



July 16, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Room S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Room H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Room H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Minority Leader McCarthy,

As members of the New Democrat Coalition (NDC), a coalition of 95 Members in the U.S. House of Representatives focused on pro-growth, pro-innovation, and fiscally responsible policies, we write to express our strong support for advancing legislation to repair and modernize our nation's infrastructure, grow the economy, create jobs, and combat climate change. These investments are critical to ensuring the U.S. economy, workers, and businesses can meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century, and that every American has access to opportunities and resources to succeed.

The infrastructure framework announced by President Biden and a bipartisan group of Senators and the House's bipartisan INVEST in America Act both represent historic investments in our nation's infrastructure which would generate substantial economic growth and position the United States to compete in the global economy for decades to come. As Congress moves forward with finalizing the legislative text underpinning the bipartisan infrastructure framework, we respectfully request that you work with the New Democrat Coalition and our members to include NDC priorities in the final bill, including several NDC-endorsed bills which passed the House as part of the INVEST in America Act earlier this month.

Specifically, we believe the final package should:

## **Build Funding and Financing to Last**

We must invest in our long-term infrastructure needs and fiscal health by shoring up our infrastructure trust funds with sustainable funding, providing flexible financing tools for communities, including municipal bonds, private activity bonds, and enhancements to TIFIA and WIFIA, and leveraging federal and private capital with a self-sustaining national infrastructure bank.

The NDC-endorsed bills to build funding and financing to last are:

- [H.R. 2683](#), the Helping Communities Invest in Infrastructure Act, Rep. Sharice Davids (KS-03)
  - Included in Sec. 7001 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 3651](#), the Revitalizing American Priorities for Infrastructure Development (RAPID) Act, Rep. Colin Allred (TX-32)
  - Bipartisan, bicameral: [S.353](#), Sens. John Cornyn (R-TX) & Tim Kaine (D-VA)
  - Included in Sec. 7001 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act.
- [H.R. 2474](#), the Invest in American Railroads Act, Reps. Annie Kuster (NH-02), Chris Pappas (NH-01), and Lloyd Smucker (PA-11)
  - Included in Sec. 9101 and 9104 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 2634](#), the Local Infrastructure Financing Tools (LIFT) Act, Rep. Terri Sewell (AL-07)
- [H.R. 451](#), the Building United States Infrastructure and Leveraging Development (BUILD) Act, Reps. Earl Blumenauer (OR-03) and Rodney Davis (IL-13)
  - Bipartisan, bicameral: [S.881](#), Sens. John Cornyn (R-TX) & Mark Warner (D-VA)

## **Build Resilient, Innovative Infrastructure for the Future**

As we repair and modernize our nation's infrastructure, we must build for the future by embracing innovations like high-speed rail and smart technology and materials, strengthening our communities with preparedness and resilience against threats including climate change, and supporting expansion of transportation and infrastructure development that reduces congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

The NDC-endorsed bills to build resilient, innovative infrastructure for the future are:

- [H.R. 3566](#), the National and Regional Greenways Act, Rep. Carolyn Bourdeaux (GA-07)
  - Included in Sec. 1309 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 2991](#), the Connecting America's Active Transportation System Act, Rep. Chris Pappas (NH-01)
  - Bipartisan, bicameral: [S.684](#), Sens. Ed Markey (D-MA) & Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
  - Included in Sec. 1309 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 1845](#), the American High-Speed Rail Act, Reps. Seth Moulton (MA-06), Suzan DelBene (WA-01), and Brendan Boyle (PA-02)
  - Included in Sec. 9102 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 512](#), the Green Bus Act, Rep. Julia Brownley (CA-26)
  - Included in Sec. 2403 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 3334](#), the Building Up the Suburbs (BUS) Act, Reps. Carolyn Bourdeaux (GA-07), Lucy McBath (GA-06), and Carlos Gimenez (FL-26)
  - Bipartisan; included in Sec. 104 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act

