



# *Chambers for U.S. Infrastructure Investment*

Dear Members of Congress:

Transportation infrastructure investments in our cities and towns are key to America's long-term economic competitiveness. That's why leaders of local and regional chambers of commerce and economic development organizations from across the country urge you to resolve the impending insolvency of the federal Highway Trust Fund and pass a long term federal transportation authorization bill this year that restores confidence and stability for investments within our regions.

Without a sustainable source of funding, the Trust Fund will be in a deep deficit that will require major cuts in federal highway and transit funding or a potential halt of the entire federal transportation program, which would jeopardize much needed economic and job growth in our cities and regions. Indeed, many states have already halted certain projects in anticipation of such cuts. We need your support to ensure the viability of this critical component of the nation's economy, including its ability to accelerate job growth.

With the expiration of MAP-21 looming at the end of May, we also urge you to include in a long-term authorization bill the following provisions and programs that we believe our regions need to stay competitive in a 21st century global marketplace:

- Ensure that federal funding is flexible and supports all modes of surface transportation.
- Expand the existing TIFIA loan program and include the proposed America Fast Forward bond program that would create a new class of federal tax credit bonds to help local and state governments construct transportation infrastructure at a significantly lower cost.
- Empower local communities and metropolitan regions with more authority over both federal funding and decision-making. Innovation is happening at the local level and yet our local decision makers don't have enough of the tools, and control less than 10 percent of the funding, which limit the ability to advance key projects that can grow the economies in communities big and small.
- Support a comprehensive and strategic approach to move freight by providing a strong emphasis on intermodal solutions that target the very worst bottlenecks to create more reliable and efficiently interconnected highway, rail, port and airport networks.

As members of the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, we represent businesses of all sizes that form the backbone of the nation's economy. Our business members know a reliable and resilient transportation network is vital to construction employment, getting other workers to their jobs, ensuring efficient and cost-effective freight delivery, and providing residents with an outstanding quality of life, which is critical to attracting a talented workforce.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

