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CONSTRUCTION
COALITION**

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Better America!**

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

April 24, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, McCarthy, and Schumer:

The 31 national associations and construction trade unions of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) appreciate your continued efforts to address the unprecedented impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the American people and the U.S. economy. The TCC strongly urges you to provide state departments of transportation (DOTs) with at least a \$49.95 billion infusion of federal funding to ensure improvements to the nation's transportation infrastructure move forward and mitigate potential job losses in the transportation construction industry. This infusion of federal funding should be complemented with a bipartisan, robust reauthorization of the federal surface transportation programs.

Currently, projections are showing significant decreases in state motor fuel tax and toll receipts as vehicle traffic declines by 50 percent in most of the country due to work and travel restrictions. On average, states will face an estimated 30 percent decline in their transportation revenue during the next 18 months, but some could experience losses as high as 45 percent. As a result, some state DOTs are already delaying transportation projects that were previously set to move forward. Congress appropriately recognized the adverse impacts of reduced travel for other transportation modes in previous coronavirus-related legislation and should provide similar support to state DOTs, which are responsible for improving and maintaining the nation's highways and bridges.

While this funding infusion is essential, it will not provide for increased investment in the nation's roads and bridges. By contrast, a bipartisan, long-term reauthorization of the federal surface transportation programs with significant funding increases, as proposed by members of Congress from both parties, will not only improve transportation infrastructure, but also facilitate economic growth, create jobs, and improve the quality of life for all Americans. The TCC is pleased that the House and Senate continue to work on their respective proposals to reauthorize these programs and urges Congress to pass a bill prior to the expiration of the current surface transportation law on September 30.

Providing state DOTs with an immediate infusion of federal funding will enable the advancement of planned transportation projects in the near-term and allow state DOT employees and transportation construction workers essential to planning and delivering these projects to remain on the job. The enactment of a bipartisan, robust surface transportation reauthorization bill will improve the nation's transportation infrastructure, generating economic and job creation benefits. Again, the TCC appreciates your leadership during this unprecedented time and for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition