

News from Representative Mario Diaz-Balart



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**April 6, 2015**

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been able to take a closer look at the many aspects of the transportation and housing sectors. I've chaired a number of hearings where I've heard directly from many administration officials, including Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx, Housing Secretary Julian Castro, and Acting Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration Sarah Feinberg. During these hearings, they have outlined the budget priorities for their respective departments, and I have pressed upon them to be better stewards of taxpayer dollars. As House Republicans successfully passed a budget, I will work with my colleagues to review their priorities as the appropriations process moves forward. Our main goal is to cut unnecessary spending and waste from programs that are not appropriately utilizing funds, and make encourage gains in efficiency and effectiveness.

I also had the opportunity to meet with a number of housing and transportation officials within Florida's 25<sup>th</sup> District recently. This weeklong listening tour allowed me to see firsthand our local transportation priorities, and how reducing unnecessary bureaucratic red tape can significantly increase productivity and lead to a better use of taxpayer dollars. From a tour of Miami International Airport, to meeting with transportation and housing stakeholders in Collier County, I learned about the needs in our communities and creative ways on how to improve them.

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*Congressman Diaz-Balart speaks to Miami International Airport Executive Director Emilio Gonzalez during the tour of the airport and Miami Intermodal Center.*



*Congressman Diaz-Balart meets with Collier and Hendry counties elected officials and local stakeholders during a transportation and housing listening session.*



*Congressman Diaz-Balart chairs a hearing of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee with Transportation Secretary Foxx as witness.*

Check out a full reel of photos from the listening tour [here](#).

As always, stay in touch on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#), or visit my [website](#) for any constituent services I am able to provide you with.

Warm Regards,  
Mario Diaz-Balart  
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