



April 20, 2022

The Honorable David Price
Chair, Subcommittee on
Transportation, and Housing and
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Transportation, and Housing and
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: FY 2023 THUD Appropriations Should Provide Added Funding for Highways

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart:

The American Highway Users Alliance (the Highway Users) strongly recommends that the subcommittee continue for FY 2023 the practice of appropriating funds for highways and bridges above levels in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

The Highway Users is the united voice of the motoring public -- promoting safe, uncongested highways and enhanced mobility and related benefits for people and business. The Highway Users, a 300-member coalition, includes companies, trade associations, safety advocacy groups, and motoring clubs. Our members represent or support millions of road users from the truck, bus, auto, RV, and motorcycling modes. Our membership includes companies (and associations of companies that, in turn, include many members) that not only use the roads, but manufacture vehicles and automotive equipment, fuel, asphalt, concrete, signage, and other products that improve safety and efficiency on the road. This, in turn, improves the economy, supply chains, and the quality of life of all Americans.

Every American relies on highways, even if indirectly. Our roadways need to be safe, reliable, and efficient. But, until passage of IIJA, investment in transportation infrastructure had not been a sufficient priority. And there is still more to do. The 23rd (and most recent) edition of the USDOT's Conditions and Performance Report on Highways, Bridges and Transit identifies a \$786.4 billion backlog of highway and bridge investments.

Against that background, we respectfully disagree with the Administration's FY 2023 budget proposal insofar as it suggested that transportation funding increases by appropriators over IIJA levels should be for programs other than highways. That means reducing highway and bridge investments by some \$2.4 billion compared to FY 2022. Instead, additional funding for transportation over IIJA levels should be provided and must include at least the level of support for highways and bridges provided in FY 2022. That balanced approach would more broadly serve the public interest, including the public interest in improving highways, by far the most widely used transportation mode.

American Highway Users Alliance

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Please contact Daisy Singh, Chief Operating Officer of the Highway Users (daisysingh@highways.org) if you have questions. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue and for your support for highway and transportation investment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daisy Singh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daisy Singh
Chief Operating Officer