs. Consequently, the investment by the City of Long Beach--one which the City of San Clemente hopes to emulate--has produced an undeniable value despite the global economic doldrums. We'll need the Federal Government to continue to allow local jurisdictions the freedom to tailor projects to their communities so as to maximize the efficiency of Federal transportation funds.

Under MAP-21, funding programs for walking and bicycling are combined into one program called "Additional Activities." The Cardin-Cochran agreement gives local governments--whose leaders know the needs of their constituent's best--the option to access a small portion of "Additional Activities" funds.

The Cardin-Cochran agreement **does** the following:

- Devolves a small portion of federal transportation funds through sub-allocation and competition to local governments-whose leaders know the transportation needs of their constituent's best.
- Provides flexibility and funding certainty to local planning entities to ensure that a portion of their gas taxes are utilized to address the transportation needs in their communities.

The Cardin-Cochran agreement does not:

- Change eligibility of projects or funding levels of the "Additional Activities."
- Require that federal dollars are spent on bicycling and walking; those decisions will be made by local governments and MPOs in what types of projects they apply for.

As Mayor of a bellwether Orange County city, I urge you to preserve the Cardin-Cochran agreement in your work in the United States Senate. Thank you for your continued support for the citizens of San Clemente.

Sincerely,

Jim Evert Mayor

cc: City Council



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Via Facsimile: (202)228-2382

May 18, 2012

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

RE: Cardin-Cochran Agreement to Additional Activities in Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century

(MAP-21)

Dear Senator Boxer:

On behalf of the City of San Clemente, thank you for your work on the Environment and Public Works Committee. I appreciate your support for the Cardin-Cochran agreement to Additional Activities in MAP-21, a provision that gives local governments a voice in transportation planning decisions that affect their streets. Your leadership was instrumental in getting critical language into the base bill. Thank you for your prioritizing giving local elected officials a voice in constructing street features such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and bikeways.

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### City of San Clemente

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### The Cardin-Cochran agreement **does not**:

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As Mayor of a bellwether Orange County city, I respectfully request your continued efforts to preserve the Cardin-Cochran agreement in your work in the United States Senate. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jim Evert Mayor

cc: City Council



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May 18, 2012

The Honorable Ken Calvert 44<sup>th</sup> Congressional District 4160 Temescal Canyon Rd., Suite 214 Corona, CA 92883 Via Facsimile: (951) 784-5255 (202) 225-2004

RE: Cardin-Cochran Agreement to Additional Activities in Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21).

Dear Congressman Calvert:

I am writing to urge you to support the Cardin-Cochran agreement to Additional Activities in MAP-21, a provision that gives local governments a voice in transportation planning decisions that affect their streets. As you deliberate to produce a consensus transportation bill, please prioritize giving local elected officials a voice in constructing street features such as sidewalks, crosswalks, and bikeways.

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Sincerely,

Jim Evert Mayor

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