

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 16, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
The Capitol, S-230
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
The Capitol, S-221
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

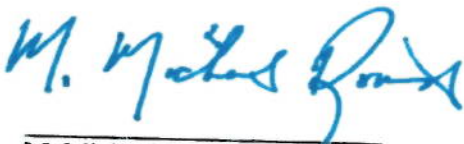
We appreciate the bipartisan leadership you provided in passing the CARES Act. Today, we write to request a \$49.95 billion appropriation of federal funding to state departments of transportation in any potential phase four COVID-19 response legislation.

Due to millions of Americans being subjected to “stay-at-home” orders over the past few months, state governments are facing severe revenue shortfalls, including the user fee revenues that state departments of transportation rely heavily on to fund their transportation projects. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials is projecting an estimated 30 percent decline on average in state transportation revenue over the next 18 months. These funding shortfalls are a direct result of necessary state government responses to address the COVID-19 outbreak.

As a result of these projected shortfalls, state departments of transportation’s ability to carry out their core functions – including much needed transportation projects – are seriously threatened. The requested funding is urgently needed for state departments of transportation to move forward with planned transportation projects that are essential to growing our nation’s economy. This infusion of funding will serve both the purpose of fixing our nation’s roads and bridges while also keeping Americans at work by protecting construction jobs across the country.

Again, we appreciate your leadership and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator

/s/ Robert P. Casey, Jr.

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

/s/ Bill Cassidy

Bill Cassidy
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator



Doug Jones
United States Senator



Cory Gardner
United States Senator

/s/ Thomas R. Carper

Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



Martha McSally
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

/s/ Catherine Cortez Masto


Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator


Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator


Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

 /s/ Tim Kaine
Tim Kaine
United States Senator


Mark R. Warner
United States Senator


Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator


Sherrod Brown
United States Senator