## Alabama

### **Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama**

Jim M. Page, CCE, President & CEO

### **Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce**

John Seymour, President & CEO

### **Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce**

William Sisson, President & CEO

## Alaska

### **Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce**

Lisa Herbert, Executive Director

## Arizona

### **Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce**

Deanna K. Kupcik, President & CEO

### **Glendale Chamber of Commerce**

Robert W. Heidt, Jr, President & CEO

### **Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce**

Todd Sanders, President & CEO

### **Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce**

Lisa J. Krueger, IOM, ACE, President & CEO

### **Tucson Metro Chamber**

Michael V. Varney, President & CEO

## Arkansas

### **Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Jay Chesshir, CCE, President & CEO

## California

### **Fullerton Chamber of Commerce**

Theresa Harvey, President & CEO

### **Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce**

Gary Toebben, CCE, President & CEO

### **Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce**

Barbara deBloom, ACE, IOM, President & CEO

### **San Francisco Chamber of Commerce**

Bob Linscheid, President & CEO

### **San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce**

Matthew R. Mahood, President & CEO

## Colorado

### **Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce**

Kelly Brough, President & CEO

### **Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association & Film Commission**

Marianne Virgili, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

### **Parker Chamber of Commerce**

Dennis Houston, IOM, President & CEO

## Connecticut

### **Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut**

Tony Sheridan, President & CEO

### **MetroHartford Alliance**

R. N. Griebel, President & CEO

### **Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce**

Lawrence D. McHugh, President

### **Simsbury Chamber of Commerce**

Lisa Gray, Executive Director

### **The Bridgeport Regional Business Council**

Paul S. Timpanelli, President & CEO

### **The Business Council of Fairfield County**

Christopher P. Bruhl, President & CEO

## Delaware

### **Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce**

Judy Diogo, President

## Florida

### **Boca Chamber**

Troy M. McLellan, CCE, President & CEO

### **Central Florida Partnership**

Jacob V. Stuart, President

### **Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce**

Tom Morrisette, President

### **Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce**

Tim Giuliani, President & CEO

### **Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce**

Robert J. Rohrlack Jr., CEcD, CCE, President & CEO

### **Jax Chamber**

Daniel Davis, President & CEO

### **Stuart/Martin County Chamber of Commerce**

Joe Catrambone, President & CEO

## Georgia

### **Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce**

Michael Dyer, President & CEO

### **Metro Atlanta Chamber**

Hala Moddelmog, President & CEO

## Hawaii

### **Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii**

Sherry Menor-McNamara, President & CEO

## Idaho

### **Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce**

Bill Connors, President & CEO

### **Caldwell Chamber of Commerce**

Theresa E. Hardin, Executive Director

## **Illinois**

### **McLean County Chamber of Commerce**

Charlie Moore, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

### **Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce**

Tara Barney, Chief Executive Officer

## **Indiana**

### **Goshen Chamber of Commerce**

David B. Daugherty, President

### **Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce**

Jeb Conrad, President & CEO

### **Indy Chamber**

Michael Huber, President & CEO

### **Southwest Indiana Chamber**

Christy Gillenwater, CCE, President & CEO

### **St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce**

Jeff Rea, President & CEO

## **Iowa**

### **Geater Burlington Partnership**

Jason Hutcheson, President & CEO

### **Greater Des Moines Partnership**

Jay Byers, CCE, Chief Executive Officer

### **Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce**

Nancy Quellunghorst, President & CEO

### **Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce**

Tara Barney, Chief Executive Officer

## **Kansas**

### **Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce**

Doug Kinsinger, CCE, President

### **Junction City Area Chamber of Commerce**

Tom Weigand, President & CEO

### **Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce**

Lyle A. Butler, President & CEO

### **Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce**

Gary Plummer, President & CEO

## **Kentucky**

### **Christian County Chamber of Commerce**

Marian Mason, President & CEO

### **Commerce Lexington**

Robert L. Quick, CCE, President & CEO

### **Greater Louisville Inc.**

Kent Oyler, President & CEO

### **Kentucky Network for Development, Leadership & Engagement**

Brad Schneider, Chief Executive Officer

## **Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce**

Trey Grayson, President & CEO

## **Louisiana**

### **Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce**

Adam Knapp, President & CEO

### **Monroe Chamber of Commerce**

Sue Nicholson, PCED, IOM, President & CEO

### **The Southwest Louisiana Economic Development Alliance**

George Swift, President & CEO

## **Maine**

### **Damariscotta Region Chamber of Commerce**

Toni L. Crouch, Executive Director

## **Maryland**

### **Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber**

H. Walter Townshend, III, President & CEO

### **The Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce**

Ginanne M. Italiano, IOM, President & CEO

## **Massachusetts**

### **Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce**

Wendy K. Northcross, IOM, CCE, Chief Executive Officer

### **Fall River Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Robert A. Mellion, Esq., President & CEO

### **Metro South Chamber of Commerce**

Christopher Cooney, CCE, President & CEO

### **Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce**

Thomas J. O'Rourke, CCE, President & CEO

## **Michigan**

### **Detroit Regional Chamber**

Santanu K. Baruah, President & CEO

## **Minnesota**

### **Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Todd Klingle, President & CEO

## **Mississippi**

### **Hinds County Economic Development Authority**

Blake Wallace, CECd, Executive Director

## **Missouri**

### **Columbia Chamber of Commerce**

Matt McCormick, IOM, CCE, President

### **Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce**

Jim Heeter, President & CEO

**Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce**

Nancy K. Bruns, CCE, President

