

February 21, 2020

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

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

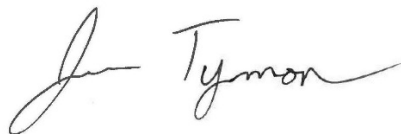
As the organization representing all 50 state departments of transportation (state DOTs), the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) writes to urge the Senate to reauthorize the next long-term surface transportation bill on time upon expiration of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act on September 30, 2020.

Over the past two years, AASHTO members developed and adopted five core policy principles related to surface transportation reauthorization: enact the next bill without relying on disruptive short-term extensions; find a long-term and sustainable revenue source for the Highway Trust Fund; increase and prioritize formula-based funding; increase flexibility, reduce program burdens and improve project delivery; and support and ensure the ability to harness technology in the future. The Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee passed its portion of this important legislation—America's Transportation Infrastructure Act (ATIA)—in July of last year and we are grateful to see this legislation in very strong alignment with AASHTO's highest policy priorities.

Now is the time to bring together the work of the all key Senate committees in order to reauthorize the next surface transportation legislation. With the first critical step having been taken by the EPW Committee's unanimous passage of the ATIA, we urge the entire Senate to build upon this work and pass the multiyear highway, highway safety, transit, and passenger rail authorization on time.

AASHTO members stand ready to help you and your colleagues as the reauthorization process continues. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Joung Lee, AASHTO's Director of Policy and Government Relations (202-624-5818 or [jlee@aaashto.org](mailto:jlee@aaashto.org)), to let us know how we can assist.

Sincerely,



Jim Tymon  
Executive Director

cc:

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chair, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

The Honorable Tom Carper, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

The Honorable Roger Wicker, Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

The Honorable Mike Crapo, Chair, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

The Honorable Sherrod Brown, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs