May 27, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0512

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0523

RE: Support Infrastructure Investment and Accelerate California’s Economic Recovery

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The spread of COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on the state’s economy. To date, over four million Californians have filed for unemployment because of the resulting economic destruction.

You and your colleagues in Congress are to be commended for taking bold and timely steps to help families, businesses and the vulnerable during this crisis by passing multiple phases of Federal response legislation. But more is needed to rebuild our economy and help the millions of unemployed across the nation.

We are writing to urge you to support the inclusion of a significant Federal investment in infrastructure in the next stimulus package to accelerate our economic recovery and get Californians back to work.

A major infrastructure spending package will inject trillions of dollars into our flailing economy, help stop project 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.

Investing in infrastructure will create tens of thousands of 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.”

California’s infrastructure suffers from decades of neglect and this current economic crisis offers us the opportunity to jumpstart critical projects that will transform the condition of our national infrastructure. In 2019, the American Society of Civil Engineers Infrastructure Report card gave America’s infrastructure a D+ and California
an overall grade of C-. Even before this crisis the infrastructure supporting California’s roads, bridges, highways, water storage, stormwater containment, flood control levees, and transit networks was in need of hundreds of billions of additional dollars for repairs and maintenance.

The time to act is now. Investing in transportation and other infrastructure today eases the financial burden on Californians now and in the future, accelerates our economic recovery by creating thousands of good-paying jobs while building a stronger future for all Californians.

Sincerely,

Michael Quigley, Executive Director
California Alliance for Jobs

Kiana Valentine, Executive Director
Transportation California

Michael Pimentel, Deputy Executive Director
California Transit Association

Graham Knaus, Executive Director
California State Association of Counties

Dave Eggerton, Executive Director
Association of California Water Agencies

Jose Mejia, Director
California State Council of Laborers

Tim Cremins, Director
California-Nevada Conference of Operating Engineers

John Hakel, Executive Director
Southern California Partnership for Jobs

Maria S. Salinas, President & CEO
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Brad Diede, Executive Director
American Council of Engineering Companies – California

Jennifer Pierre, General Manager
State Water Contractors of California

Robbie Hunter, President
State Building & Construction Trades Council

Melanie Perron, Deputy Executive Director of Advocacy & Public Affairs
League of California Cities

Dan Dunmoyer, President & CEO
California Building Industry Association

Peter Tateishi, CEO
Associated General Contractors of California

Betty Jo Toccoli, President
California Small Business Association

Emily Cohen, Executive Vice President
United Contractors

Shawn Yadon, CEO
California Trucking Association

Kwame Agyare, Chair, Region 9 Board of Governors
American Society of Civil Engineers Region IX

Paul Smith, Vice President of Governmental Affairs
Rural County Representatives of California

Craig Nielsen, President
California Chapter of the American Traffic Safety Services Association
Jacklyn Montgomery, Executive Director  
California Association for Coordinated Transportation

Robert Loya, President  
Harbor Trucking Association

Pat Fong Kushida, President & CEO  
CalAsian Chamber of Commerce

Russell W. Snyder, Executive Director  
California Asphalt Pavement Association

Lucy Dunn, President & CEO  
Orange County Business Council

Gary W. Hambly, President & CEO  
California Construction & Industrial Materials Association

Matt Regan, Executive Vice President  
Bay Area Council

Charley Wilson, Executive Director  
Southern California Water Coalition

Victor Lindenheim, Executive Director  
Golden State Gateway Coalition

Stuart Waldman, President  
Valley Industry & Commerce Association

Denny Zane, Executive Director  
Move LA

Bart Reed, Executive Director  
The Transit Coalition

William R. Manis, President & CEO  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

Cynthia Murray, President & CEO  
North Bay Leadership Council

John J. Doherty, Business Manager & Financial Secretary  
IBEW Local 6

Lisa Ann Rapp, California Advocacy Committee Chair  
California Chapters of American Public Works Association

Julian Canete, President & CEO  
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Daniel Langford, Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters

Dan Reding, Business Manager  
Operating Engineers Local 3

Jason Baker, Vice President of Transportation, Housing, & Community Development  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Denise Cooper, President  
Southern California Contractors Association

Cesar A. Lara, President  
Western Regional Association of Pavement Preservation

Colin Parent, Executive Director & General Counsel  
Circulate San Diego

Ian Griffiths, Policy Director  
Seamless Bay Area

Tom Lemmon, Business Manager  
San Diego Building & Construction Trades Council

Tracy Hernandez, Founding CEO  
Los Angeles County Business Federation

Rob Stoker, Political & Public Relations Director  
S.M.A.R.T. California Sheet Metal Workers’ Local Union No. 104
Joe Mello, President
Professional Engineers in California Government

Brad Barnum, Executive Vice President
Associated General Contractors – San Diego Chapter

Yvonne Williams, President & Business Agent
Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 192

Anthony Duarte, CEO
Regional Chamber of Commerce – San Gabriel Valley

Donna Duperron, President & CEO
Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce

CC:
The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
The Honorable Jared Huffman
The Honorable John Garamendi
The Honorable Tom McClintock
The Honorable Mike Thompson
The Honorable Doris Matsui
The Honorable Ami Bera
The Honorable Paul Cook
The Honorable Jerry McNerney
The Honorable Josh Harder
The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
The Honorable Barbara Lee
The Honorable Jackie Speier
The Honorable Eric Swalwell
The Honorable Jim Costa
The Honorable Ro Khanna
The Honorable Anna Eshoo
The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
The Honorable T. J. Cox
The Honorable Devin Nunes
The Honorable Salud Carbajal
The Honorable Mike Garcia
The Honorable Julia Brownley
The Honorable Judy Chu
The Honorable Adam Schiff

Hilary Norton, Executive Director
Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic

Hilary Norton, Executive Director
FASTLinkDTLA

Nathan Ahle, President & CEO
Fresno Chamber of Commerce

Nancy Lindholm, President & CEO
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Anthony Mirles, Business Manager
Laborers Local 585