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## New Jersey Bike & Walk Summit to Feature U.S. Representative Albio Sires

Congressman Heads Slate of Influential Policy Architects to Speak at the State's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike & Walk Summit

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (Jan. 22, 2015) – Albio Sires, U.S. Congressman representing New Jersey's 8th District, leads a lineup of influential speakers at this year's New Jersey Bike & Walk Summit, which will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2015 in New Brunswick. Sires, a prominent advocate in the House of Representatives for sound transportation policy, will be delivering a keynote address during the plenary session at the 2015 New Jersey Bike & Walk Summit. In addition to Sires, the US Department of Transportation's Barbara McCann, former NYCDOT Policy Director Jon Orcutt, and writer and cycling advocate Suzi Wunsch are all scheduled to appear at the 2015 Summit.

"We're very excited to be able to present such a distinguished panel of speakers at this year's Summit," said Cyndi Steiner, Executive Director of the New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition, the organizers of the Summit, in collaboration with the Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University's Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. "We hope attendees will leave the Summit educated, inspired and motivated to advocate for progress in their own communities, and we plan to equip them with the type of connections they need for their efforts to be successful."

This year's slate of featured speakers encompasses a wide-ranging list of movers and shakers in the field of sustainable transportation policy.

As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Sires introduced the Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure Financing Act of 2014. McCann is credited as the visionary behind the Complete Streets Movement. Orcutt is lauded for his role in advancing sustainable transportation options in the tri-state area and New York City in particular, as Policy Director under Janette Sadik-Khan. And Wunsch is a nationally-known writer and founder of the Velojoy cycling lifestyle organization.

Also presenting remarks will be New Brunswick Mayor James Cahill and Essex County Freeholder Brendan Gill.

"We are pleased to be able to host the NJ Bike & Walk Summit again this year, and appreciate the opportunity to further educate residents of New Jersey in how they can improve quality of life in their communities through biking and walking," said Charles Brown, Senior Research Specialist at the Voorhees Transportation Center.

In addition to the plenary sessions, breakout groups will be held throughout the day, along with opportunities for networking. Session themes include Pedestrian Safety, Alternative Transportation Implementation, Health and Equity, Funding and Governance, Safe Routes to Schools, Community Engagement, and Tools and Education.

For more information, and to register for the New Jersey Bike & Walk Summit, visit www.NJBWC.org/summit-2015/

## **About the New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition**

The New Jersey Bike & Walk Coalition is a statewide advocacy organization for bicyclists and pedestrians. NJBWC is dedicated to protecting the rights and safety of New Jersey's bicyclists and walkers, promoting bicycling and walking for fun, fitness, and transportation, educating cyclists, walkers, and drivers about our rights and responsibilities, and connecting our communities with a smarter transportation system. NJBWC is a collective voice for everyone who believes that safer, more rideable and walkable New Jersey means a more livable, sustainable New Jersey.