



NATIONAL STONE, SAND
& GRAVEL ASSOCIATION

October 17, 2023

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable Rick Crawford
Chairman
House Subcommittee on Highways
and Transit
2165 Rayburn House Office Building

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton
Ranking Member
House Subcommittee on Highways
and Transit
2165 Rayburn House Office Building

Dear Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, Chairman Crawford and Ranking Member Holmes Norton:

I am writing on behalf of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA) to express our sincere gratitude to you and your committee for holding the upcoming hearing, "Running on Empty: The Highway Trust Fund." On behalf of our 450 member companies, we applaud your work to examine the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) and solutions to address the shortfalls of funding infrastructure projects along with future financing options. This is a matter of paramount importance to the aggregates industry and the broader construction sector, which relies on the stability and adequacy of infrastructure funding to build our communities and move our nation.

NSSGA members consist of stone, sand and gravel producers; industrial sand suppliers; and the equipment manufacturers and service providers who support them. With upwards of 9,000 locations, the aggregates industry produces 2.5 billion tons of materials used annually in the United States. Aggregates are the building blocks of our modern society and are needed to construct and maintain roads, railways, bridges, tunnels, water supply, sewers, electrical grids and telecommunications.

The action to hold the hearing on the HTF underscores your unwavering commitment to the development and maintenance of our nation's infrastructure. We understand the numerous challenges and complexities associated with ensuring that the HTF remains a reliable and sustainable source of



funding for essential infrastructure projects, and your willingness to engage in this dialogue is commendable.

We are particularly appreciative of your recent efforts in advancing the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) national pilot program, as established under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). This pilot program holds significant promise in exploring innovative ways to fund our transportation infrastructure, and your support in advancing it is crucial to developing innovative ideas to meet the funding challenges we face. It is a testament to your commitment to modernizing our infrastructure financing methods and seeking more equitable, efficient and sustainable solutions.

In this context, we would like to stress the critical importance of financing certainty for the HTF to the success of the aggregates industry. The HTF is an essential component of the economic ecosystem that supports our industry, providing businesses with the certainty they need to make long-term investments in people, technology and communities. A reliable HTF ensures that our members can plan and execute projects that create jobs, support local economies and enhance the nation's infrastructure that keeps people and goods moving. A modern infrastructure program supported by a robust HTF is essential to our global competitiveness, as sound transportation networks provide the backbone for economic growth and development of our communities.

The aggregates industry plays a fundamental role in supplying the materials required for infrastructure construction. A well-maintained and adequately funded HTF will enable us to continue providing the resources essential for infrastructure development, thereby contributing to job creation and economic growth across the United States.

Once again, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your leadership and dedication to addressing the funding challenges that our nation's infrastructure faces. We look forward to working closely with you and your committee to find sustainable solutions that support the aggregates industry and the broader construction sector.

If you require any further information or assistance from NSSGA, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Your continued support is invaluable, and we are committed to collaborating with you to secure the future of our nation's infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Johnson
President & CEO
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

