

North American Concrete Alliance

January 9, 2019

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman
House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

The North American Concrete Alliance (NACA) is a coalition of 12 concrete-related trade associations that provide construction materials and equipment essential for America's transportation and infrastructure. We employ tens of thousands of workers in well-paying American jobs, and we strongly support increased investment in the nation's infrastructure.

Members of NACA look forward to working with you on legislation to increase investments in America's surface transportation system. The U.S. Department of Transportation's 2015 Conditions and Performance Report highlights the need to address the \$836 billion backlog in investment in roads and bridges across the country. Despite growing concerns, federal investment in transportation and water infrastructure has declined from close to six percent of total federal spending in the 1960s to only 2.5 percent in 2017. Addressing the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund and increasing investment to meet the growing demands is critical.

Additionally, NACA supports increased investment in our water infrastructure, including ports, locks and dams, and sewer and drinking water. One important step to investing in our water infrastructure is ensuring the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund's balances are invested for their intended purposes of port and harbor dredging activities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. NACA supports the passage of a Water Resources Development Act every two years. We look forward to working with the committee to not only pass a Water Resources Development Act but also reauthorize the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and increasing investment in a broad range of water infrastructure projects.

NACA was pleased to see a long-term reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration last year. However, America's airports have nearly \$100 billion in infrastructure needs to accommodate growth in passenger and cargo activity and rehabilitate existing facilities. The annualized needs of approximately \$20 billion for the nation's airports is greater than funding available through airport generated income, Airport Improvement Program grants and passenger facility charge revenue.

Finally, NACA supports greater investment in resilient infrastructure. In 2017, the U.S. spent more on natural disasters than any year on record at \$306 billion. This funding was needed as a result of the number of hurricanes, wildfires, and other severe weather-related events. This expenditure demonstrates the importance of investing in resilient infrastructure that can be repaired rather than replaced following a disaster. NACA supports investing in resiliency, which translates into lower costs over time because of improved durability and less need for maintenance.

NACA looks forward to working with the committee to address the nation's infrastructure demands. Our members support addressing our short-term needs and long-term federal investments that will build a 21st century transportation network

Respectfully,

American Concrete Pavement Association
American Concrete Pipe Association
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Concrete Pumping Association
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute
Concrete Foundations Association

National Concrete Masonry Association
National Precast Concrete Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Portland Cement Association
Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute
Tilt-Up Concrete Association