



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

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BISHOP DELIVERS \$45 MILLION FOR DISTRICT IN TRANSPORTATION BILL

High Level of Funding Due to Congressman's Work on Committee

Washington, DC- Congressman Tim Bishop today announced a major victory for transportation throughout the 1st Congressional District. Bishop secured \$45 million in projects for his district in the transportation bill, which passed the House of Representatives today. Bishop was able to deliver this significant level of funding in the Transportation Bill as a result of being an active member of the powerful Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

"This money will be used to improve transportation in our communities and create local jobs," Bishop said of the bill which had been stalled for more than a year. "This process has been more of a marathon than a sprint, but the results for this district make it worth the wait."

Bishop fought to include projects throughout the district in the bill; some of the local highlights are \$8 million for Route 112; \$1.6 million for a new Fire Island ferry terminal in Patchogue; \$1 million to improve Maple Avenue in Smithtown; \$1.2 to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety on Main Street in Riverhead; \$6.4 million in improvements to Montauk Highway in the Mastic-Shirley area; \$5 million to construct a 3.3 mile Greenway Trail from East Setauket to Port Jefferson Station; \$1.5 million for various road and pedestrian safety improvements along Main Street in Patchogue; and many other projects.

The six-year, \$286.4 billion highway and transit bill will get construction projects moving and create jobs across the country. It is estimated that every \$1 billion spent on roads creates 47,500 jobs, and these jobs spin off an additional \$6.2 billion of economic activity. The House and Senate have now passed the bill and President Bush is expected to sign it within days.

Bishop worked closely with local and state officials, plus community groups and constituents to identify local needs to fight for in Congress. Additionally, Bishop identified many of the projects by holding several meetings and forums throughout the district.

"Throughout this process, I have worked together with leaders throughout the district and fought to address the needs they've raised," Bishop said. "They did an outstanding job of informing me about how I could be most effective for our community."

In addition to projects specific to his district, Bishop also worked to ensure that key regional transit priorities were authorized for funding in the bill. Projects that help transportation for all New Yorkers including East Side Access, the Long Island Railroad's Third Track Project, the Nassau Hub project, and the Second Avenue Subway were all included in the bill.