

January 15, 2025

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman of the House Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee
1135 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC, 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member of the House Transportation &
Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen,

On behalf of the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA), we welcome the committee's introductory hearing of the 119th Congress, titled "*America Builds, The State of the Nation's Transportation System*", and beginning the conversation in earnest about where our country stands regarding its surface transportation network. NAPA is the lone Washington DC trade association representing over 1,100 companies involved in asphalt pavement production and paving application across the nation. Our industry produces over 400M tons of asphalt pavement annually, supporting close to 350,000 jobs nationwide, with plants in virtually every Congressional district. Asphalt comprises roughly 94% of the roadway market, and over 80% of the airfield pavement market. Asphalt mix plants provide the critical pavement materials needed to build and maintain the nation's almost 4 million roadway miles.

We are headed into a critical juncture for our industry, and the work before the committee over the next two years will be incredibly consequential to our member companies. As you know, we are closing in on the final year of the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA), which expires at the end of 2026, and Congress must pass a new highway reauthorization before the 119th adjourns. NAPA has developed numerous policy priorities that we have shared with your staff and colleagues, and will continue to flag, as the next highway reauthorization package develops. While we won't list out every item here, we hope to work with your committee on legislative text that improves work zone safety for roadway workers, encourages the deployment of reclaimed asphalt product (RAP) and supporting our industry's decarbonization efforts, bolster critical research programs like AID-PT that advance pavement technologies and best practices, affirm our industry's construction material exemption under Buy America mandates and many more priorities.

The House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee is a beacon of bipartisanship, and those efforts were on full display throughout last Congress during major policy debates; this is in large part to the leadership you demonstrated, and we fully expect this cooperation to continue over the next two years. We look forward to building upon our industry's great relationships with your teams and advancing highway reauthorization legislation that continues robust investment and maintenance of our surface transportation network.

Thank you for your consideration and NAPA stands ready as an industry resource as your committee drafts the next highway reauthorization this session.

Best,



Nile Elam
Vice President of Government Affairs
National Asphalt Pavement Association