



March 13, 2017

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Democrat
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative DeFazio:

The American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) is pleased to endorse “Investing in America: A Penny for Progress.” Your proposal is an innovative plan to deliver immediate and meaningful highway and public transportation investment increases.

While the past three reauthorizations of the federal surface transportation program have—at best—narrowly exceeded the investment levels needed to maintain the purchasing power of federal highway and public transportation investments, your plan would produce an average annual increase of 35 percent over current funding levels. These investments would support needed upgrades in the nation’s highway, bridge and transit infrastructure networks. Furthermore, they would enable meaningful improvements on the Nation’s Highway Freight Network that would improve economic competitiveness and boost the overall U.S. economy.

Your proposal would also generate needed attention to—and discussion of—the Highway Trust Fund’s permanent revenue shortfall. ARTBA has long supported increasing the federal motor fuels tax, which is a component of the “Investing in America: A Penny for Progress.” We also believe there are other highway use fee solutions that can be deployed to achieve this goal. We greatly appreciate you adding a substantive contribution to this much needed debate.

On behalf of all ARTBA members, we look forward to continuing to work with you to address the nation’s transportation infrastructure needs.

Sincerely,

T. Peter Ruane
President & CEO