

### INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK MESSAGE GUIDE

#### It's #TimeToBuild: Our Economy. Our Country. Our Infrastructure.

**In 2017, Infrastructure Week is issuing a call to action: it is *Time To Build*.** After decades of deferred maintenance, underfunding, and gridlock from America's highways to Capitol Hill, this is a critical moment in the future of America's infrastructure, with grave consequences for our economy, jobs, and communities.

**Farmers, factory workers, commuters, school-children – all Americans – need efficient, affordable, and reliable infrastructure.** Roads, bridges, rails, ports, airports, water and sewer pipes, the energy grid, broadband... infrastructure is vital. Companies that make, sell, and ship goods rely on infrastructure. Infrastructure affects our daily commutes and summer vacations, drinking water and the lights in our homes. Infrastructure is the foundation of our jobs, quality of life, economic competitiveness, and even national security and public safety.

**Yet much of our nation's transportation, water, and energy infrastructure is poorly maintained, crumbling, and inadequately designed to meet our 21<sup>st</sup> century needs.** Our cities have grown and technology has evolved but we have failed to invest and build the necessary infrastructure to keep pace. Freight and passenger networks are congested, our water systems, air-traffic control network, and energy grids were designed generations ago, and our roads and bridges are falling apart.

**We must not miss this opportunity to change that.** Now is the time to build a new era of American infrastructure. It's time to build smarter transportation, energy, and water networks that can adapt to changing demand, make commutes faster and cheaper, grids more secure, and water supply safer. It's time to modernize our seaports and airports, and the land-side infrastructure that supports them, to ensure we are economically competitive around the globe. It's time to build cities for the future that seamlessly integrate autonomous vehicles, public transit, and the built environment.

**Most importantly, it's time to build a long-term plan for our nation's infrastructure future.** More than any other national issue, there is common ground on investing in America's infrastructure in both political parties, the business and labor communities, and in America's State Houses and City Halls. Now is the time for national leaders to come together, ensure robust and sustainable federal funding, and work with communities to build transformational projects. And, it's time for leaders at all level and across sectors to build and deploy innovative technology, policy, and finance solutions that ensure infrastructure projects are built faster, smarter, and safer.

**During Infrastructure Week 2017 (May 15-19),** our Steering Committee and Affiliates will convene events across the country, with leaders from the public and private sectors, to spotlight the national importance of infrastructure investment; highlight new plans from the Trump Administration and Congress; and celebrate the innovation, success, and leadership that are building our future.

**It's time to get to work. It's #TimeToBuild America.**