

7/25/2007 - Congressman Albio Sires Advances Funding For Rehabilitation of Elizabeth Bridges

For Immediate Release

Contact: Olga Alvarez

July 25, 2007

(201) 222-2828

(Washington, D.C.) - Today, Congressman Albio Sires voted for the Transportation- Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, which included \$500,000 for the Rehabilitation of the Bridge Street, Clay Street and Jackson Street Movable Bridges, located in Essex County. These bridges are more than 100 years old and in need of major rehabilitation in order to be in full compliance with current regulations.

"These bridges are an integral part of the daily lives of thousands of residents in northern New Jersey, especially the residents of Newark and Jersey City. They need appropriate maintenance so that pedestrian and vehicular traffic can flow without interruption," said Congressman Sires.

The Bridge Street, Clay Street and Jackson Street Movable Bridges are shared by Essex and Hudson Counties. They have been inspected every two years by the Department of Public Works and these inspections have deemed the Bridge Street Bridge and the Clay Street Bridge structurally deficient and in need of upgrades.

Improvements that will be made to the three bridges include upgrades to control operating systems, structural, mechanical, and electrical repairs, painting of the structures, and surface improvements to the sidewalks and roadway.

The Fiscal Year 2008 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bill passed the House and awaits consideration in the U.S. Senate before heading to a conference between both chambers.

(####)