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PRESS RELEASE

Mayor Gary R. McCarthy Joins National Bipartisan Campaign to Call on Congress to Pass Transportation Bill

Schenectady, NY – As part of the national Stand Up For Transportation Day of Action that includes events across the country, Mayor Gary McCarthy today called upon Congress to renew funding for the federal transportation bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), which is set to expire on May 31, 2015. Mayor McCarthy joins a bipartisan group of over fifty mayors in this day of action along with over 300 organizations across the country, representing more than 150 cities and spanning 40 states.

“Investing in infrastructure creates construction jobs today and it builds the foundation for the jobs of tomorrow,” said Mayor Gary McCarthy. “This year, we will pave over ten miles in Schenectady, but we need Congress to provide the additional resources to keep up with and expand on this investment.”

In addition to mayors, a broad coalition of transportation providers, businesses, transportation system users, state partners and others are calling on Congress to pass a long-term transportation bill that increases investments in our transportation infrastructure. On the national level, a new analysis from American Public Transportation Association shows that more than \$227 billion in economic productivity is at risk over the next six years without long-term federal investment in transit.

Schenectady has approximately 160 miles of roads and dwindling federal investment has continued to put strain on the City. Additionally, the City has 13 bridges that require maintenance and repairs. The nation faces a \$160 billion backlog just to bring public transit and road systems into a state of good repair. The lack of a long-term federal funding bill creates local funding uncertainty, which jeopardizes transportation project planning and discourages private sector investment. The lack of a commitment on the federal level can stifle local business investment and job creation in our city and nationwide.

To learn more about Stand Up for Transportation Day please visit www.standup4transportation.org or follow the Day of Action on Twitter at #SU4T.

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