

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 28, 2017

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee  
1102 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
House Ways and Means Committee  
1139E Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Brady and Ranking Member Neal:

As the Congress turns its attention this fall to updating our Nation's tax code and rebuilding our infrastructure, we want to remind you of an important issue that a bipartisan majority wants to accomplish. A long-term solution to the Highway Trust Fund's (HTF) structural revenue deficit would increase infrastructure investment and economic growth in every state.

Earlier this year, over 250 members of the House of Representatives, and a majority of both parties, signed a letter asking the House Ways and Means Committee to include provisions to strengthen the HTF as part of tax reform. The HTF is estimated to become insolvent October 2020. If the balances in the HTF are depleted and the Department of Transportation cannot fully reimburse States, it will stifle long-term investment in our nation's infrastructure. Given the Administration's strong desire for repairing our aging infrastructure, we hope you will give serious consideration to addressing this issue. The long-term sustainability of the HTF is critical for strengthening investment in our nation's surface transportation. Our non-federal partners need the certainty for their planning and investment decisions.

Unfortunately, in recent history, Congress has opted for short-term fixes that do not address the structural issues of the HTF, including transfers from the General Fund. As we referenced in our previous letter, all HTF revenue enhancements have historically been included in larger tax and deficit reduction packages. Any HTF solution should entail a long-term, dedicated, user-based revenue stream that can meet the infrastructure investment supported by President Trump and Members of Congress from both parties.

We have attached a copy of our June 12<sup>th</sup> letter and list of bipartisan co-signers for your convenience. As we committed in our earlier letter, we stand ready to work with the leadership in Congress and the Administration to build support for this important policy.

Sincerely,



Sam Graves  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Highways  
and Transit



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Highways  
and Transit

Cc: Speaker Paul D. Ryan, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, Senator Orrin Hatch, Senator Ron Wyden, The Honorable Steve Mnuchin, The Honorable Elaine Chao, Gary Cohen