Sept. 15, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Republican Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Republican Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, and Leaders Schumer, McCarthy, and McConnell:

As Congress works to find agreement on a continuing resolution, the undersigned organizations ask that the overwhelmingly bipartisan S. 3011/H.R. 5735 be included in any stopgap spending package. This legislation allows states and localities additional flexibility to use American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds for a range of transportation purposes.

The ARP law provided \$350 billion in state and local government relief funds and \$10 billion in capital improvement assistance. As states continue to recover from the pandemic, new economic headwinds and rising costs have emerged. Currently, states and localities are only allowed to use a fraction of their ARP resources for highway, public transit, and other surface transportation projects. By passing S. 3011/H.R. 5735, the ARP funds can help mitigate state budget shortfalls and allow states and localities to address ongoing infrastructure needs that may have been sidelined during the pandemic.

The legislation passed the Senate last October via a unanimous consent agreement, and the House companion bill has over 150 bipartisan co-sponsors. The legislation would not increase costs to the federal government or the deficit and does not mandate state or local governments change plans or priorities.

We strongly support the inclusion of S. 3011/H.R. 5735 in a continuing resolution. The overwhelmingly bipartisan ARP flexibility legislation would empower public entities to further enhance their economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

American Road & Transportation Builders Association
National League of Cities
Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
American Public Transportation Association
Associated General Contractors of America
National Association of Development Organizations

Associated Equipment Distributors American Subcontractors Association American Highway Users Alliance **Government Finance Officers Association** Design-Build Institute of America National Association of Surety Bond Producers National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association American Traffic Safety Services Association American Public Works Association American Concrete Pipe Association National Ready Mixed Concrete Association Institute of Makers of Explosives **National Association of County Engineers** American Concrete Pavement Association American Foundry Society **National Association of Regional Councils Portland Cement Association** American Council of Engineering Companies American Society of Civil Engineers Association of Equipment Manufacturers U.S. Chamber of Commerce