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| |  | | --- | | **Tuesday, April 29, 2013 130429-1**  **In this Issue:**  **President Obama Expected To Nominate Mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina For Top Transportation Post**  **U.S. Senators Feinstein and Boxer Co-Author Letter Supporting Federal New Starts Program** | | |
| **President Obama Expected To Nominate Mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina For Top Transportation Post**  Within the next hour, President Barack Obama is expected to nominate Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx to serve as his next Transportation Secretary. Mayor Foxx, who would replace outgoing Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, is currently serving his second term as the Mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina. Mayor Foxx has previously worked at the U.S. Department of Justice and later served as a staff member for the House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary. During his tenure as Mayor of Charlotte several infrastructure projects have been advanced, including the expansion of the city’s LYNX streetcar, the creation of the Charlotte Regional Intermodal Facility and building a new runway at Charlotte/Douglas International Airport. Next month, the U.S. Senate is expected to hold confirmation hearings on the Foxx nomination.  **U.S. Senators Feinstein and Boxer Co-Author Letter Supporting Federal New Starts Program**  Last week, U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Barbara Boxer (D-CA) co-authored a letter signed by several other U.S. Senators that expressed their strong support for the Federal New Start program. The Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) discretionary New Starts program is the federal government's primary financial resource for supporting locally-planned, implemented, and operated transit "guideway" capital investments. The correspondence, a copy of which is attached for your review, urges the Chair and Ranking member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development to provide $1.98 billion for the New Starts program in their Fiscal Year 2014 spending bill. Our New Starts projects, the Purple Line Extension and the Regional Connector, are recommended for Full Funding Grant Agreements in President Obama’s Fiscal Year 2014 Budget that was released earlier this month. The Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development is slated to issue its funding recommendation for the New Starts program and other transportation programs within the next several months. Our agency will continue to closely monitor Congressional actions related to the funding of all federal transportation programs. We thank Senators Feinstein and Boxer for their consistent support of our ongoing efforts to enhance the mobility of their constituents. Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130429_FY14_%20New_Starts.pdf) to view a copy of the New Starts letter co-authored by Senators Feinstein and Boxer.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130429_FY14_%20New_Starts.pdf> |
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