



Florida Department of Transportation

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GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street
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KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.
SECRETARY

May 5, 2020

The Honorable Rick Scott
United States Senate
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Scott,

As we all work to continue serving the public in these challenging times, I am writing in support of the request made by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to provide \$49.95 billion as immediate revenue for state Departments of Transportation (DOT) in the next COVID-19 legislation.

Here in the Sunshine State, this revenue will help mitigate the adverse impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on our transportation system and enable the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to continue meeting the mobility demands of the nation's third largest state.

At the direction of Governor Ron DeSantis, FDOT began accelerating the construction efforts on critical infrastructure projects, which are valued at more than \$2.1 billion. Due to a reduction in traffic throughout Florida during the fight against COVID-19, FDOT will expedite crucial improvements to the state's transportation system and provide much needed jobs.

Timely action on this important and essential request will:

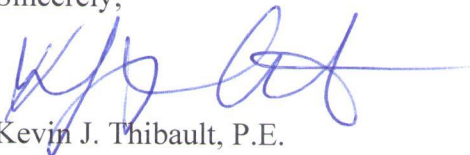
- Prevent major disruptions in state DOTs' collective ability to operate and maintain our Nation's transportation system during this unprecedented emergency, and
- Avoid cancellations and delays of projects as well as potential job losses both in the state DOT workforce and the private sector around the country.

To ensure the reliability of our nation's transportation system, I request that these funds be treated as state revenues that would otherwise have been collected for a wide range of state DOT activities without the COVID-19 pandemic. This broad funding eligibility would recognize the fact that state transportation revenues are used for any transportation activities undertaken by state DOTs.

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Thank you for your leadership during this unprecedented crisis and for your consideration of our request for the next COVID-19-related legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KJ Thibault', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin J. Thibault, P.E.
Secretary

Enclosures (3)