

From: Pottebaum, Nicholas D. EOP/WHO <Nicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov>
To: Pottebaum, Nicholas D. EOP/WHONicholas.D.Pottebaum@who.eop.gov
CC: Hoelscher, Douglas L. EOP/WHODouglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov
Date: 2/12/2018 6:21:05 PM
Subject: Building a Stronger America | President Trump Releases Infrastructure Principles
Attachments: [Legislative Outline - Rebuilding America's Infrastructure.pdf](#)
[Legislative Outline - Rebuilding America's Infrastructure \(1\).pdf](#)
[President Donald J. Trump Remarks In Meeting with State and Local Officials.pdf](#)

Good Evening,

Today, President Donald J. Trump released legislative goals to rebuild our Nation's crumbling infrastructure and hosted 24 state and local leaders at the White House including governors, legislators, mayors, and county officials. Attached you will find the Infrastructure Principles, Legislative Outline, and the President's Remarks from today's meeting with state and local leaders.

- Infrastructure Principles – Building a Stronger America (attached)
 1. Stimulate Infrastructure Investment – \$200 billion in Federal funds to spur at least \$1.5 trillion in infrastructure investments with partners at the State, local, Tribal, and private level.
 2. Invest in Rural America – New investments will be made in rural America, which has been left behind for too long.
 3. Increase State and Local Authority – Decision making authority will be returned to State and local governments.
 4. Eliminate Regulatory Barriers – Regulatory barriers that needlessly get in the way of infrastructure projects will be removed.
 5. Streamline Permitting – Permitting for infrastructure projects will be streamlined and shortened.
 6. Invest in Our Country's Most Important Asset – Its people – America's workforce will be supported and strengthened.
- Legislative Outline – Rebuilding Infrastructure in America (attached)
- Remarks – President Donald J. Trump Remarks In Meeting with State and Local Officials (attached)

Our Nation's infrastructure is in an unacceptable state of disrepair, which damages our country's competitiveness and our citizens' quality of life. For too long, lawmakers have invested in infrastructure inefficiently, ignored critical needs, and allowed it to deteriorate. As a result, the United States has fallen further and further behind other countries. It is time to give Americans the working, modern infrastructure they deserve.

“Washington will no longer be a roadblock to progress.
Washington will now be your partner.
We'll be your partner.”
– *President Donald J. Trump*

What State Leaders Are Saying

- State House Speaker Linda Upmeyer (Iowa): “I want to thank you very much, Mr. President, for recognizing the importance of rural America and broadband in particular. That's so critical for people working from home in our small communities and making sure they have access. Additionally, the workforce is so important. We have 2.7 percent unemployment in the state of Iowa. A historic low. And we need everybody to have the best skills they can possibly have. So, up-training our workforce is going to be a big piece of it.”
- Governor Jeff Colyer (Kansas): “The President's plan is designed in such a way that state and local governments will retain most of the decision-making power. That is good for two reasons; first, local decision makers are more accountable and better equipped to maximize the value of every taxpayer dollar. Secondly and more importantly; Kansans know what Kansas needs more than bureaucrats in Washington do and I'm pleased that the administration understands that. For too long rural America has been overlooked and undervalued. The administration's Rural Infrastructure Program invest \$50 Billion in rural communities, the build of which is block-granted to states so that the leaders on the ground can direct the money in the most efficient manner. Joblessness, lack of investment, addiction, and poor infrastructure are all problems plaguing our rural communities, and this plan is a great starting point to addressing those concerns.”
- Governor John Bel Edwards (Louisiana): “Louisiana has significant infrastructure challenges that we need to address. We're thinking outside the box in Louisiana to make significant infrastructure improvements, but we have a lot of work to do. In order to make a meaningful impact, we have to partner with the federal government. I look forward to learning about the President's proposal and finding innovative ways to improve our roads, bridges, and ports in order to help improve our economy and way of life in Louisiana. I appreciate the President inviting me to participate.”
- Governor Paul LePage (Maine): “Pleased to join @realDonaldTrump and state and local leaders today to discuss our infrastructure needs. I am all in for modernized permitting & public-private partnerships to invest for the future, expand broadband, create jobs & grow our economy #mepolitics.”
- Governor Phil Bryant (Mississippi): “I want to thank you, Mr. President. This is going to be -- I know the dynamic effort that you're going to put in it, and your team and all of us working together, is going to be generational. I hope, a hundred years from now they're thinking about the day that we were in this room and what happened this day.”
- Governor Rick Snyder (Michigan): “I appreciate @POTUS & his team working to improve our nation's infrastructure. As we work to improve MI's infrastructure, I look forward to working with the Trump Administration and serving as a role model for infrastructure development and solutions.”
- Governor Pete Ricketts (Nebraska): “Thank you to President Trump for his commitment to investing in America's infrastructure. In recent years, Nebraska has made significant investments in our state's infrastructure with the Build Nebraska Act and Transportation Innovation Act. These have been critical to growing our state. The President's focus in his plan on rural infrastructure and cutting red tape will support our ongoing work at the state level. As Congress looks at how to incentivize state investment, we urge them to give credit to the work of forward-thinking states like Nebraska who have locked in significant investments.”
- Governor Susana Martinez (New Mexico): “Thank you, Mr. President. First, I'd like to start by thanking you for all

