

Congressman Hanna Named Vice Chairman of Highways and Transit Subcommittee

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna (R,C,I-Barneveld) today was named Vice Chairman of the Highways and Transit Subcommittee, the largest and most influential subcommittee in the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.

Hanna was also appointed to two key Congressional subcommittees with broad oversight of national transportation and infrastructure issues: the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials and the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman John L. Mica (R-FL) made the announcement this morning and noted Hanna's prominent role on a coveted subcommittee.

“Congressman Hanna's decades of experience owning a business and creating jobs make him a valuable addition to these subcommittees,” Chairman Mica said. “He is a freshman member who is Vice Chairman of Highways and Transit because of his background in business and vast knowledge of every step of major construction. I have no doubt that his real world experience will allow him to immediately contribute to the work of producing fiscally responsible legislation to improve our nation's infrastructure.”

Hanna said he is pleased that Chairman Mica assigned him a leadership position on the Committee's largest subcommittee, especially since it will allow him to work directly on rebuilding our nation's infrastructure and putting people back to work.

“This assignment is particularly important for Upstate New York, since many of our communities have aging roads, bridges and sewers,” Hanna said. “I am honored to be the Vice Chairman of this influential subcommittee and I look forward to getting to work.”

Congressman Hanna's Qualifications:

Congressman Hanna has nearly 30 years of experience as a successful and diverse business owner and leader in Upstate New York. Hanna has vast knowledge of every step of major construction and infrastructure projects from cost estimating to completion. Hanna Construction oversaw more than 2,500 commercial and municipal construction projects, and Hanna has more than 10,000 hours operating heavy construction equipment. He is a 25-year member of the Operating Engineers Local 545.

About the subcommittees:

- **The Subcommittee on Highways and Transit** has jurisdiction of issues related to the construction of roads, bridges and transit facilities, highway safety, and the development of national surface transportation policy. The subcommittee is responsible for writing the next major authorization of surface transportation infrastructure and highway safety programs. The previous law expired in 2009. **As Vice Chairman, Hanna will play a particularly active role in the Subcommittee's work, and be called upon to fulfill the chairman's duties as necessary.**

- **The Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials** has jurisdiction over the economic and safety regulation of railroads and the agencies that administer those regulations. The Subcommittee also oversees federal passenger rail programs and Amtrak. The transportation of hazardous materials and pipeline safety also fall under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

- **The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management** authorizes the nation's emergency preparedness policy and programs and conducts oversight of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Subcommittee oversees agencies and programs promoting economic development in communities suffering economic distress, such as the Appalachian Regional Commission. The Subcommittee also exercises oversight of federal real estate programs and management.

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