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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4326
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The Honorable Ric Williamson
Chairman
Texas Transportation Commission
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701

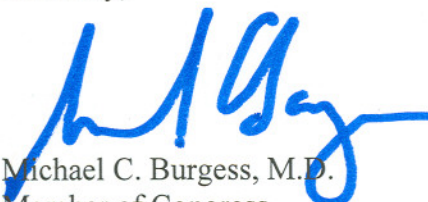
Dear Chairman Williamson:

I am deeply troubled by the deterioration of the FM 407 bridge in Lewisville, Texas. As you know, on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, pieces of concrete fell from the bottom of the bridge onto Interstate 35, creating a hole about the size of a manhole cover. Considering that this is one of the busiest corridors in Texas, we are extremely fortunate that no one was injured during this incident. However, I'm afraid next time, we will not be so lucky. While we must do everything within our power to ensure that all bridges are safe and structurally sound, right now we must focus our resources on this specific bridge since it is causing an imminent threat to the safety and security of the thousands of people who travel on and beneath the bridge every single day. Let me say it again, **we must do everything we can to ensure the safety of the motoring public around this bridge.** As soon as possible, I would like a response from you on how the Texas Department of Transportation plans to address this problem with specific action steps to ensure that this bridge is structurally sound and will no longer be a danger to North Texas motorists.

I realize that resources are tight for new construction, but we must spend our maintenance resources wisely on dangerous, pending roads and bridges. We all want to avoid the horrible situation that occurred along another section of I-35 in Minnesota.

I look forward to hearing from you shortly on this specific issue, and will communicate your response to my constituents. I know we are both dedicated to having the most efficient and safest transportation infrastructure as possible, and I will continue to work with you and my colleagues on all transportation concerns.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress

cc: Mr. Bill Hale, Dallas District Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation
The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor of Texas
The Honorable Mary Peters, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary

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