



American Cement Association
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Sean O'Neill
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The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

The American Cement Association (ACA) applauds the bipartisan introduction of the Building Unrivaled Infrastructure and Long-term Development for America's 250th Act (BUILD America 250 Act). Reauthorizing the surface transportation program for five years will provide states and communities across the country with the resources to make much-needed investments in their transportation networks.

ACA members manufacture cement, the primary ingredient in concrete, an essential construction material and a basic component of our nation's surface transportation infrastructure. Cement is used in the construction of highways, bridges, culverts, tunnels, mass transit and rail infrastructure, and sidewalks.

We can all agree that investing in surface transportation infrastructure is critical to ensuring the efficient and safe movement of people and goods. For these reasons, ACA is pleased that the BUILD America 250 Act proposes investing \$580 billion in surface transportation infrastructure over five years, including \$474 billion in contract authority representing. Additionally, ACA is pleased that the BUILD America 250 Act authorizes \$106 billion in funding for future fiscal years. This legislation includes a number of provisions that the cement industry is proud to support, including:

- Formula programs receiving 90 percent of proposed funding, enabling states to move forward with the construction of much-needed transportation projects;
- \$56 billion in bridge construction, reconstruction, and maintenance, with authorization for both the Bridge Formula Program and the Bridge Competition Program. Both a formula program and a grant program focused on bridge construction recognizes the range of small and large bridges in need of investment to ensure the efficient movement of people and goods.



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- Inclusion of language encouraging the Federal Highway Administration to partner with state DOTs to support more market driven innovation, like blended cements and performance engineered mixtures.
- Reauthorization of the Accelerated Implementation and Deployment of Pavement Technologies (AID-PT) to advance research, development, and deployment of concrete pavements.
- Authorization and contract authority for the Surface Transportation Accelerator Grant Program to help communities across the country build transportation projects to meet their unique needs.
- Authorization of \$3 billion in annual investments for the Capital Investment Grant program to build transit in communities across the country, cement is a critical material for this infrastructure.
- Authorization of \$66 billion for rail construction over five years. Not only is cement used in the construction of rail infrastructure, but the majority of cement is also shipped by rail, so cement manufacturers benefit from projects that improve the movement of freight rail.
- Establishment of an electric vehicle and hybrid vehicle fee to contribute to the Highway Trust Fund. Not only is this the first new revenue for the Highway Trust Fund in over thirty years, but it also provides some parity, so all users of the surface transportation system contribute to the maintenance and construction of a well-maintained and efficient surface transportation system.

The BUILD America 250 Act will help advance important transportation investments across the country and help the cement industry grow. We look forward to working with you to pass a bipartisan long-term surface transportation reauthorization. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to soneill@cement.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sean O'Neill'.

Sean O'Neill
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs
American Cement Association