



Chambers for U.S. Infrastructure Investment

March 3, 2015

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

Alexander City Chamber of Commerce

Ann A. Rye, President & CEO

Birmingham Business Alliance

W. Brian Hilson, President & CEO

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

Shoals Chamber of Commerce

Steve Holt, CCE, CEcD, President

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 Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce

Julie M. Pastrick, President & CEO

Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce

Todd Sanders, President & CEO

Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce

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

Marana Chamber of Commerce

Ed Stolmaker, IOM, President/CEO

Tucson Hispanic Chamber

Lea Marquez Peterson, President/CEO

Tucson Metro Chamber

Michael V. Varney, President & CEO

Arkansas

Cross County Chamber of Commerce/Wynne Economic Development

Christopher Clifton, CED, IOM, President & CEO

Greater Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce

Jim Fram, CEcD, CCE, FM, President & CEO

Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce

Jay Chesshir, CCE, President & CEO

Phillips County Chamber of Commerce

Doug Friedlander, Executive Director

Springdale Chamber of Commerce

Perry E. Webb, CCE, Iom, President and CEO

California

Chamber of Commerce Alliance of Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties

Scott Eicher, IOM, Board President

Chamber of Commerce Mountain View

Oscar Garcia, President/CEO

Fullerton Chamber of Commerce

Theresa Harvey, President & CEO

Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce

John Kelsall, President & CEO

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley

Dennis King, Executive Director

Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce

Jerry Wheeler, IOM, ACE, President/CEO

Los Altos Chamber of Commerce

Julie Rose, President

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Gary Toebben, CCE, President & CEO

Milpitas Chamber of Commerce

Liz Ainsworth, President

Murrieta Chamber of Commerce

Patrick Ellis, President/CEO

Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce

Barbara deBoom, ACE, IOM, President & CEO

Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce

Judith G. Kleinberg, JD, President & CEO

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

Paul Little, President and CEO

San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

Bob Linscheid, President & CEO

San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce

Matthew R. Mahood, President & CEO

San Rafael Chamber of Commerce

Joanne Webster, President and CEO

Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce & Conevtion-Visitors Bureau

Steve Van Dorn, President & CEO

Colorado

Colorado Competitive Council

Mizraim S. Cordero, Director

Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

Kelly Brough, President & CEO

Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association & Film Commission

Marianne Virgili, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

Greater Woodland Park Chamber

Debbie Miller, IOM, ACE, President

Greeley Chamber of Commerce

Sarah L. MacQuiddy, ACE

Parker Chamber of Commerce

Dennis Houston, IOM, President & CEO

Connecticut**Bridgeport Regional Business Council**

Paul S. Timpanelli, President & CEO

Business Council of Fairfield County

Christopher P. Bruhl, President & CEO

Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut

Tony Sheridan, President & CEO

East of the River Chamber of Commerce Association

Shari Fiveash, Executive Director, South Windsor Chamber of Commerce

MetroHartford Alliance

R. Nelson Griebel, President & CEO

Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce

Lawrence D. McHugh, President

Simsbury Chamber of Commerce

Lisa Gray, Executive Director

Delaware**Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce**

Judy Diogo, President

New Castle County Chamber of Commerce

Mark Kleinschmidt, President

Florida**Boca Chamber**

Troy M. McLellan, CCE, President & CEO

Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce

Christine A. Ross, CCE, MBA, President & CEO

Central Florida Partnership

Jacob V. Stuart, President

Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce

Tom Morrissette, President

Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce

Tim Giuliani, President & CEO

Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce

John S. Cox, CCE, CEcD, IOM, President & CEO

Greater Sanford Regional Chamber of Commerce

Frank S. Hale, President & CEO

Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce

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

Jax Chamber

Daniel Davis, President & CEO

Ocala/Marion County Chamber & Economic Partnership

Kevin T. Sheilley, President & CEO

Stuart/Martin County Chamber of Commerce

Joe Catrambone, President & CEO

Walton Area Chamber of Commerce

Kellie Jo Kilberg, 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**Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Joseph B. Henning, IOM, CAE, ACE, President & CEO

