



American Planning Association
Ohio Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

July 13, 2021

Dear Senator Brown,

On behalf of the Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association, I am reaching out to urge your support of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee finishing its work on the transit title of transportation reauthorization before the September 30 expiration.

Reforming and renewing the current federal transportation program is a top priority for APA Ohio's 1,200+ members. Simply put, this federal program has more direct impact on local and regional planning than any other federal program. The requirements, guidance, and funding provided it set a vision for the kinds of transportation solutions cities, small towns, and rural communities should pursue.

As you know, both the Senate Environment and Public Works and Commerce committees recently finished work on their sections of comprehensive surface transportation legislation. The House also completed its part of the process when it passed the Invest in America Act (H.R. 3684). While I understand the legislative path ahead is uncertain given the complexities of evolving infrastructure discussions, I also know that failure to move reauthorization forward quickly will mean delayed projects and funding uncertainty at a time when communities are only just beginning to recover.

APA Ohio strongly supports quick action by the Senate Banking Committee to complete its work on a transit title. The committee's role in the reauthorization process is pivotal. We look forward to helping you advance this critical work ahead of the fiscal year-end deadline.

Thank you for your leadership and service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Rachel S. Ray'.

Rachel Ray, AICP
President, APA Ohio

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Emily Phillis'.

Emily Phillis
Chair, APA Ohio Legislative
Committee

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Christine Dersi Davis'.

Christine Dersi Davis, AICP
Executive Director, APA Ohio