



**TRANSPORTATION
CONSTRUCTION
COALITION**

**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)**

November 15, 2018

Senator Richard Shelby
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

Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senate and House Appropriations Committees Leadership:

The 31 national associations and construction trade unions of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) strongly urge completion of the FY 2019 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies (THUD) Act before the current Continuing Resolution ends December 7. If the funding increases included in the FY 2018 law are built upon, the measure would provide vital resources to develop the nation's transportation infrastructure network and enhanced flexibility to meet growing needs.

We appreciate that both versions of the FY 2019 THUD bill not only fully fund the highway and public transportation investment levels authorized by the 2015 FAST Act surface transportation law, but also provide supplemental investments to further address the nation's transportation infrastructure deficit. While the FAST Act was important in stabilizing federal surface transportation investment, its funding levels are projected to barely maintain purchasing power through FY 2020. As such, the additional transportation resources provided in FY 2018 and proposed for FY 2019 are essential to deliver meaningful improvements in public safety, congestion relief, and maintenance of existing facilities.

To maximize these objectives, the members of the TCC urge any final FY 2019 THUD legislation to build on the FAST Act's investment levels by including the aggregate \$4.25 billion in supplemental highway investments as proposed by the House. We also strongly support the \$800 million in additional transit investments contained in both the House and Senate versions of the THUD measure. We appreciate the House and Senate proposals retaining the BUILD Grants program and urge you to provide \$1 billion for the program as proposed by the Senate.

Furthermore, the TCC appreciates both chambers continuing to fund the transit Capital Investment Grant program despite the Trump Administration's proposed cuts in these investments. We urge you to encourage the Administration to advance final grant agreements for these critical projects that would enhance personal mobility.

Additionally, we strongly support the work appropriators did in FY 2018 to boost airport capital grants by \$1 billion. Core Airport Improvement Program funding has been stuck at or below \$3.5 billion since 2006, making this increase a welcome addition by airports of all size across the country. We hope that appropriators will continue growing federal airport capital investment by including at least the \$750 million in additional discretionary funding in the Senate passed THUD bill.

As such, the members of the TCC urge you to complete the necessary work on the FY 2019 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act when congress returns in November. 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