

February 08, 2021



**We're Building A
Better America!**

American Road & Transportation Builders Association (co-chair) ■ Associated General Contractors of America (co-chair) ■ American Coal Ash Association ■ American Concrete Pavement Association ■ American Concrete Pipe Association ■ American Council of Engineering Companies ■ American Subcontractors Association ■ American Iron and Steel Institute ■ American Society of Civil Engineers ■ American Traffic Safety Services Association ■ Asphalt Emulsion Manufacturers Association ■ Asphalt Recycling & Reclaiming Association ■ Associated Equipment Distributors ■ Association of Equipment Manufacturers ■ Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute ■ International Slurry Surfacing Association ■ International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers ■ International Union of Operating Engineers ■ Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust ■ Laborers' International Union of North America ■ National Asphalt Pavement Association ■ National Association of Surety Bond Producers ■ National Electrical Contractors Association ■ National Ready Mixed Concrete Association ■ National Steel Bridge Alliance ■ National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association ■ National Utility Contractors Association ■ Portland Cement Association ■ Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute ■ Surety and Fidelity Association of America ■ The Road Information Program ■ United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

**For More Information:
202/289-4434 (ARTBA)
703/548-3118 (AGC)**

Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders Schumer, McConnell and McCarthy:

The new Congress has an unparalleled opportunity to deliver meaningful outcomes that bolster economic recovery and benefit all Americans. Few issues offer the combination of wide-ranging positive impacts and legislative viability as infrastructure investment. In particular, transportation improvements have the power to connect people and communities, while showcasing an undisputed history of bridging partisan divides. Therefore, the 32 national association and labor union members of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) believe the foundation of any infrastructure investment initiative must include a robust, multi-year highway and public transportation reauthorization bill.

Our surface transportation system is in dire need of additional investment. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) identified a near \$2.5 trillion funding gap for our surface transportation network, of which \$1.7 trillion is needed for our nation's highways, \$181 billion for bridges, and nearly \$535 billion for our nation's transit system, over a 20-year period. Addressing this gap with additional investment would pay dividends by improving safety and mobility. Meanwhile, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to take its toll on transportation construction revenues and programs, and state and local transportation agencies are plagued by uncertainty surrounding the Sept. 30 expiration of federal highway and public transportation programs.

A robust, multi-year reauthorization of the FAST Act would provide a much-needed boost to economic recovery and restore confidence that Congress and the president can work together to achieve shared national objectives that will improve the lives of all Americans. Legislative groundwork was laid last Congress in both the House and Senate that can serve as a springboard for swift action well in advance of Sept. 30. To do just that, the TCC recommends, at minimum, a new authorization law that adheres to the following three core principles:

- At least a five-year reauthorization to allow for long-term planning and investment;
- Significant funding increases over current levels to meet America's transportation needs and improve the safe and efficient movement of people and goods; and
- Build on the project delivery and regulatory approval process enhancements made in the previous two surface transportation laws to ensure the timely delivery of projects and benefits.

We look forward to working with you to swiftly enact legislation to rebuild the transportation network that helps drive our nation's economy, mobility, and quality of life.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition