

AN OPEN LETTER TO CONGRESS

FROM AUTOMAKERS, DEALERS, SUPPLIERS AND INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION ADVOCATES

SMART TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION COALITION

The past decade has ushered in a new era of transportation innovation, from connected and automated vehicles and smart infrastructure to adaptive traffic signals, advanced traffic and freight management systems, real-time transit and parking technologies, integrated payment platforms, mobile phone apps and on-demand services.

This Congress has a tremendous opportunity to accelerate the deployment of existing and next-generation technologies to save lives, reduce traffic congestion, reduce fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions, improve personal mobility and meet our nation's current and future infrastructure, environmental and economic challenges.

We the undersigned, as automotive, high-tech and intelligent transportation industry leaders, have joined together to form the "Smart Transportation Innovation Coalition" to raise awareness of a new vision of transportation. We envision a future where...

- ▶ Rear-end collisions – the most common crash – dramatically decline due to more vehicles enabled with **automatic braking**, helping to mitigate injuries on our roads.
- ▶ More vehicles equipped with **blind-spot monitoring** and other driver assists help reduce crashes and save commuters' time spent in rush-hour congestion.
- ▶ **Road-side transmitters** alert cars to icy conditions ahead, helping to avoid crashes and save lives.
- ▶ **Internet connectivity** in cars routes drivers around emerging traffic jams, helping to reduce greenhouse gases and save fuel.
- ▶ Through **over the air software updates** and **new diagnostic technology**, consumers have more options for repairing their vehicles that save time and money.
- ▶ **Smart cities** emerge, where drivers find parking places from information in their cars, reducing traffic and fuel spent searching for an open spot.
- ▶ **Intelligent transportation systems** at busy intersections help to reduce pedestrian injuries.
- ▶ Vehicles with **self-driving functions** help the elderly to keep mobile – and safe.
- ▶ After seeing safer, cleaner, more efficient travel of motor vehicles, engineers and researchers from a range of industries engage in developing **innovative new technologies** for transportation.

And this is only the beginning.

At a time when governments at all levels are working to do more with less, innovative technologies provide cost-effective tools to improve safety, increase fuel economy, reduce congestion, cut emissions, and modernize infrastructure and services. We support research and incentives where appropriate to promote advanced safety and vehicle connectivity technologies, including driver assists, V2X communications, autonomous vehicles and other technologies.

For the United States to stay competitive in today's global economy, it is critical that our nation invest more heavily in transportation research, technology and innovation. We ask you to join us as we work together to build a safer, smarter, more efficient and sustainable transportation future.

