THE TRANSPORTATION LOCKBOX

In response to a 30-year vision for the state's transportation infrastructure, the Legislature is looking to create a lockbox to protect transportation funds to ensure they go to transportation projects.

Our transportation vision for Connecticut includes:

- Metro-North infrastructure upgrades that will improve safety and reduce commute times.
- Roadways, bridges, and interchanges that keep motorists safe while improving traffic flow and reducing congestion.
- Commuter bus and rail services that are safe, frequent, and reliable.
- Pedestrian and bicycle systems that improve accessibility and commuting options.
- Transit support for residents with special needs, including our senior and disabled population.
- Efficient freight rail and highway networks to deliver goods and products without costly delays.

None of these important projects will happen without a lockbox in place to ensure transportation dollars are invested as intended. The lockbox is a constitutional issue and will require a super-majority, or 3/4 favorable votes, in the House and Senate in order to be on the ballot for ratification in 2016.

For updates on these issues and more, sign up for my e-newsletter at www.housedems.ct.gov/McCarthyVahey

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE CRISTIN MCCARTHY VAHEY

PROUDLY SERVING THE 133RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT FAIRFIELD

FAIRFIELD UPDATE

Dear Friends,

Fairfield enjoys the benefits of multiple transportation systems. Flanked by I-95 and the Merritt Parkway, we are also served by three Metro-North stations as well as the Greater Bridgeport Transit bus system. In recent years, the town has designated bicycle routes and continued to improve and enhance sidewalks, particularly in our downtown area.

Investment in mass transit is key to improving our economy. It spurs economic development and job growth and continues to make Fairfield an inviting place for large, medium and start-up businesses. It will attract young people building their future and allow our seniors to remain in the community even when they can no longer drive.

Connecticut's transportation strategy must focus on all elements of our infrastructure – rail, buses, roads, bridges, and our information highway – as well as on making our downtowns more walkable and accessible.

All the best,

Cristin Mc Carthy Valey

Legislative Office Building, Room 4001 Hartford, CT 06106-1591 Capitol: 800-842-8267 | Cristin.McCarthyVahey@cga.ct.gov

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CRISTIN MCCARTHY VAHEY

PROUDLY SERVING THE 133RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT • FAIRFIELD

INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Strategic investments in our transportation system will attract businesses and young people. Providing viable rail and transit options gives families an opportunity to save money and improve their quality of life.

A SAFER AND FASTER TRAIN COMMUTE

As one of the busiest commuter rail lines in the nation, with 39 million passengers annually, the New Haven line is a critical element of our economy. Let's Go CT! seeks to invest \$20 billion over the next 30 years to:

- Re-align existing tracks and put all four tracks into service.
- Create a two-track local "subway" type service and two-track express service.
- Upgrade train signals, including positive train controls.
- Track repair and replacement.
- Rehabilitation and/or replacement of fixed and movable bridges.

Links to both the Let's Go CT! plan and the Transportation Finance Panel's final report can be found on my website at www.housedems.ct.gov/McCarthyVahey.

PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS

Whatever mode of travel we choose, in the end, we are all pedestrians. I worked on legislation last session that passed to become Public Act 15-41, an Act Concerning Bicycle Safety. The new law takes important steps forward in Connecticut's efforts to protect our commuters and encourage the use of alternative means of transportation. This session I will advocate for pedestrian safety measures that will protect those who approach and enter a crosswalk.

Vibrant downtowns that are pedestrian and bicycle friendly are vital ingredients to creating truly livable cities. We are taking important steps to make sure those who choose to leave their cars at home and bike or walk to work can do so safely.



Investment in our bridges has improved safety



Last Spring, Rep. McCarthy Vahey joined fellow bike and pedestrian advocates on a 40-mile bicycle trip from New Haven to Hartford in support of Public Act 15-41.

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