

# PATTY MURRAY'S WASHINGTON VIEW

U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Weekly Report to the People of Washington – September 22, 2009

## Getting our State Moving, Keeping Communities Strong - Transportation and Housing Investments for Washington State Pass Senate

On Thursday, I helped pass a bill that invests in the building blocks of economic recovery - safe and efficient transportation, affordable and accessible housing, and improved national infrastructure. The bill, which I crafted as Chairman of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee, will help our state's families and businesses by creating jobs and investing in our communities.

Click below for more information on the funding included for projects in different regions of Washington state.

[Tri-Cities](#)

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[Central WA](#)

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[Eastern WA](#)

[King County](#)

[Snohomish County](#)

[Northwest WA](#)

[Clallam County](#)

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## AEROSPACE: WTO Rules that Launch Aid is an Illegal Subsidy

Last week, I sent letters to President Obama and Defense Secretary Robert Gates on the World Trade Organization's (WTO) recent ruling that launch aid provided to the European aerospace company Airbus is an illegal subsidy. In my letter to President Obama I urged him to take the strongest possible action to prevent further harm from being inflicted on our aerospace industry by this illegal aid. In a separate letter, I asked Secretary Gates to answer the key question about how the WTO's ruling will affect the competition to build the next generation of aerial refueling tankers. For too long, American aerospace workers have struggled to compete on an uneven playing field against Airbus. Now that the WTO has signaled these subsidies are illegal we must work to end their use.

[Read](#) my letter to President Obama | [Read](#) my letter to Secretary Gates

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## Commemorating Hispanic Heritage Month

Last week, I co-sponsored two resolutions relating to Hispanic Heritage Month. One resolution designates the week of September 20-25, 2009 as National Hispanic Serving Institutions Week, and the other resolution commemorates Hispanic Heritage Month, which starts September 16 and goes until October 15. I am proud to join my colleagues as we commemorate the heritage and achievements of the Latino community. From the historic [confirmation of Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor](#) to the U.S. Supreme Court, to the growing role of Latinos in our regional and national economy, the achievements of Latinos across America deserves to be recognized and celebrated.

[Details](#) | [Más información](#)

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## Clean-Energy Transportation Funding Will Help Create Jobs and Reduce Greenhouse Gases

On Monday, I helped announce that the Department of Transportation will fund three Washington transportation projects that pursue cutting-edge environmental technologies to help reduce global warming, lessen America's dependence on oil, and create green jobs. The funding for these projects is part of \$100 million allotted for clean-energy transportation projects in the Economic Recovery Act. As Chairman of the Transportation and Housing Appropriations Subcommittee, I worked to ensure that investments in clean-energy transportation projects were a priority in the Recovery Act. - [Details](#)

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