

May 13, 2015

Randall S. Blankenhorn Illinois Department of Transportation 2300 S. Dirksen Parkway Springfield, IL 62764

Dear Mr. Secretary,

NAIOP Chicago, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association, has over 450 members in the greater Chicagoland area who understand the critical role that infrastructure plays in keeping the State of Illinois an efficient and strong transportation hub in North America.

On behalf of NAIOP Chicago, we support your commitment to infrastructure investment and soliciting input from Illinois citizens through the statewide series of "Listening Tours" in conjunction with the Illinois Capital Development Board.

The Chapter appreciates the principles outlined in the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) State Capital Program including the emphasis on transparent, performance-based project selection and adequate funding for both highways and transit. While our members sincerely appreciate and understand the importance of continued investments into our transit system, NAIOP Chicago is particularly interested in seeing an emphasis on the highway, bridge and rail infrastructure improvements that directly impact our region's ability to compete as a global leader in the movement of goods and resources.

NAIOP Chicago wants to see a competitive and strong Illinois and would like to work together to make that happen. NAIOP Chicago's Legislative Committee and PAC work actively on legislative issues to further the industry's public policy agenda. As the leading organization for developers, owners and investors of office, industrial, retail and mixed-use real estate in Illinois, our members represent a powerful voice in commercial real estate in the State.

We have encouraged our member base to participate in the Listening Tour taking place in their area and to complete the Infrastructure Survey online. Please let us know if there are other ways we might assist your State agency in this effort.

Sincerely,

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