



**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)**

December 3, 2019

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

Representative Kay Granger
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 fiscal year (FY) 2020 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) appropriations act before the current Continuing Resolution ends on December 20, 2019. If the funding increases authorized in the FAST Act, the current surface transportation law, are adhered to and the supplemental spending growth provided in the FY 2019 THUD appropriations law are built upon, the measure would provide vital resources to improve the nation's transportation infrastructure, which will increase safety, facilitate economic growth, and create jobs.

We appreciate that both versions of the FY 2020 THUD appropriations act fully fund the federal highway and public transportation formula program's investment levels authorized by the FAST Act. Federal funding for public transportation programs plays an important role in safely moving people and goods throughout this country. To that end, the TCC supports the full funding for the Capital Investment Grants program that is included in the House-passed legislation. In addition, the TCC strongly supports the provision in both versions that temporarily voids the "Rostenkowski Rule," which, if left unaddressed, would cut federal funding for public transportation programs and urges its inclusion in the final THUD appropriations act.

While the FAST Act stabilized federal investment in the nation's surface transportation system, its funding levels are projected to barely maintain purchasing power through FY 2020. As such, the additional resources provided in FY 2018 and FY 2019 THUD appropriations laws were essential to advance meaningful improvements to transportation infrastructure. The TCC urges any final FY 2020 THUD appropriations act to continue this trajectory of increased investment by providing at least \$2.7 billion in supplemental highway funding and \$750 million in supplemental public transportation funding to address surface transportation needs in all states. The TCC also appreciates that both House and Senate versions provide \$1 billion for the BUILD Grants program and urges you to include, at minimum, that funding level in the final THUD appropriations act.

Additionally, the TCC appreciates the boost in funding for airport capital grants that was included in the FY 2018 and FY 2019 THUD appropriations laws. Core Airport Improvement Program funding had been stuck at or below \$3.5 billion since 2006, making this funding increase a welcome addition by airports of all sizes. The TCC supports continuing to grow federal airport capital investment by providing funding beyond authorized levels.

Thank you for your consideration of these views and we look forward to working with you to advance a final FY 2020 THUD appropriations act through Congress.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition