Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui represents Sacramento, California and its surrounding areas as Representative of California’s Fifth Congressional District since 2005. Congresswoman Matsui serves on the Energy and Commerce Committee and on its subcommittees on Communications & Technology and on Environment & the Economy. She has emerged in Washington as a forward thinking, resourceful and influential advocate for the diverse people of the Sacramento region. Sacramento is the seat of government for the largest state in the country, and also has the greatest flood risk of any major city in the country.

Since taking office, Congresswoman Matsui has made increased flood protection a focus of her work in Congress, successfully advancing legislation to upgrade and modernize the region’s levee, dam and water management systems. In conjunction with other flood control initiatives on both the Sacramento and American Rivers, she is building an impressive record of collaboration and innovation to protect her district from harmful flooding, and making affordable flood insurance a reality for Sacramento homeowners. In Fiscal Year 2010, Congresswoman Matsui secured a record $86.5 million to improve the region’s flood protection infrastructure. As a constant advocate for flood protection, she has expressed concern about the Corps of Engineers levee vegetation policy. In a February 2012 press release, she stated that “public funds should be spent first on crucial levee fixes, rather than on the removal of remaining vegetation from California’s riparian environment without site-specific, science-based evaluation.”

Congresswoman Matsui was appointed to the powerful House Committee on Energy and Commerce in 2008. As a member, she helps to craft legislation to address the most critical challenges facing Americans today, ranging from health care and clean energy, to expanding access to broadband and creating jobs. In each of these areas, she is committed to investing in a safe, healthy and sustainable future.

Congresswoman Matsui has worked to expand access to mass transit, and bring some of Sacramento’s most successful initiatives to the national dialogue. She is engaged in the planning and execution of an intermodal transportation center in Downtown Sacramento, which will improve air quality, ease roadway congestion, and strengthen Sacramento’s Light Rail system. She has also introduced Complete Streets legislation in Congress that would provide bike lanes and sidewalks in urban areas to help ensure safe transportation alternatives for seniors, children, and all bicyclists.

Congresswoman Matsui is also deeply committed to transforming the Sacramento region into a clean-tech capital. As the sponsor of a series of legislation in Congress to promote, expand and support local clean-tech businesses, she continues to work to recruit new clean energy businesses to the Sacramento region, which will create new jobs and provide a much-needed boost to this sector of the economy. Moreover, by providing support for new and existing companies that produce renewable energy and clean-tech products, we can reduce our reliance on foreign oil that threatens both our national security and our environment.

For her work on the issues most important to Sacramento - clean energy, flood protection, health care, education, and transportation - Congresswoman Doris Matsui was named the 2011 Regional Champion by the regional nonprofit Valley Vision.