

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2015

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
1106 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Ryan, Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member Levin and Ranking Member DeFazio:

We know that each of you is committed to improving our failing infrastructure. Unfortunately, it has been almost two decades since Congress last passed a six-year Surface Transportation bill. We all know that short term extensions do a disservice to our economy and our constituents, as well as decrease our long-term global competitiveness. Infrastructure projects cannot be turned on and off in short spurts—proper infrastructure planning and construction requires a long-term authorization and certainty around funding and financing.

The current short-term extension expires at the end of next month. We believe it is time to commit to a long-term bill and business certainty for the construction community. Moreover, we should commit to investing in the middle-class jobs that infrastructure creates. Now is the time to make strategic decisions about what we want our infrastructure to look like in order to stay competitive in the 21st century global economy.

Congress should move past budget gimmicks that supposedly pay for short-term transportation extensions. We should not wait until the end of next month to quickly push through another stop-gap. There are bipartisan proposals on the table right now to pay for a long-term funding bill. Our bill, the Infrastructure 2.0 Act, is one such proposal. It has support on both sides of the aisle and among the infrastructure community. We respectfully request that committees review this bill so that our colleagues may offer constructive amendments in hopes of then bringing the bill to the floor.

Postponing infrastructure repair and construction only makes it more expensive in the long-term. Let's make the fiscally responsible decision to invest now.

Sincerely,



John Delaney
Member of Congress



Richard Hanna
Member of Congress