The President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

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

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

The Honorable Charles Schumer Democratic Leader United States Senate Washington DC 20510

June 14, 2019

Dear Mr. President, Madam Speaker, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, and Democratic Leader Schumer:

Americans have suffered under the weight of our nation's aging, failing infrastructure for far too long. Rebuilding and modernizing our nation's infrastructure will benefit every citizen, and it will make every community safer, more resilient, and more secure. It will create good jobs, boost productivity, sharpen our nation's competitive edge, and ensure our current and future economic success.

Over the years, business and labor have not always seen eye to eye. However, when it comes to rebuilding our nation's crumbling infrastructure, we are in lockstep. While disappointed the May 22 White House meeting did not lead to a substantive discussion on infrastructure investment solutions, we remain encouraged by the progress that has been made to fix our country's failing infrastructure, and remain committed to getting the job done for American families, workers, and businesses.

That is why business and labor groups have come together and proposed a funding solution: raising the federal gas tax. Democrats and Republicans in blue, red, and purple states across the country have already taken this action, increasing their state gas taxes to finance their share of much-needed infrastructure improvement.

Infrastructure, especially our nation's roads, bridges, and transit systems, is a shared responsibility between the states and the federal government. States are doing their part. It is time elected leaders in Washington do the same.

The federal gas tax has not been increased since 1993. Its value has been eroded by inflation and greater fuel efficiency even as our infrastructure needs grow. As a result, the federal government is currently spending more from the highway and transit trust funds than it's collecting in revenue,

quickly spending down our reserves. If policymakers fail to find additional revenue soon, federal infrastructure spending in each state will be cut.

To see an illustration of the potential impact across the country, <u>please find here</u> a state-by-state impact analysis on the effects of inaction versus a federal gas tax increase.

Every day, the cost of federal inaction grows. As representatives for millions of American businesses and workers who are counting on you to rebuild our infrastructure and grow our economy, we urge you to immediately resume discussions on America's failing infrastructure and take legislative action this year. The time to act is now.

Sincerely,

U.S. Chamber of Commerce American Coatings Association, Inc. American Concrete Pipe Association American Council of Engineering Companies American Public Transportation Association American Road & Transportation Builders Association American Society of Civil Engineers American Trucking Associations Associated Builders & Contractors of Southeast Texas **Associated Equipment Distributors** Associated General Contractors of America Association of Equipment Manufacturers **Employers Group** Far West Equipment Dealers Association Foodservice Equipment Distributors Association (FEDA) Household & Commercial Products Association Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute International Union of Operating Engineers International Warehouse Logistics Association LiUNA

## AFL-CIO National Asphalt Pavement Association National Association of Building Trades Unions National Association of Chemical Distributors National Association of Professional Employer Organizations National Association of Surety Bond Producers National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors National Concrete Masonry Association National Industrial Transportation League National Lime Association National Ready Mixed Concrete Association National Stone Sand and Gravel Association NW Illinois Economic Development **Outdoor Amusement Business Association** Portland Cement Association The Toy Association Transportation Intermediaries Association Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO United Brotherhood of Carpenters United Service Association For Health Care Wisconsin Transportation Builders Association