- that you've done, and including our states, through our mayors and governors and commissioners, to be a part of the conversation. It was certainly something that did not exist in the previous administration. And because of that, we are at the table and able to give our different ideas and how they impact our states. So I'm very, very grateful for that -- for you and your willingness to allow us to participate."
- Governor Bill Haslam (Tennessee): "Transportation infrastructure is, without question, that's the fundamental responsibility of government. Nobody can build their own interstate system; I don't care who they are. Nobody can build their own network that this nation relies on. So we're very encouraged. Last year, in Tennessee, we combined the largest tax cut in history with actually increasing revenue toward transportation because our infrastructure was so out of date -- everything from getting our agriculture product to market to making certain that our largest cities have it. So we're with you, and we want to encourage this to actually be fulfilled as quickly as you can because we're quickly getting behind the rest of the world."
- Governor Ralph Northam (Virginia): "During my campaign I made a commitment to take advantage of every opportunity to make life better for all Virginians and to work with the president on issues where common ground may be possible. We can all agree that the Commonwealth has critical infrastructure needs that demand our attention, to include investing in the dredging of Virginia's port, improving the safety of the I-81 corridor, connecting all Virginians with access to broadband, improving the Interstate 95 rail corridor, and the ability to plan future projects with the confidence that the federal Highway Trust Fund will remain available." [Article](#).
- Governor Scott Walker (Wisconsin): "Joined state and local leaders in both parties from across the US to talk about transportation today at the @WhiteHouse with the @POTUS."
- National Governors Association (NGA): "The nation's governors welcome the President's and Congress' focus on improving our nation's infrastructure. That includes roads and bridges, airports, ports, inland waterways, transit, passenger rail, drinking water and wastewater systems, energy and broadband networks. That is why it is absolutely paramount that state, federal and local governments continue our longstanding partnership to invest in quality infrastructure and meet the nation's needs. A strong cooperative relationship between states and the federal government is essential to best serve the interests of all citizens. President Trump and Congress have an opportunity to not only invigorate our approach to infrastructure spending, but to stabilize the funding streams that state and local governments depend on the most, such as the Highway Trust Fund, while supporting programs like the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds. Governors look forward to working with Congress as it develops legislation that enhances our current infrastructure programs, provides states flexibility for augmenting investment with innovative financing tools and streamlines the federal review process in a way that maintains necessary environmental protections. We stand ready to work with the Administration and Congress to modernize the nation's infrastructure to meet our diverse needs, protect public health and safety and ensure economic competitiveness for years to come."

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Nic

--

Nicholas D. Pottebaum
Associate Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs