



NARC

Building Regional Communities

National Association of Regional Councils

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June 8, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio,

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) – which serves as the national voice for regions and supports regional solutions to local and national challenges – applauds the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s release of the *Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America* Act. This 5-year, \$547 billion authorization is an important step toward meeting the nation’s significant transportation infrastructure needs and recognizing the critical role of the regional perspective in infrastructure investments.

Local and county governments across the nation continue to recover from the pandemic. Robust federal investment in transportation and other infrastructure can play a critical role in helping meet the challenges they face today and allow them to prepare for what lies ahead. Importantly, the INVEST Act ensures a greater share of these federal resources are available for projects that are of highest priority for cities and counties. We also appreciate the robust investment in transportation planning and the other ways this bill recognizes the planning process as an essential element of the federal transportation program.

Thank you for your leadership on these critical issues. We look forward to working with you as this important legislation continues to make its way through Congress.

Best regards,

Leslie Wollack
Executive Director