NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

County Government with a Unified Voice!

RICHARD D. GARDNER NJAC President Warren County Freeholder JOHN G. DONNADIO Executive Director

October 10, 2013

Honorable Troy Singleton 20000 Horizon Way, Suite 190 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

RE: ASSEMBLY, NO. 3177

Dear Assemblyman Singleton:

Thank you and Tyla Housman for taking the time out of your busy schedules to meet with me the other day to discuss A-3177. As you know, this legislation would establish a State Transportation Infrastructure Bank within the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust.

As we discussed, I look forward to providing you with language that would protect Local Aid allocations under the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF). As has been well documented, county governments maintain over 6,792 centerline miles of roads, 13,584 lane miles of roads, and 7014 total bridges that along with municipal roadways carry an estimated 55% of the State's traffic. Moreover, county governments have an annual need of \$86.0 million for resurfacing, \$277.0 million for bridges, \$84.0 million for construction and reconstruction, and \$67 million for design and contract administration for a total need of \$514.0 million per year. The current Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) allocates \$175.0 million per year as Local Aid with \$78.75 million each for counties and municipalities, now \$7.5 million in discretionary funding, and an additional \$25.0 million for county bridges leaving county governments responsible for financing at least \$403.0 million of its total need through the collection of local property taxes.

With these staggering numbers in mind, one of NJAC's long-term goals and objectives has been to enhance Local Aid allocations to the levels recommended by the Blue Ribbon Transportation Commission in 2003 as a means to mitigate the reliance on the collection of local property taxes. Importantly, we're also committed to advocating for innovative solutions that will provide our counties with a stable, dependable, and long-term source of revenue to finance critical transportation projects. Thank you again for your time and consideration, and I look forward to working with you on this important and timely initiative.

Very truly yours,

John G. Donnadio, Esq. Executive Director