

NAM POLICY REVISIONS



Infrastructure Resolution

WHEREAS, our nation's roads, bridges, transit systems, railroads, airports, ports and inland waterways empower America's global economic leadership; and

WHEREAS, manufacturers rely on these systems to ensure timely and efficient transport of production materials, delivery of finished products and the mobility of its workforce; and

WHEREAS, that infrastructure today is woefully inadequate, slowing our economic growth, endangering our fellow citizens and giving other countries a competitive advantage; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) has built a strong body of work that communicates the desperate need for significant investment in infrastructure, including:

- A comprehensive 2013 NAM survey revealing that the majority of manufacturers agree our infrastructure is in need of repair;
- A 2014 NAM report, titled "The National Impact of a West Coast Port Stoppage," showing that cargo moving through West Coast ports represents an economic value of 12.5 percent of GDP; and
- A 2014 NAM infrastructure report, titled "Catching Up," demonstrating a decade-long period of decline in infrastructure spending comes at a cost to the economy; and

WHEREAS, current legislative efforts and approaches are not adequate to address the nation's serious infrastructure challenges and keep America moving and safe; and

WHEREAS, current funding streams to support federal transportation programs are not sustainable, and revenues and funding levels have not been updated to keep pace with 21st-century demands; and

WHEREAS, other infrastructure, ranging from aging drinking water and wastewater systems to energy pipelines, export terminals, electric grids and communications infrastructure, are also indispensable and in urgent need of modernization; and

WHEREAS, a targeted, substantial investment in revitalizing our nation's infrastructure would boost economic growth, create jobs, save lives, bring Americans together around a common purpose, demonstrate that our leaders are capable of working together in a bipartisan manner to build a brighter future and to restore Americans' eroding faith in our great institutions and our free enterprise system; and

WHEREAS, the NAM has a long history of rising to the occasion and helping to meet our nation's most pressing and historic challenges with bold solutions; and

WHEREAS, in the tradition of innovative manufacturers who have come before us, "Building to Win" is a clarion call from manufacturers in the United States, for all future generations, and offers a promising roadmap forward; and

WHEREAS, it is our responsibility, as caretakers of the promise of our exceptional nation, to promote, perpetuate and preserve America's leadership and leave to our children and grandchildren a stronger country.

NOW THEREFORE, be IT RESOLVED that the NAM Board of Directors adopts "Building to Win," manufacturers' national infrastructure policy and plan, as a signature issue for the NAM and calls upon the broader business community, the next president of the United States and the 115th Congress to substantially invest in the modernization of America's infrastructure to secure and enhance our country's mantle of economic leadership in the world.