



May 25, 2021

The Honorable Tom Carper
Chairman
Committee on Environment and
Public Works
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Republican
Committee on Environment and
Public Works
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

On behalf of the 1,200 member companies of the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA), which represents asphalt producers and contractors throughout the United States, I am writing to express our support for the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021 (STRA21). We very much appreciate your leadership and efforts to craft a bipartisan bill that will enable new highway construction and maintain a state of good repair on America's highways. We are eager to assist your Committee's efforts to invest in and maintain a modern transportation infrastructure.

As the full Environment and Public Works Committee moves to debate the bill, we want to highlight NAPA's strong support for the robust funding levels proposed in STRA21. The increase in federal-aid highway funding will enable communities to address critical highway and bridge needs and will pave the way for the nation's economic recovery.

The asphalt pavement industry appreciates that STRA21 is neutral on highway pavement materials issues, leaving it to each state to determine the most cost-effective and efficient pavement type for each project. We strongly support the fact that the Committee does not mandate a specific selection process for highway pavement materials. We welcome the Committee's decision to increase the federal share for safety contingency funds.

We further appreciate that the Committee is proposing to reauthorize the Accelerated Implementation and Deployment of Pavement Technologies (AID-PT) program, which advances the latest innovations, best practices, and technologies for constructing and maintaining high-quality, long-lasting pavements. The continuation of the AID-PT program is supported by NAPA, the American Concrete Pavement Association, and the Portland Cement Association, as we share the belief that reauthorizing the AID-PT will ensure the continued exchange of ideas and interactions between the Federal Highway Administration, industry, and academia on deploying highway pavement technologies.

NAPA strongly supports STRA21 and urges all Committee members to support this bill. It is an important step in ensuring that a multi-year bill addressing our nation's transportation infrastructure needs is enacted in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Audrey Copeland".

Audrey Copeland, Ph.D., P.E.
President and CEO