

TAPE FOR WEEK OF JULY 7

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT HOUSE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE, ON WHICH I SERVE, RECENTLY PASSED A BILL WHICH AUTHORIZES SOME \$89 BILLION TO BE SPENT ON HIGHWAY PROGRAMS ALL OVER THE NATION. THESE MONIES WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARD ALLEVIATING A PROBLEM WHICH HAS BECOME SUCH A BURDEN TO US IN WEST VIRGINIA -- THE POOR CONDITIONS OF OUR ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

IF WE ARE TO IMPROVE OUR ECONOMIC BASE IN SOUTHERN WEST VIRGINIA, A GOOD PLACE TO BEGIN IS BY ENSURING THAT OUR INFRASTRUCTURE IS SOUND AND CAPABLE OF FULFILLING THE NEEDS OF BUSINESS AND COMMERCE THROUGHOUT OUR REGION. WE NEED GOOD STRONG ACCESSIBLE ROADS TO TRANSPORT OUR GOODS, PARTICULARLY OUR COAL, TO MARKETS AND OTHER POINTS OF DESTINATION. WE HAVE SEEN IN RECENT YEARS A DECIDED LACK OF INTEREST AND MONEY AVAILABLE TO FIX UP OUR ROADS, SO I AM HOPEFUL THAT THIS ACTION TAKEN BY THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE WILL BE ENACTED INTO LAW AND THE WORK WILL BEGIN TO BRING OUR ROADS UP TO DATE.

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.