

North American Concrete Alliance

May 26, 2021

The Honorable Tom Carper
Chairman
Environment and Public Works Committee
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

The North American Concrete Alliance (NACA) supports the bipartisan introduction of the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021. We urge all committee members to advance this legislation during the May 26, 2021 markup.

As you may know, the North American Concrete Alliance (NACA) is a coalition of 12 concrete-related trade associations dedicated to addressing industry-wide priorities in the areas of research, education, and government affairs. Cement and concrete product manufacturing directly and indirectly employs approximately 600,000 people across the country, and our collective industries contribute more than \$100 billion to the economy. NACA advocates for increased and efficient federal investment in surface transportation and infrastructure.

America's economic vitality depends on an integrated, national transportation network that moves goods and people safely and efficiently while ensuring the quality of life and economic prosperity for all citizens. According to TRIP, a National Transportation Research Group, 41% of major roads in the U.S. are in poor or mediocre condition, and 7% of U.S. bridges are in structurally deficient condition. The Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021's inclusion of a 34 percent increase in funding over current investment levels will allow states and localities to address these backlogs in maintenance, make investments in freight corridors, and improve safety and congestion.

Additionally, NACA commends this legislation's efforts to combat climate change by encouraging the use of more resilient infrastructure. Specifically, we support the expansion of National Highway Performance Program eligibilities to include projects focused on resiliency and allowing a portion of their NHPP allocation for protective features on a Federal-aid highway or off-system bridges if these features are designed to mitigate the risk of recurring damage or the costs of future repairs from disasters. Finally, NACA supports the steps taken by the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act to make sensible reforms to the federal permitting and environmental review process.

Again, we commend the bipartisan introduction of the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act. The North American Concrete Alliance members look forward to working with you to advance investment in our nation's transportation infrastructure.

Sincerely,

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

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

Cc: All members of the Environment and Public Works Committee