

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier

TRANSPORTATION

THINGS TO KNOW:

- *Co-founded the Congressional Caucus on Urban Regional Studies with T&I former Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) to discuss ideas for addressing the challenges facing urban metropolitan regions*
- *Voted in favor of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, signed into law in 2021, which provided historic investment in our nation's infrastructure, roadways, and bridges*
- *Secured millions in funding for local transportation projects, including smart signal upgrades, pedestrian safety improvements, ADA upgrades, Safe Routes to Schools, and more*

SUMMARY OF POSITION

As the former Chairman of the California State Assembly and Senate transportation committees, and current member of the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure (T&I), Congressman DeSaulnier knows firsthand how important clean, safe, reliable, and efficient transportation systems are to a dynamic and innovative California economy. He is fighting for the federal investments needed to reduce traffic congestion and improve commutes in the Bay Area; for better planning that engages with the business community and incorporates innovative ideas and technologies to improve mobility; and for a connected and sustainable transportation system.

BY THE NUMBERS

- **\$87 billion in lost productivity is caused by traffic congestion per year.**
- In 2022, Americans spent an average of **51 hours sitting in traffic congestion.**
- The U.S. faces an **\$786 billion backlog** in needed repairs and investments **for our highways and bridges.**
- Similarly, our **transit systems continue to endure a \$105 billion maintenance backlog.**
- More than **40,000 lives were lost** on our roadways in 2023.

WORKING FOR YOU

Improving Transportation Safety and Efficiency

Several measures authored by Congressman DeSaulnier were included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which reauthorized surface transportation programs for 5 years. His efforts support and encourage thoughtful, effective transportation planning; foster transportation innovation; and create a grant program to construct a network of electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the country. Overall, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provided historic investment in the transportation sector to improve public safety and climate resilience, create jobs, and provide a more equitable future.

Fighting to Make a More Equitable Transportation System in the Bay Area

Congressman DeSaulnier has worked for years to prioritize improving the quality of life for all across the Bay Area, recognizing the impact long commutes and traffic congestion puts on families and communities. Congressman DeSaulnier has also expressed concerns over efforts to raise Bay Area bridge tolls to fund transit, without proper research into the impacts increased bridge tolls would have on low-income communities and the disproportionate hardship that increased tolls would have on the East Bay. He continues to fight for policies that would reduce congestion, emissions, and air pollution, while ensuring efficient and cost-effective transportation options that meet all residents' needs.

Prioritizing Aviation Safety

In response to a series of close call incidents involving airplanes nearly landing on the wrong runway or taxiway, as well as a recent increase in runway incidents at airports, Congressman DeSaulnier has worked for years to improve aviation safety. He introduced the Safe Landings Act —created in collaboration with Captain "Sully" Sullenberger—to further enhance aviation safety and to ensure our aviation system remains the safest in the world. The Congressman was proud to see many of his initiatives passed into law through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization, which provides funding for the FAA for five years. The FAA Reauthorization was the result of bipartisan work and will help to create a safer, cleaner, greener, and more accessible U.S. aviation system. Congressman DeSaulnier was also the co-author of a new law that requires the modernization of an essential flight safety and communication tool after an outage in January 2023.

Connecting and Improving the Transportation System

Improving the nation's roadways, rails, and public transportation systems is one of Congressman DeSaulnier's top priorities. By creating a world-class, interconnected, reliable, safe, and efficient public transportation system, we can take more cars off the road, reduce traffic congestion, and help fight climate change. He introduced the Incentivizing Value Capture for Greener Transportation Act to do just that. The legislation would help states and localities better invest in their public transportation systems so we don't have to rely as heavily on vehicles, which contribute to climate change by emitting greenhouse gas emissions and which create gridlocked traffic congestion.