



May 18, 2026

The Honorable Sam Graves, Chair
The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) commends you for introducing the Building Unrivaled Infrastructure and Long-term Development for America's 250th (BUILD America 250) Act to reauthorize federal surface transportation programs over five years. We urge you to pass this bill out of committee in a timely and bipartisan manner so the full House of Representatives can consider and approve it.

ASCE represents more than 160,000 members of the civil engineering profession in 177 countries. As the professionals who design, construct, operate, and maintain the nation's infrastructure systems, ASCE's members consider reauthorization of surface transportation programs a top priority. For the past year, ASCE has advocated for a comprehensive, multi-year reauthorization bill that fully funds transportation programs, promotes safety, streamlines project delivery, and supports research and standards to help make the country's transportation network fit for the future.

ASCE's 2025 *Report Card for America's Infrastructure* reflected an overall C grade, which is an improvement from the 2021 Report Card grade of C-. For the first time since 1998, no category received a D-, although nine categories remained in the D range. While recent federal and state investments have made a positive difference, the full effects of increased funding will take years to realize. The BUILD America 250 Act, which proposes a total of \$580 billion over five years, would meaningfully sustain recent investments, providing infrastructure owners with certainty and allowing projects that are on paper to proceed to development and construction.

ASCE appreciates the bill's emphasis on bolstering the Highway Trust Fund, which has teetered on the brink of insolvency for years. ASCE believes people who use and benefit from roadways should help bear the costs associated with them, and we support the bill's proposed registration fees of \$130 for electric vehicles and \$35 for plug-in-hybrid vehicles to ensure these vehicle owners pay for their use of the nation's roads. We would also like to commend the bill's \$50 billion investment in bridges. Bridges earned a C on ASCE's 2025 Report Card, holding steady with the category's 2021 Report Card grade. The BUILD America 250 Act's attention to bridges is a step in the right direction to finally improve this grade.

The guiding principle for civil engineers' work is safety, and we appreciate the BUILD America 250 Act's efforts to protect those who use, build, and maintain our nation's roads. We are particularly glad to see the codification of the Safe Streets and Roads for All Program and the establishment of an interagency working group focused on the protection of roadway workers.

While ASCE is disappointed the BUILD America 250 Act does not include formula funding for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program, we are grateful the bill adds eligibility for resilience projects to other core formula programs. As you continue to work with your fellow lawmakers on this legislation, ASCE asks that resilience remain a consideration as a way to protect public safety, improve project viability, and yield cost savings for infrastructure owners.

Advancing this bill out of committee is a key step toward its consideration by the full chamber and productive negotiations with the Senate. ASCE strongly urges Congress to approve a bipartisan, multi-year reauthorization bill before programs expire September 30th. Lapses in authorization are disruptive for the professionals who rely on federal programs to plan, design, and construct transportation projects. Furthermore, delaying federal support will escalate costs and risks associated with an aging infrastructure system.

ASCE recognizes and appreciates the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's dedication to bipartisanship in crafting this legislation. We stand ready to assist you as you continue to work with your colleagues on this important bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marsha Anderson Bomar".

Marsha Anderson Bomar
President
American Society of Civil Engineers