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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

RICHARD M. RUSSELL, *MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR*
GABRIELLE BATKIN, *MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR*

September 27, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

We are writing to request that you meet with us to share progress on and available details of the Administration's infrastructure plan.

As you know, providing investments for our nation's infrastructure is one of the most important roles of the Federal Government. Both during his campaign and since assuming office, President Trump has repeatedly indicated the priority he places on infrastructure investment. He called for new investments of a trillion dollars to repair badly degraded infrastructure, from roads and bridges, to transit and ports, to water pipes and broadband. This message was one that resonated with the American voters, just as it appealed to us as members of Congress, eager to lay the foundation for investments that would create jobs, improve our economy, and enhance the quality of life in communities throughout the country. Senate Democrats have put forward our own "Blueprint to Rebuild America's Infrastructure," which would invest \$1 trillion in our nation's infrastructure, creating over 15 million American jobs. We stand ready to work with our Republican colleagues on a significant infrastructure effort such as the one we have proposed.

In May of this year, we were honored to have you appear before the Environment and Public Works Committee to discuss your priorities and efforts as Secretary of Transportation to improve our nation's infrastructure. At that time, we were heartened to hear you pledge to work on infrastructure in a bipartisan, collaborative manner with members of Congress. You indicated that the Administration would be sending principles for infrastructure investment to Congress for our consideration in the third quarter of this year. Since then, you have reiterated your promise that the Administration's collaboration on infrastructure would begin in the fall.

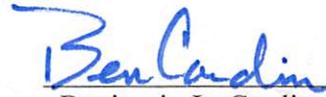
We request that you and any other appropriate Administration officials meet with us to share the Administration's long-awaited trillion dollar infrastructure plan. Following quickly thereafter, we would hope that you will be able to formally transmit the Administration's plan to Congress, so that we may understand the Administration's priorities as we get to work on developing a comprehensive infrastructure investment package.

We look forward to hearing from you soon and to meeting with you and members of your team shortly thereafter. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,



Tom Carper
Ranking Member



Benjamin L. Cardin
U.S. Senator



Bernard Sanders
U.S. Senator



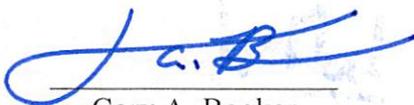
Sheldon Whitehouse
U.S. Senator



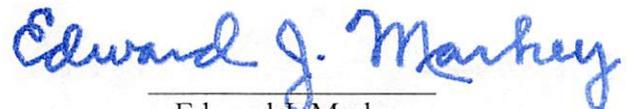
Jeffrey A. Merkley
U.S. Senator



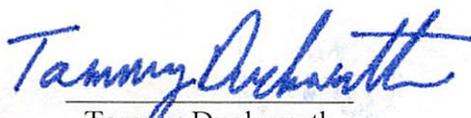
Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senator



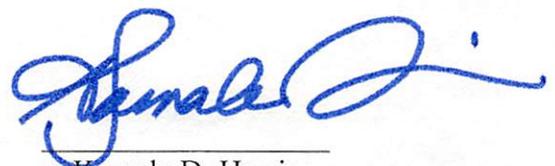
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U.S. Senator



Kamala D. Harris
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