

URGE CONGRESS:

SUPPORT MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT TO ACCELERATE ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

Significant Investment in Public Infrastructure will Help Boost the Economy, Create Millions of Jobs and Mitigate the Economic Havoc from COVID-19.

As part of its efforts to stimulate and accelerate our economic recovery, Congress should make a major investment in public infrastructure. Infrastructure investment would inject trillions of dollars into our flailing economy, help stem massive cuts resulting from declining state and local transportation budgets and put millions of Americans and Californians to work – all while helping repair and fix long-neglected infrastructure that is crumbling and failing.

A coalition of business, labor, local governments and transportation advocates urge California's Congressional Delegation to lead the charge and support a robust stimulus package dedicated to rebuilding California and our nation.

Infrastructure Investments will Help Stimulate our Economic Recovery

- To stave off an economic collapse, in 2009 President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) with \$105 billion dedicated to infrastructure investment to modernize the country's transportation, water and energy infrastructure.
- According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, "with the passage of the Recovery Act, 'shovel ready' projects, such as fixing roads and bridges, got underway immediately, creating and saving jobs."

Investing in Infrastructure will Create Tens of Thousands of California Jobs and Millions of Jobs Across America

- So far, 38.6 million Americans, including nearly 5 million Californians, have filed for unemployment because of the economic turmoil caused by COVID-19.
- Infrastructure projects provide solid middle-class jobs both in the transportation construction sector and across the entire economy.
- According to Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce, a \$1 trillion investment in the nation's infrastructure **"creates more than 11 million jobs."**
- Infrastructure investments also spread throughout our economy as workers and contractors purchase materials and spend their paychecks on retail, restaurants and other goods and services.
- A study commissioned by the U.S. Treasury Department found that for every **\$1 in capital spent on select infrastructure projects, the net economic benefit ranged between \$3.50 and \$7.00.**



Federal Infrastructure Investments are Needed to Backfill Massively Declining State and Local Infrastructure Funding and Prevent Loss of Hundreds of Thousands of Jobs

- A recent study by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) notes every state anticipates major challenges in being able to deliver capital highway construction projects due to an estimated **30 percent decline in transportation revenues among state Departments of Transportation (DOT)**.
 - At this time, AASHTO estimates **nearly \$50 billion will be needed**, over the next 18 months, to prevent serious disruptions in operating and maintaining transportation systems and the hundreds of thousands of jobs that these programs support.
- According to the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), in the past 10 years, federal investment has supported 77 percent of state highway and bridge capital improvements in California supporting over 2,000 projects.

California's Infrastructure Suffers from Decades of Neglect

- We rely on infrastructure every day when we turn on our faucet, travel to and from work, transport our goods and keep our waterways flowing.
- In 2019, the American Society of Civil Engineers Infrastructure Report card gave America's infrastructure a D+ and California an overall grade of C-.
 - The infrastructure supporting California's stormwater, levees, inland waterways and energy all received a D+ or lower and are in dire need of maintenance and repair with many approaching the end of their service life.
- California's schools, drinking water, dams, solid waste and bridges received a C or less.
- According to a 2020 ARTBA study, more than a third of the bridges in the U.S. need major repair work or should be replaced. California ranks #6 in the nation with nearly 1,800 structurally deficient bridges.

Investing in Infrastructure Eases the Financial Burden on Californians Now and in the Future

- The longer we delay infrastructure improvements, the more we pay. According to CalTrans, it costs eight times more to fix a road than to maintain it.
- According to TRIP, the average return to every \$1 spent on highway, street and bridge investment is \$5.20, which takes the form of lower maintenance costs, fewer delays, improved safety and less congestion. This analysis is based on the U.S. Department of Transportation's Conditions and Performance Report.

Also according to TRIP, in 2018, 68% of major roads and highways in California were in poor or mediocre condition **costing the average state driver an extra \$843 annually in additional vehicle operating costs as a result of driving on rough roads – a total of \$22.1 billion statewide.**

