



June 18, 2024

The Honorable Tom Carper, Chair, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, Ranking Member, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

The Honorable Mark Kelly, Chair, Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure

The Honorable Kevin Cramer, Ranking Member, Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Susan Collins, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Brian Schatz, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Sam Graves, Chair, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

The Honorable Rick Crawford, Chair, House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair, House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Steve Womack, Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Mike Quigley, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Dear Congressional Leaders:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA), we write to support the Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) as they continue efforts to reconstruct the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, Maryland after the fatal collapse on March 26, 2024.

Like so many catastrophic incidents in our history, this tragedy brings to the forefront the critical role of infrastructure in sustaining our economy and communities at a local, regional and national level. The pressing need for investment in our critical transportation assets is top of mind in times of crisis and an ongoing requirement to support a strong economy, quality of life,

and vibrant communities. The Francis Scott Key Bridge is integral to the transportation backbone of the East Coast and a vital link for moving freight serving the nation and the world. This essential connection must be expeditiously rebuilt.

Representing the interests of the operators of 132 toll supported bridge facilities in 17 states, IBTTA is dedicated to promoting the safety and resilience of transportation infrastructure. We urge the federal government to provide full financial support for the reconstruction of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. There is no ability to financially program a total loss of infrastructure alongside a larger program that still requires programmed maintenance. Just as the federal government funded the full cost of reconstruction of Minnesota's Interstate 35W bridge collapse, it is imperative that the same level of commitment be demonstrated in Maryland. Working together, we can overcome this tragedy and ensure a stronger, safer transportation network for all.

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Muriello, Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs at mmuriello@ibttta.org or at 201-249-3982.

Sincerely,



Bill Halkias
President, IBTTA



Patrick D. Jones
Executive Director and CEO, IBTTA