

September 10, 2020

The Honorable Robert Casey
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Pat Toomey
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Doyle
306 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Joyce
1337 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Kelly
1707 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Conor Lamb
1224 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Guy Reschenthaler
531 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Glenn Thompson
400 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Casey, Senator Toomey, Congressman Doyle, Congressman Joyce, Congressman Kelly, Congressman Lamb, Congressman Reschenthaler, and Congressman Thompson:

As organizations representing the highway construction industry in western Pennsylvania, we are concerned that the current surface transportation law – the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act – expires on September 30. While all of our organizations have advocated for Congress to work together in a bipartisan fashion to reauthorize our nation’s surface transportation programs, it has become clear that a one-year extension of current law is the most likely outcome as time is running out and both chambers are very far apart on their respective bills.

Therefore, the undersigned organizations urge you to pass legislation before the end of this month that includes the following:

1. A turn-key, one-year extension of the current surface transportation law with increased investment levels;
2. Thirty-seven billion in emergency federal funding for state departments of transportation;
3. Provisions to ensure solvency of the Highway Trust Fund for the duration of the extension at a minimum.

Public agencies, including PennDOT, continue to face revenue declines resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, state and local entities have already delayed or cancelled \$8 billion in surface transportation projects, with more to come absent any support from the federal government. Failure to approve a one-year extension with increased funding would only exacerbate this dire situation.

Passing legislation that includes the above-mentioned priorities would enable critical improvements that increase the safety and efficiency of the surface transportation system. This timely action by Congress would tangibly enhance the quality of life for all Americans and jumpstart the nation's economic recovery.

Thank you for your support in addressing these critical issues. We look forward to working with you to pass such legislation before September 30.

Sincerely,

Michael Welsh, Council Representative
Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters
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Pittsburgh, PA 15205

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Cement Masons Local #526
2606 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Philip Ameris, President and Business Manager
Laborers District Council of Western Pennsylvania
12 Eighth Street, 6th Floor
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James Kunz, Business Manager
International Union of Operating Engineers Local #66
111 Zeta Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15238

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1100 Washington Avenue, Suite 306
Carnegie, PA 15106

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Constructors Association of Western Pennsylvania (a Chapter of AGC of America)
800 Cranberry Woods Drive, Suite #110
Cranberry Township, PA 16066