

NEWS RELEASE



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NAPA Applauds U.S. House Passage of IIJA

Asphalt Pavement Industry Ready to Propel American Economy with Improved, Safer Roads

GREENBELT, MD— NAPA applauds the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA) out of the U.S. House of Representatives late yesterday, which will send the landmark bill to President Joe Biden's desk to be signed into law.

Ratification of this bipartisan effort to safeguard and advance the nation's infrastructure will provide an additional investment of \$110 billion for roads and bridges – for a total \$360 billion over five years – guaranteeing predictable and enhanced funding for state and local governments to build, repair, and maintain their roadways.

“This bill represents a once-in-a-generation investment in the country's transportation networks, demonstrating America's long-standing commitment to provide safe roads, airports, and transit for the traveling public,” said NAPA President and CEO Audrey Copeland. “We urge President Biden to quickly sign this bipartisan package into law, so we can build back better with increased jobs, enhanced safety, and improved roads.”

“The hard-working women and men of the asphalt pavement industry applaud the inclusion of many elements NAPA advocated and supported,” added Jay Hansen, NAPA's Executive Vice President for Advocacy. Among NAPA priorities included in the final bill are reauthorization of the Accelerated Implementation and Deployment of Pavement Technologies (AID-PT) program to advance innovation for constructing and maintaining long-lasting pavements, as well as increased federal contributions to safety contingency funds to protect the women and men working daily to keep Americans and the economy moving so they can return home safely.

Also notable is an absence of pavement selection mandates, empowering road owners and engineers who know the projects best to design and build cost-effective pavements that serve their communities efficiently.

The last long-term funding bill, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, was originally set to expire in 2020 but has been temporarily renewed while legislators and stakeholders worked toward a long-term approach. The result is IIJA, which increases highway and bridge programs by

55 percent over the FAST Act's 2015 baseline. As a result, NAPA projects each state will receive more than \$1 billion total in Federal Highway Administration funding to repair and improve roads and bridges.

"This is a sea-to-shining-sea investment in the American people," NAPA Chairman Jay Winford said. "Every state stands to benefit from this law and we know our members are eager to get to work. Thanks to the NAPA legislative team and our engaged membership for helping to bend ears in Washington and craft this legislation into a bill that best serves motorists, businesses, and road owners. This is truly a great investment for our country."

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The National Asphalt Pavement Association is the only trade association that exclusively represents the interests of the asphalt pavement material producer/contractor on the national level with Congress, government agencies, and other national trade and business organizations. NAPA supports an active research program designed to improve the quality of asphalt pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities. The association provides technical, educational, and marketing materials and information to its members; supplies product information to users and specifiers of paving materials; and conducts training courses. The association, which counts more than 1,200 companies as its members, was founded in 1955.