

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 30, 2011

The Honorable Chris Christie
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001
State House
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0001

Dear Governor Christie:

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, we wanted to bring to your attention a federal resource that might be put to immediate beneficial use on New Jersey state highways or major arteries to restore essential traffic and to prevent further damage to Federal-aid highway facilities. We know that there has been major damage to a number of roads in New Jersey that fit this category.

The funding is called Quick Release Emergency Relief Funding and is administered out of the New Jersey Division of the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration. It requires only a letter from the State indicating the need for these funds. While this funding is small, in the range of \$1 million - \$3 million, it would be helpful in getting immediate funding to repair major roadways that are causing traffic disruption in the state. This funding is meant to go directly to the NJDOT and we understand there is little red tape in getting it approved.

We encourage you to apply for this funding. In the near future, there will also be other funding opportunities resulting from the damage assessments. In the meantime, however, this Quick Release funding can provide an immediate infusion of support. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



FRANK R. LAUTENBERG
United States Senator



ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator