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November 6, 2017

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Chairman
Committee on Ways & Means
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Brady:

We commend you and your committee for working to develop comprehensive tax reform legislation. As this process goes forward, including a permanent solution to the Highway Trust Fund's revenue deficit would both enhance the package's economic growth objectives and its likelihood of enactment.

Earlier this year, 253 House members urged you to address the trust fund's revenue shortfall as part of your efforts to reform the U.S. tax code. That letter demonstrated the broad, bipartisan support that exists to stabilize and grow federal surface transportation investment. The signatories of that letter pledged, "we stand ready to work in partnership to reach this critical goal." Including a long-term Highway Trust Fund fix would provide them an opportunity to fulfill that commitment.

In addition to rectifying a frustrating cycle of Highway Trust Fund bailouts that have required \$140 billion in transfers since 2008, resolving the fund's fiscal imbalance would generate substantial new revenues that could allow outstanding tax reform issues to be addressed without violating the parameters of the FY 2018 budget resolution. As former Ways & Means Committee Chairman Camp's tax reform proposal in 2014 demonstrated, generating new Highway Trust Fund revenue can offset the budget impact of separate tax reductions elsewhere in the package.

The nation's highway and bridge network is the circulatory system of the U.S. economy. Delivering products to market and maximizing supply chain efficiency are critical components of the majority of American business models. If states are unable to rely on timely reimbursements from the federal government for work performed, projects will be halted and improvements to road safety and congestion relief will be jeopardized. The resulting drag on U.S. competitiveness would be directly counter to the goals of reforming the tax code.

As the tax reform process moves forward, including a permanent Highway Trust Fund revenue solution is an opportunity to improve the effectiveness of the existing package and broaden its base of support. We stand ready to work with you to achieve this critical goal.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition

cc: Members of the House Ways & Means Committee