- [H.R. 611](#), the Rebuilding Our Communities by Keeping Aggregates Sustainable (ROCKS) Act, Reps. Gregory Stanton (AZ-09) and Troy Balderson (OH-12)
  - Bipartisan, bicameral: S.1672, Sens. Mark Kelly (D-AZ) & Rob Portman (R-OH)
  - Included in Sec. 1613 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 2053](#), the Resiliency Enhancement Act, Rep. Stacey Plaskett (VI-At Large) and Resident Commissioner Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon (PR-At large)
- [H.R. 382](#), the Bikeshare Transit Act, Rep. Earl Blumenauer (OR-03), Ayanna Pressley (MA-7), and Vern Buchanan (FL-16)
  - Included in Sec. 2102 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 867](#), the High Speed Rail Corridor Development Act, Rep. Jim Costa (CA-16)
  - Included in Sec. 9102 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 3386](#), the Smart Cities and Communities Act, Rep. Suzan DelBene (WA-01)
  - Bicameral: Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA), pending reintroduction

### **Build with Smart and Inclusive Planning, Zoning, and Development**

In order to promote widely-shared economic growth, access to opportunity, and equity and inclusion, we should streamline and align planning and permitting processes, reform zoning and land-use policies including transit-oriented affordable housing development, and support communities with capacity building and regional planning efforts.

The NDC-endorsed bills to build with smart and inclusive planning, zoning, and development are:

- [H.R. 2483](#), the Build More Housing Near Transit Act, Reps. Scott Peters (CA-52), Marilyn Strickland (WA-10), Derek Kilmer (WA-6) and Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-5)
  - Bipartisan; included in Sec. 2703 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 2177](#), the Fair Transportation Act, Rep. Norma Torres (CA-35)
  - Included in Secs. 5109 and 5505 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- [H.R. 2833](#), the Reconnecting Communities Act, Reps. Anthony Brown (MD-04) and Lisa Blunt Rochester (DE-At Large)
  - Bicameral: [S.1202](#), Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE)
  - Included in Sec. 1311 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act.
- [H.R. 1615](#), the Maximizing Our Redevelopment and Efficiency for Transit Oriented Development Act, Rep. Anthony Brown (MD-04)
  - Included in Sec. 2701 of [H.R. 3684](#), the INVEST in America Act
- The Sustainable Communities Act, Rep. Norma Torres (CA-35) (pending reintroduction, 116th [H.R. 927](#))
- [H.R. 3198](#), the Yes in My Backyard (YIMBY) Act, Reps. Derek Kilmer (WA-06) and Trey Hollingsworth (IN-9)
  - Bipartisan, bicameral: [S.1614](#), Sens. Todd Young (R-IN) & Brian Schatz (D-HI)
- [H.R. 2573](#), the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act, Reps. Suzan DelBene (WA-01), Jackie Walorski (IN-02), Don Beyer (VA-08), and Brad Wenstrup (OH-02)
  - Bipartisan, bicameral: [S.1136](#), Sens. Maria Cantwell (D-WA) & Todd Young (R-IN)

We thank you for your consideration of these NDC-endorsed priorities and look forward to working with you to advance a bipartisan infrastructure package which embraces innovation, is built to last, promotes equity and inclusion, and creates widely-shared economic growth and good jobs.

Sincerely,



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Rep. Carolyn Bourdeuax  
Co-Chair, Infrastructure Task Force  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Norma Torres  
Co-Chair, Infrastructure Task Force  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Suzan DelBene  
Chair  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Scott Peters  
Vice Chair  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Ami Bera  
Vice Chair  
New Democrat Coalition



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Del. Stacey Plaskett  
Leadership Member  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Chrissy Houlahan  
Whip  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Kathy Manning  
Freshman Leadership Representative  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Derek Kilmer  
Chair Emeritus  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Colin Allred  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



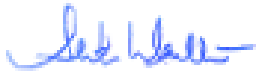
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Rep. Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition



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Rep. Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress  
New Democrat Coalition