**St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce**

R. Patt Lilly, President & CEO

**St. Louis Regional Chamber**

Joe Reagan, President & CEO

**Montana**

**Helena Area Chamber of Commerce**

Cathy Burwell, President & CEO

**Kalispell Chamber of Commerce**

Joe Unterreiner, CCE, President & CEO

**Nebraska**

**Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce**

David G. Brown, President

**Nevada**

**Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce**

Kristin McMillan, President & CEO

**New Jersey**

**Meadowlands Regional Chamber**

Jim Kirkos, Chief Executive Officer

**New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce**

Tom Bracken, President

**Newark Regional Business Partnership**

Chip Hallock, President & CEO

**New Mexico**

**Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce**

Terri Cole, CCE, President & CEO

**New York**

**Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Peter L. Aust, IOM, President & CEO

**Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber**

Mark Eagan, CCE, President & CEO

**Buffalo Niagara Partnership**

Dottie Gallagher-Cohen, President & CEO

**North Carolina**

**Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce**

Kit Cramer, CCE, President & CEO

**Charlotte Chamber of Commerce**

Bob Morgan, CCE, President

**Fayetteville Regional Chamber**

Douglas Peters, President & CEO

**Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce**

Casey Steinbacher, CCE, President & CEO

**Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce**

Harvey A. Schmitt, CCE, President & CEO

**Greater Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce**

Jeffrey C. Hunt, CCE, President & CEO

**North Dakota**

**Chamber of Commerce of Fargo Moorhead West Fargo**

Craig Whitney, President & CEO

**Minot Area Chamber of Commerce**

L. John MacMartin, CCE, President

**Ohio**

**Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber**

Brian Carley, President & CEO

**Columbus Chamber**

Michael Dalby, CCE, President & CEO

**Greater Cleveland Partnership**

Joe Roman, Chief Executive Officer

**Oklahoma**

**Greater Oklahoma City Chamber**

Roy H. Williams, CCE, President & CEO

**Stillwater Chamber of Commerce**

Lisa Navrkal, IOM, President & CEO

**Tulsa Regional Chamber**

Mike Neal, CCE, CCD, President & CEO

**Oregon**

**Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce**

Dave Hauser, CCE, President

**Portland Business Alliance**

Sandra McDonough, President & CEO

**Pennsylvania**

**African American Chamber of Western PA**

Doris Carson Williams, President & CEO

**Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce**

Robert C. Wonderling, President & CEO

**Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC**

David E. Black, President & CEO

**Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry**

Thomas Baldrige, CCE, President & CEO

**Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce**

Bernadette Puzzuole, J.D., President & CEO

**Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce, Pennsylvania**

Robert S. Carl Jr, Executive Director

**Somerset County Chamber of Commerce**

Ron Aldom, Executive Director

**Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce**

Tara King, President & CEO

## **Rhode Island**

### **Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce**

Laurie White, CCE, President

## **South Carolina**

### **Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce**

Bryan S. Derreberry, President & CEO

### **Kershaw Co. Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center**

Liz Horton, IOM, CCEC, Executive Director

### **Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce**

Brad Dean, President & CEO

### **North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce, CVB**

R. Marc Jordan, CCE, President & CEO

## **South Dakota**

### **Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce**

Evan Nolte, President & CEO

### **Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce**

Linda Rabe, CCE, IOM, President & CEO

## **Tennessee**

### **Chamber of Commerce serving Johnson City/Jonesborough/Washington Co.**

Gary M. Mabrey III, CCE, President & CEO

### **Fayette County Chamber of Commerce**

Julie Perrine, Executive Director

### **Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce**

Ralph Schulz, President & CEO

## **Texas**

### **Austin Chamber of Commerce**

Michael W. Rollins, CCE, President

### **Brownsville Chamber of Commerce**

Maria C. Hall, President & CEO

### **Dallas Regional Chamber**

Dale Petroskey, President & CEO

### **Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce**

Bill Thornton, President & CEO

### **Greater Houston Partnership**

Robert W. Harvey, President & CEO

### **Greater Irving – Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce**

Beth Bowman, President & CEO

### **Lubbock Chamber of Commerce**

Eddie McBride, IOM, President & CEO

### **Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce**

Bruce R. Partain, CCE, President & CEO

### **Temple Chamber of Commerce**

G. Roderick Henry, CCE, IOM, President & CEO

### **The Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce**

Richard Dayoub, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

### **The Longview Chamber of Commerce**

Kelly R. Hall, CCE IOM, President & CEO

### **The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce**

Richard Perez, President & CEO

## **Utah**

### **Salt Lake Chamber**

R. Lane Beattie, President & CEO

## **Vermont**

### **Lake Champlain Regional Chamber**

Thomas W. Torti, President

## **Virginia**

### **Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce**

Jim Corcoran, President & CEO

### **Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Susan V. Garnett Spears, President & CEO

### **Greater Richmond Chamber**

Kim Scheeler, President & CEO

### **Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance**

Karen Riordan, President & CEO

## **Washington**

### **Bellevue Chamber of Commerce**

Betty Capestany, President and CEO

### **Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce**

Verlynn Best, President & CEO

### **Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce**

Thomas A. Pierson, Chief Executive Officer

## **West Virginia**

### **Charleston Regional Chamber**

Matthew G. Ballard, President and CEO

## **Wisconsin**

### **Fond du Lac Area Association of Commerce**

Joseph R. Reitemeier, CCE, President & CEO

### **Forward Janesville, Inc.**

John Beckord, President

### **Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

Shannon L. Full, IOM, President & CEO

### **Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce**

Tim Sheehy, President

### **Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce**

John Casper, President and CEO