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***Alex Sink's Plan Pledges to Strengthen Florida's Transportation System***

*~Sink's plan proposes innovative and integrated transportation solutions for the Sunshine State~*

**TALLAHASSEE** – Florida CFO and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Alex Sink unveiled her plan to improve Florida's transportation system at the Florida Transportation Builders' Association's (FTBA) 2010 Convention last Friday. As a part of her proposed gubernatorial agenda, Sink pledged to be a leader in ensuring transportation investments are stabilized and strategically used to offer the best benefits for Floridians.

"FTBA applauds Alex Sink's recognition of a strong transportation infrastructure system being a key element to Florida's economic viability," said FTBA President Bob Burluson. "Alex Sink's plan echoes many of the points we strived to make this legislative session – the most important being the blocking of transportation trust fund raids, an action that if tolerated this year would have eliminated 11,000 Florida jobs."

"A smart, comprehensive focus on Florida's transportation projects not only will help put Florida back to work right now, but will allow us to build a needed foundation to support a new, 21<sup>st</sup> century economy," said Alex Sink.

Touting a healthy Florida transportation system as a critical component to job creation and Floridians' quality of life, CFO Sink's, as well as Attorney General Bill McCollum's, efforts were instrumental this past legislative session in supporting the ultimate veto of the transportation trust fund raids. Throughout the 2010 session, CFO Sink called on legislative leaders to stop the diversion of trust fund dollars to general revenue coffers and encouraged lawmakers to promote quick job growth through funding transportation projects.

At FTBA's 2010 Convention, Alex Sink outlined her Innovative and Integrated Transportation Plan for Florida which sets out to create jobs and develop a new economic foundation through infrastructure projects that enhance the state's transportation network. In her address to attendees, she proposed the following objectives, among others, to put Florida on a fast track to a flourishing economy:

- Veto all efforts by the Legislature to raid Florida's Transportation Trust Fund
- Bring more federal tax dollars to Florida by ensuring the state is at the negotiating table when federal funding allocations are considered
- Encourage regional transportation planners to develop innovative projects that address congestion, reduce emissions and create more livable communities
- Create a pilot program to allow transportation proposals to compete for grant funding from a special transportation pool set aside for innovative projects

"FTBA believes it is imperative that the next governor of Florida be a champion for the state's transportation infrastructure," continued Burluson. "It is encouraging candidates in the race, including Alex Sink, understand and support the enormous impact the transportation industry has on Florida's economy."

To view Democratic gubernatorial candidate Alex Sink's plan, visit <http://bit.ly/aOL3sJ>.