Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2015

The Honorable John A. Boehner Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Democratic Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

The economic future of this country depends heavily on a modern transportation system. Today we find ourselves with infrastructure that is hopelessly out of date and in dire need of repair. Even with a short-term patch adopted, the deadline for funding of the Highway Trust Fund is fast approaching. We write to urge our leaders to prioritize legislation that would prevent the cessation of funds for our nation's infrastructure by the end of July.

With China investing nearly half its annual GDP in infrastructure, the U.S. needs to start to close the gap to upgrade our roads, bridges, railroads and airports, before we fall permanently behind. By relying on short-term extensions of the fund year after year, we are consistently forcing our state transportation departments to abandon their plans to design and build a coordinated system for future generations.

The recent method of dealing with the Highway Trust Fund is severely inadequate to our nation's infrastructure needs. We must end what has become a series of transportation bailouts and create a long-term, fully funded legislative package to boost the Highway Trust Fund, but we cannot address it without your leadership.

Without a resolution to the Highway Trust Fund, our economy, and our country, stand to lose. As a billion-dollar industry that supports American jobs, this is an issue of the utmost seriousness, and one too important to let pass by. With another looming deadline only two months away, it is imperative that we move immediately toward a solution.

Coming together as members of the Problem Solvers Caucus, we look forward to voting on a bipartisan, long-term Highway Trust Fund bill that funds a vibrant, robust surface transportation system. Let's continue to build on the 114th Congress's bipartisan achievements and pass this much-needed infrastructure package. We do not have the luxury of time - we must take action now. America's position in the world is at stake.

Sincerely,

KURT SCHRADER

Member of Congress

DAVID**W**. JOYCE

Member of Congress

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