



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 ■ The Road Information Program ■ United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

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

July 26, 2017

Senator Thad Cochran
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Cochran and Ranking Member Leahy:

The 31 national associations and construction trade unions of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) strongly support the FY 2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Act reported out of subcommittee July 25. The measure would provide essential resources to improve the nation's transportation infrastructure network and grant airports enhanced flexibility to meet their growing needs.

The measure would fully fund the 2015 FAST Act's surface transportation authorization levels, providing a \$900 million increase in highway investment and rejecting the Trump Administration's call to needlessly cut funding for the transit Capital Investment Grant program. We also appreciate the subcommittee proposal would continue funding for the TIGER grant program that has supported many highway, transit, and other modal improvements throughout the nation.

Furthermore, we strongly support the legislation's provisions to allow airports to increase their Passenger Facility Charges (PFC). Airports would not be required to increase their PFC, however, increasing the cap would provide individual airports the flexibility to address their respective infrastructure needs at the local level. In addition, the subcommittee proposal would boost Airport Improvement Program investment by \$250 million. While airport needs have continued to grow, the PFC cap has not been adjusted since 2000 and AIP investment has remained at \$3.35 billion since FY 2012. The subcommittee proposal would reverse that unfortunate record.

The combination of these two policies would also be a meaningful step to ensure improvements in the nation's airport infrastructure go hand-in-hand with separate legislative proposals that seek to enhance the operational efficiency of the U.S. civil aviation system.

As such, the members of the TCC urge you and all senators to support the FY 2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Thank you for your consideration of these views and we look forward to working with you to advance a transportation funding bill through congress.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition

Cc: Senate Appropriations Committee Members