

September 12, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader, United States Senate  
The Honorable Charles E. Schumer, Minority Leader, United States Senate  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, United States House of Representatives  
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader, United States House of Representatives

Subject: Repealing Highway Contract Authority Rescission in FY 2020 CR

Dear Congressional Leaders:

As Congress continues to work on Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations, if a Continuing Resolution (CR) is necessary for a period of time in order to complete this appropriations process, we urge you to include in any such CR a repeal of the rescission of \$7.6 billion in Federal-aid highway contract authority scheduled to occur in July of next year.

Section 1438 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act; P.L. 114-94) rescinds \$7.6 billion in unobligated Federal-aid highway contract authority on July 1, 2020. All 50 states and the District of Columbia will be hurt by the rescission, including close transportation partners of these states. If allowed to take place, this provision will virtually wipe out all remaining contract authority available to states nationwide in the core highway formula programs subject to the rescission. In addition, the rescission will significantly depress the ten-year budget baseline for surface transportation programs beginning in Fiscal Year 2021, undermining significant bipartisan support in Congress and the Administration for boosting federal infrastructure investment.

While we are disappointed that the repeal of this rescission was not included as part of the recent two-year budget agreement, it is still very important that Congress repeals the impending rescission this month in order to provide stability to federal surface transportation programs. Rescinding highway contract authority impedes the ability of states to meet their individual infrastructure needs and disrupts transportation planning and timely delivery of projects. The planned rescission next summer is already starting to impact project construction, which will delay mobility, quality of life, and economic benefits provided by these projects if unaddressed soon.

The undersigned associations and organizations, representing a diverse group of national associations that support investment in our nation's transportation infrastructure, respectfully request the repeal of \$7.6 billion rescission of contract authority as part of any CR considered by Congress this fiscal year.

Sincerely,  
Forty-one Transportation Associations and Groups  
(Please see next page for the full list.)

American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators  
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials  
American Automobile Association  
American Concrete Pipe Association  
American Council of Engineering Companies  
American Highway Users Alliance  
American Iron and Steel Institute  
American Public Transportation Association  
American Public Works Association  
American Road and Transportation Builders Association  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Traffic Safety Services Association  
American Trucking Associations  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Associated General Contractors of America  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations  
Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals  
Coalition of Northeastern Governors  
Governors Highway Safety Association  
Institute of Transportation Engineers  
Intelligent Transportation Society of America  
International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association  
International Slurry Surfacing Association  
Laborers International Union of North America  
League of American Bicyclists  
National Asphalt Pavement Association  
National Association of Counties  
National Association of County Engineers  
National Association of Regional Councils  
National Conference of State Legislatures  
National Governors Association  
National League of Cities  
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association  
National Steel Bridge Alliance  
National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association  
National Utility Contractors Association  
Portland Cement Association  
United Brotherhood of Carpenters  
United States Chamber of Commerce  
United States Conference of Mayors