



AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

Your Comprehensive
Public Works Resource

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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***APWA Commends U.S. House Passage of Surface Transportation and Water Infrastructure Investment Bills—
Calls for Bipartisanship***

Washington, D.C., July 1, 2021 – Today, the 30,000 members of the American Public Works Association (APWA) are commending the U.S. House of Representatives passage of the *Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act* (H.R. 3684), and key water infrastructure investment bills, H.R. 3291, the *Assistance, Quality, and Affordability (AQUA) Act*, and H.R. 1915, the *Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act*.

“With passage of these bills, Congress is taking a positive step forward towards demonstrating a robust federal commitment to our nation’s surface transportation network, and water and wastewater infrastructure. Public works professionals across our great nation are committed to operating, maintaining, and protecting our critical infrastructure in communities of all sizes, serving all people, every single day,” said APWA President Mary Joyce Ivers.

APWA supports efforts by Congress to reauthorize critical surface transportation programs before they are set to expire on September 30, 2021, as well as the necessary funding and financing terms to help public works agencies deliver clean water and continue doing their part to protect public health. For this Congress, APWA is advocating specific public policy priorities for *Surface Transportation Reauthorization, Water Resiliency, and Emergency Management*.

Specifically for surface transportation, APWA calls upon Congress and President Biden to enact a 6-year bill that will:

- ***Increase and index the federal motor fuel tax, and provide a more stable, long-term revenue source for our national and regional multi-modal transportation systems;***
- ***Eliminate unnecessary, duplicative, and burdensome requirements that delay the delivery of critical transportation improvements; and***
- ***Increase the emphasis on safety for all transportation system users.***

For *Water Resiliency*, APWA’s public policy priorities are:

- ***Updates to water and wastewater regulations;***
- ***Protect people, property, and the environment;***
- ***Preserve and enhance water infrastructure;***
- ***A science-based approach to regulations;***
- ***Streamline local, state, and federal governance structures.***

PRESIDENT
William E. (Bill) Spearman III, P.E.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Scott D. Grayson



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“As first responders, the men and women of public works are often the first to respond and the last to leave when a threatening situation arises. In addition to preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and disasters, public works is a key partner in safeguarding public health,” said APWA CEO Scott D. Grayson, CAE. “Consistent, substantial and longterm investments by the federal government will go a long way in supporting our communities depending each day on essential, quality of life services and infrastructure so integral to our nation’s economic strength and the health of our citizenry.”

APWA calls for a bipartisan, regular order legislative process as the most effective manner for Congress to pass critical infrastructure legislation that will help public works entities to continue their essential work in protecting public health and safety. Today’s actions by the House, and recent bipartisan discussions between President Biden and Members of Congress are vitally important. APWA stands ready to work with all Members of Congress and the Biden Administration to best serve the country by passing bipartisan infrastructure legislation.

For additional information about APWA, please contact Andrea Eales, APWA Director of Government and Public Affairs at aeales@apwa.net, or by phone at (202) 218-6730.

About APWA

The American Public Works Association (www.apwa.net) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 30,000 members involved in the field of public works. APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy, and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, MO, has an office in Washington, D.C., and 63 chapters and 97 branches throughout North America.

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