

TESTIMONY OF MR. SHANE KARR
NOMINEE FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF TRANSPORTATION FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION
FEBRUARY 7, 2006

Chairman Stevens, Co-Chairman Inouye, Members of the Committee, it is a privilege to appear before you today to be considered for the position of Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs at the Department of Transportation. I am profoundly grateful to President Bush for offering me this opportunity to continue to serve in his Administration. And I am deeply honored that Secretary Mineta would recommend me for this position.

Secretary Mineta frequently reminds his team to “remember who our customers are.” Congress and State and local governments are the Office of Governmental Affairs’ customers. So, if I am confirmed, my goal will be to provide the best possible customer service to you and your staff.

I will always be available to answer questions, solve problems, or carry a message back to Secretary Mineta. I will insist that all governmental affairs staff at the Department do the same. We will be proactive to keep you and your staff well informed of the Department’s activities, and we will be responsive to your requests. We will work to ensure that the Department adheres to both the letter and the spirit of the law. And we will work closely with you to pass critical transportation legislation and to ensure that the Department’s programs are operating effectively and delivering real benefits to your constituents.

The opportunity to serve as Assistant Secretary for President Bush and Secretary Mineta is a rare honor. I am grateful to my wife Barrett and to my family and friends for all of their support. And I look forward to the opportunity, if I am confirmed, to work closely with you and your staff to address our nation’s critical transportation priorities.

Thank you for considering my nomination, and I would be pleased to answer your questions.