

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Roger Wicker
United States Senate
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington DC, 20510

25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Suite 500
Washington D.C., 20001
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Dear Chairman Wicker,

On behalf of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), I want to thank you for your leadership and commitment to improving our nation's infrastructure. We applaud your efforts and offer our support for the LOCAL Infrastructure Act, your legislation that will reinstate tax-exempt advance refunding bonds.

In ASCE's 2017 Infrastructure Report Card, our nation's infrastructure received an overall grade of "D+" across 16 categories. This poor grade reflects our total infrastructure investment deficit of \$2 trillion over the next 10 years and a total investment need of nearly \$4.6 trillion. Simply put, the need to invest is great and we need multiple financing tools to help improve our infrastructure.

By reinstating tax-exempt advanced refunding bonds, state and local governments will be able to take advantage of favorable interest rates to help build essential infrastructure projects.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue. We look forward to working with you as the legislation works its way through Congress.

Sincerely,



K.N. Gunalan, Ph.D, P.E., D.GE, F.ASCE
ASCE President 2020