



U.S. Congressman  
**Nick Rahall**  
*WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**RAHALL PLEASED WITH TRANSPORTATION ASSIGNMENTS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The U.S. House Committee on Public Works and Transportation today doled out assignments on subcommittees for the 102nd Congress, and U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV) could not have been more pleased with the choices.

Rep. Rahall was assigned to the subcommittees on Surface Transportation, Water Resources, and Aviation.

"With these subcommittee roles, I will be able to continue effectively serving West Virginia and the 4th District," said Rahall. "Infrastructure should be one of the major issues put before Congress next year, and I intend to be there fighting for West Virginia."

The Surface Transportation Subcommittee, of which Rahall has remained a ranking Member, has been assigned the formidable task of parceling out the Highway Trust Fund money in the upcoming legislative session. The Chairman of the Subcommittee is U.S. Rep. Norman Mineta (D-CA), who toured southern West Virginia at Rep. Rahall's invitation last September.

Aviation is the subcommittee on which the fortune of the Wayport concept rests. Wayports, a futuristic concept of regional transfer hubs, would be located in rural areas and would serve to unclog the ever increasing airport congestion from which many of the nation's largest airports now suffer.

Last year, Rahall lobbied fervently for the Wayport concept and called upon experts from the 4th District to plead the cause. Included in that group were Jim Casto, Associate Editor of the Huntington Herald-Dispatch, Matt Miller, of the Huntington Chamber of Commerce and Larry Salyers, manager of the Tri-State Airport.

Rahall was also appointed to the Water Resources Subcommittee, an area of Public Works that is of significant importance to southern West Virginia and is reflected in Rahall's legislation, introduced last year and reintroduced again this year, to protect federal funding of the Waste Treatment Construction Grant Program.

The Reagan Administration saw fit to try and phase out the federal funding mechanism of the Waste Treatment Construction Grant Program by replacing it with the so-called State Revolving Loan Fund," said Rahall. "We have seen this kind of action before from that Administration. It is just another way of making states pick up the tab for more basic public works projects."

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An EPA National Needs Survey reported that over \$26 billion in unmet construction needs for waste treatment existed, and altogether unmet need for municipal water pollution control totals \$83.5 billion under the Clean Water Act's framework. Rahall objected last year to the Administration position and sought legislation to return the law to its original form.

"That is \$83 billion more than the states can afford to pay right now," said Rahall. "By using my assignment on the Water Resources Subcommittee, I am in better position to work this bill through the legislative maze and fight for the basic water treatment of which my district is in desperate need."

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