



Dear Members of the General Assembly,

On January 23, fourteen business associations delivered a detailed package to you outlining infrastructure funding needs for South Carolina. As South Carolina businesses depend on a sound infrastructure system, we are asking for your consideration of one of the most important, core needs of our state – funding of the state’s transportation system. Improving and taking care of the Palmetto State’s infrastructure is crucial to the continued economic development success of South Carolina. We urge you to find a long-term, sustainable solution to fund infrastructure needs in South Carolina.

The plan calls for critically important widening projects to South Carolina’s interstates, fixing load-restricted and deficient bridges and resurfacing existing roadways. All of these projects are necessary if the state is going to improve the safety and efficiency of the existing system and keep up with the demands created by economic development successes.

This comprehensive plan takes a statewide approach to statewide responsibilities. We believe it is equitable, necessary and based on sound science. It is a specific list with specific price tags.

There are several viable options available for funding the state’s infrastructure system, including dedicating a portion of new General Fund revenue, dedicating dollars from the Capital Reserve Fund and redirecting existing vehicle-related revenues.

It is impossible to separate success in economic development from increases in freight demand and traffic congestion. Therefore, our success in attracting growth hinges on the state accepting the responsibility to accommodate new development by funding our infrastructure system.

We urge you to address infrastructure needs now, in a comprehensive manner. Only bold, forward-thinking and bipartisan leadership from the General Assembly will ensure this critical priority is adequately addressed this year.

Thank you for your leadership and service to South Carolina and your consideration of finding dedicated revenue sources for infrastructure funding, a core function of government.

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