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

Theresa E. Mitle, President & CEO

Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce

Mirinda Rothrock, President

McLean County Chamber of Commerce

Charlie Moore, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce

Nicki Anderson, President & CEO

Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce

Tara Barney, Chief Executive Officer

Rockford Chamber of Commerce

Einar K. Forsman, President & CEO

Indiana**Goshen Chamber of Commerce**

David B. Daugherty, President

Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

Jeb Conrad, President & CEO

Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce

Kyle Hannon, IOM, President/CEO

Indy Chamber

Michael Huber, President & CEO

Kosciusko Chamber of Commerce
Mark Dobson, IOM, President & CEO

One Southern Indiana
Wendy Dant Chesser, CEcD, President & CEO

Southwest Indiana Chamber
Christy Gillenwater, CCE, President & CEO

St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce
Jeff Rea, President & CEO

Iowa

Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance
Dee Baird, President & CEO

Greater Burlington Partnership
Jason Hutcheson, President & CEO

Greater Des Moines Partnership
Jay Byers, CCE, Chief Executive Officer

Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce
Nancy Quellhorst, 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

Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
Tracey Osborne, CCE, President

Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce
Gary Plummer, President & CEO

Kentucky

Christian County Chamber of Commerce
Marian Mason, President & CEO

Columbia-Adair County Chamber of Commerce
Sue C. Stivers, Executive Director

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

Madisonville-Hopkings County Chamber of Commerce
Lee Lingo, President

Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
Trey Grayson, President & CEO

Paintsville/Johnson County Chamber of Commerce
Fran Jarrell, ACE, Executive Director

West Kentucky Regional Chamber Alliance
Gene Gilliland, Board Chair

Louisiana

Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce
Adam Knapp, President & CEO

Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce
Deborah Randolph, President

East St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce
Dawn Sharpe-Brackett, CCE, IOM, Chief Executive Officer

Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce
Rochard H. Bremer, President

Jefferson Chamber of Commerce
Todd P. Murphy, President

Monroe Chamber of Commerce
Sue Nicholson, PCED, IOM, President & CEO

Southwest Louisiana Economic Development Alliance
George Swift, President & CEO

St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce
Lacey Toledano, President & CEO

Maine

Damariscotta Region Chamber of Commerce
Toni L. Crouch, Executive Director

Maryland

Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce
Bob Burdon, President & CEO

Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber
H. Walter Townshend, III, President & CEO

Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce
Ginanne M. Italiano, IOM, President & CEO

Howard County Chamber of Commerce
Leonardo McClarty, 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

Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce
Kevin O'Reilly, Executive Director

Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce
Timothy P. Murray, President & CEO

Michigan

Detroit Regional Chamber
Santanu K. Baruah, President & CEO

Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce
Ashleigh Laabs, Executive Director

Southfield Area Chamber of Commerce
Tanya Markos-Vanno, Executive Director

Minnesota

Eden Prairie Chamber of Commerce
Pat MulQueeny, IOM, President

Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce
Todd Klingel, President & CEO

Mississippi

Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership
Duane A. O'Neill, President & CEO

Hinds County Economic Development Authority
Blake Wallace, CEC, Executive Director

Missouri

Cape Girardeau Area Chamber of Commerce
John Mehner, President & CEO

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

Billings Chamber of Commerce
John Brewer, CAE, President

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

Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce
Mark Zimmerer, President & CEO

Nevada

Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce
Kristin McMillan, President & CEO

New Hampshire

Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire
Jim Roche, President and CEO

New Jersey

Greater Vineland Chamber of Commerce
Dawn S. Hunter, Executive Director

Hudson County Chamber of Commerce
Maria L. Nieves, President & CEO

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

Rochester Business Alliance
Robert J. Duffy, President & CEO

North Carolina

Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce
Kit Cramer, CCE, President & CEO

Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce
Patrick J. Coughlin, CCE, CCEC, President & CEO

