DONALD A. MANZULLO
16TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

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REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN, TASK FORCE ON
MANUFACTURING

February 2, 2009

The Honorable Pat Quinn
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

It cannot be underestimated the challenges you face as you assume the leadership of our great state. The stain left by our past governor will not be easily removed, but I know you will do your best to move Illinois forward.

I was pleased to hear your mention of a construction bill among your early priorities. For the past 6 years, the State of Illinois has gone without a major capital program and our citizens deserve action now to fix our crumbling roads and bridges.

In 2005, the Illinois Congressional Delegation banded together to deliver a record amount of federal transportation funding to the State of Illinois, a 33 percent increase over the last federal transportation bill. Amazingly, the $6.2 billion we delivered to the state has sat untouched by our state's leaders the past 4 years. In the meantime, vital road and transit projects in the northern Illinois district I represent have gone unfulfilled as our residents have continued to suffer with unnecessary traffic congestion and hazardous road conditions. And the costs of the projects have continued to escalate further out of reach.

Under your new leadership as Governor, I respectfully request that you reach out to the members of the Illinois General Assembly and make the passage of a capital bill your number one priority in the new legislative session. Please consider that the stimulus bill Congress is debating provides just $1 billion to Illinois for roads and transit. A capital bill – with $6.2 billion in federal funds plus the money added from Illinois' gas tax and sales tax on fuel – is the real stimulus plan that will put Illinoisans back to work

Thank you for your leadership on this important matter. I look forward to working with you to help Illinois move forward.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Manzullo

Donald A. Manzullo
Member of Congress
16th District of Illinois

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