

March 21, 2017

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
United States House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Washington Office
101 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Suite 375 East
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 789-7850
Web: <http://www.asce.org>

Dear Ranking Member DeFazio:

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) supports *Investing in America: A Penny for Progress* to improve the conditions of our nation's highways, bridges, and transit systems, address federal underinvestment, and address future highway and transit needs through 2030.

Earlier this month ASCE released its *2017 Infrastructure Report Card* which graded our nation's roads a "D," bridges a "C+" and, and transit a "D-." The report card also found that our nation's current level of investment in surface transportation is less than half of what's needed. The U.S. needs to invest an additional \$1.1 trillion in surface transportation alone over the next ten years from all levels of government.

Failing to sufficiently invest in America's deteriorating infrastructure will have a cascading impact on our nation's economy, impacting business productivity, GDP, employment, personal income, international competitiveness, and, most importantly, public safety. If the surface transportation funding gap is not addressed, the U.S. will lose over \$1.2 trillion in GDP and 1.1 million jobs by 2025. Your proposal would be a major step towards meeting the nation's transportation funding need.

ASCE's Infrastructure Report Card describes our nation's infrastructure challenges as significant but solvable through strategic, sustained investment, bold leadership, thoughtful planning, and careful preparation for the needs of the future. The Penny for Progress proposal is exactly the sort of forward-looking policy idea we need to repair and improve our nation's infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Brian Pallasch
Managing Director, Government Relations & Infrastructure Initiatives