Cary Chamber of Commerce

Howard S. Johnson, President

Catawba County Chamber of Commerce

G. Daniel Hearn, IOM, CCE, President/CEO

Charlotte Chamber of Commerce

Bob Morgan, CCE, President

Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce

Kelly Thorsby, 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

Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce

Gayle Anderson, President & CEO

Holly Springs Chamber of Commerce

LeeAnn Plumer, Executive Director

Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce

Theresa M. Pinto, IOM, President

Rowan County Chamber of Commerce

Elaine Spalding, CCE, President

Wake Forest Area Chamber of Commerce

Marla Akridge, IOM, President/Economic Developer

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

Lima - Allen County Chamber of Commerce

Jed E. Metzger, President & CEO

Stark Development Board

Stephen L. Paquette, President & CEO

Oklahoma**Ardmore Chamber of Commerce, Inc.**

Mita A. Bates, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

Edmond Area Chamber of Commerce

Ken Moore, CCE, President & CEO

Greater Oklahoma City Chamber

Roy H. Williams, CCE, President & CEO

Sapulpa Area Chamber of Commerce

Suzanne Shirey, IOM, President

Stillwater Chamber of Commerce

Lisa Navrkal, IOM, President & CEO

Tulsa Regional Chamber

Mike Neal, CCE, CCD, President & CEO

Oregon**Albany Area Chamber of Commerce**

Janet Steele, President

Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

Timm Slater, Executive Director

Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce

Lorraine Clarno, ACE, President/CEO

Chamber of Medford/Jackson County

Brad S. Hicks, CCE, IOM, ACE, President & CEO

Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce

Dave Hauser, CCE, President

Hillsboro Chamber

Deanna Palm, President

Portland Business Alliance

Sandra McDonough, President & CEO

Wilsonville Area Chamber of Commerce

Steve Gilmore, IOM, CEO

Pennsylvania**African American Chamber of Commerce of Western PA**

Doris Carson Williams, President & CEO

Chamber of Business & Industry of Centre County

Vern D. Squier, CCE, President & CEO

Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership

Barbara C. Chaffee, President & CEO

Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce

Robert C. Wonderling, President & CEO

Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce

Dennis Yablonsky, Chief Executive Officer

Greater Reading Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Ellen T. Horan, 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

York County Economic Alliance

Darrell W. Auterson, CECd, EDFP, President & CEO

Rhode Island**Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce**

Laurie White, CCE, President

Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce

John C. Gregory, IOM, President & CEO

South Carolina**Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Blakely Williams, President & CEO

Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce

Bryan S. Derreberry, President & CEO

Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce

Mark Owens, IOM, President & CEO

Greater Summerville/Dorchester County Chamber of Commerce

Rita C. Berry, IOM, CCEC, President/CEO

Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce

William G. Miles, IOM, CCE, President and 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

Simpsonville Area Chamber of Commerce

Allison McGarity, President/CEO

South Dakota**Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce**

Linda Rabe, CCE, IOM, President & CEO

Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

Evan Nolte, 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

Kingsport Chamber of Commerce

Miles A. Burdine, President & CEO

Knoxville Chamber

Mike Edwards, President & CEO

Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

Ralph Schulz, President & CEO

Texas**Austin Chamber of Commerce**

Michael W. Rollins, CCE, President

Bay City Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture

Mitch Thames, President & CEO

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

Grapevine Chamber of Commerce

RaDonna Hessel, CCE, IOM, CEO

Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce

Richard Dayoub, IOM, CCE, President & CEO

Greater Houston Partnership

Robert W. Harvey, President & CEO

Greater Irving – Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce

Beth Bowman, President & CEO

Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce

Charlie Dromgoole, CCE, Chief Executive Officer

Longview Chamber of Commerce

Kelly R. Hall, CCE IOM, President & CEO

Lubbock Chamber of Commerce

Eddie McBride, IOM, President & CEO

Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce

Bruce R. Partain, CCE, President & CEO

North Dallas Chamber of Commerce

Bruce R. Bradford, President & CEO

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Richard Perez, President & CEO

Temple Chamber of Commerce

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

Texas Association of Business

Bill Hammond, CEO

Utah

Salt Lake Chamber

R. Lane Beattie, President & CEO

Vermont

Addison County Chamber of Commerce

Sue Hoxie, President

Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce

PJ Skehan, Executive Director

Lake Champlain Regional Chamber

Thomas W. Torti, President

Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

Marji Graf, Executive Director

Upper Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

Rev. Geoffrey S. Ross, 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

Roanoke Regional Chamber

Joyce Waugh, President & CEO

Washington

Bellevue Chamber of Commerce

Betty Capestany, President and CEO

Fife Milton Edgewood Chamber of Commerce

Lora Butterfield, President/CEO

Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce

Verlynn Best, President & CEO

Lakewood Chamber of Commerce

Linda Smith, President/CEO

Puyallup Sumner Chamber of Commerce

Shelly Schlumpf, President & CEO

Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce

Maud Daudon, President & CEO

Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce

Thomas A. Pierson, President & CEO

West Virginia

Charleston Regional Chamber

Matthew G. Ballard, President and CEO

Wisconsin

Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce

Bob McCoy, President & CEO

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 & CEO

Wyoming

Campbell County Chamber of Commerce

Julie Simon, IOM, President & CEO