

***For Immediate Release***

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**ATSSA Praises Selection of Congressman LaHood as U.S.  
Transportation Secretary**

**Fredericksburg, Va.** - The American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA), a national roadway safety association, commends President-elect Obama's selection today of Congressman Ray LaHood (R-Ill.) as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

ATSSA Chairman Henry Ross stated, "ATSSA is enthused by the selection and recommends prompt confirmation from the Senate. Congressman LaHood's bi-partisan record makes him the ideal candidate to address the complex issues faced by the U.S.-DOT in the coming year, including the stimulus package and the 2009 transportation reauthorization."

ATSSA urges President-Elect Obama and the incoming Transportation Secretary to include roadway safety infrastructure funding as part of both the stimulus package and the 2009 transportation reauthorization bill. Investing in roadway safety infrastructure will pay double dividends. First, dollars focused on roadway safety will meet the president-elect's goal of sustaining and creating 2.5 million jobs. Secondly, new or updated safety features will save lives on America's roadways and will reduce the societal costs of crashes, estimated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to be \$230 billion annually. ATSSA's *Toward Zero Deaths* reauthorization policy provides specific recommendations on where to focus investments in roadway safety infrastructure, which in turn reduces the number of deaths on roadways every year. Currently, approximately 42,000 individuals die on America's roadways annually. ATSSA looks forward to working with Congressman LaHood on addressing these vital transportation issues.

The American Traffic Safety Services Association, an international trade association, is located in [Fredericksburg, Va.](#) Since 1969, ATSSA has represented companies and individuals in the traffic control and roadway safety industry. More than 1,600 ATSSA members provide the majority of features, services and devices used to make our nation's roadways safer. These include pavement markings, road signs, work zone traffic control devices, guardrail, and other roadside safety features.

On the web: [www.ATSSA.com](http://www.ATSSA.com)

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