

May 3, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
361-A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Reid and Senator McConnell:

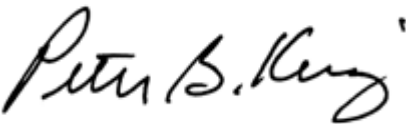
On behalf of the American Public Works Association's (APWA) 29,000 members, I am writing to urge you to bring the Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Act of 2010 (S. 3249) to the Senate floor for consideration. APWA supports efforts to reauthorize the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program in the bill. This program provides valuable grants to state and local governments to mitigate against disasters before they occur and helps to reduce the costs of disasters to taxpayers, helps save lives in disasters, and protects individuals and public infrastructure from damage. Reauthorization of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program is critical, as the current program is due to sunset on September 30, 2010.

The strong all-hazards authorization amount which increases from \$180 to \$200 million over the next 5 fiscal years in this bill will save taxpayers money. Findings by the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council show that every dollar invested in mitigation by state and local governments yields \$4 in cost savings to the taxpayer.

APWA members plan, design, build, operate, manage, administer and maintain the transportation, water supply, sewage and refuse disposal systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential to our nation's economy and way of life.

Again, we strongly urge you to bring S. 3249 to the floor for consideration and look forward to working with you to further strengthen our nation's mitigation programs. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Laura Berkey, Government Affairs Manager, in APWA's Washington, D.C. Office at (202) 218-6734 or lberkey@apwa.net.

Sincerely,



Peter B. King  
APWA Executive Director

cc: Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Leadership:  
Senator Joseph Lieberman, Chairman and  
Senator Susan Collins, Ranking Member  
APWA Emergency Management Committee