



U.S. Congressman

**Nick Rahall***WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****OCTOBER 9, 1990****CONTACT: STEVE SPINA****PHONE: (202) 225-3452****RAHALL AND CAPERTON TO MEET ON ROADS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) today announced that he and West Virginia State Governor Gaston Caperton will meet this Wednesday, October 10th to discuss the Highway Reauthorization Program, on which Congress is currently holding hearings.

"Chairman Mineta, who is going to be in the driver's seat when the highway bill is under consideration next year, and myself have had several open and frank discussions about West Virginia's highway needs, and I want to convey those thoughts to the Governor," said Rahall.

"What we need to do now," urged Rahall, "is to sit down and discuss how we need to prepare so that West Virginia is properly served by the Highway Trust Fund. Every state in the union is going to want to have their hand in that cookie jar, so we have to make sure West Virginia's already up on the counter."

Rahall pointed out the five criteria used in deciding how to fund proposals during this decade that Surface Transportation Subcommittee Chairman Norman Mineta (D-CA) listed when he toured West Virginia's highways two weeks ago:

- o How will the highway help the nation compete in the international marketplace?
- o How will it help local and state economies?
- o How will it improve the quality of life?
- o How will it make traveling safer?
- o Will the funds for the highway be reliable and forthcoming on the state level?

"It is my hope that through a partnership with Governor Caperton and the state legislature, the State of West Virginia, united as a whole, can reach an agreement on which road proposals they support. Then we in the delegation can continue our fight to see that West Virginia gets its fair share of the trust fund," said Rahall.

Rahall said that the meeting between Governor Caperton and himself would take place at 9:00 a.m. at the Governor's office.

There meeting had originally been scheduled for Monday, October 8th, but was rescheduled due to the budget negotiations in Washington.

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