



Appropriations Committee, Commerce Committee,
Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, Planning and Development Committee
Public Hearing – March 21, 2018
Report of the Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth

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Dear Chairpersons and Members of the Committees,

The Connecticut Construction Industries Association (CCIA) is an organization of associations that represent various sectors of the construction industry. Members include building and facility contractors; transportation contractors; environmental and utility contractors; material producers; suppliers; equipment dealers; and related professional firms.

CCIA **supports** the sections of the Report of the Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth that specifically address transportation for the reason that those sections acknowledge Connecticut's highway, bridge and transit network is integral to the success of the state economy. These sections recognize that the efficient and safe movement of goods and people is critical to the economic competitiveness of Connecticut and the quality of life for its citizens. The recommendations on transportation will increase investments to support an efficient and safe highway, bridge and transit network to improve mobility and economic growth.

The importance of a robust transportation network has been well documented by business analysts, economists and the research community. In 2017, CCIA commissioned the American Road and Transportation Builders Association to study the economic impact of failing to invest in Connecticut's highways, bridges and transit. The ARTBA analysis used sophisticated modeling techniques and data to examine the economic impact of transportation investment on six key economic sectors in Connecticut: healthcare/bioscience, insurance and financial services, advanced manufacturing, digital media, tourism, and green technologies.

The ARTBA analysis validates that transportation investments benefit business by improving competitiveness, providing better access to labor, increasing market share and customers, fostering expansion, boosting demands for inputs, reducing production costs, and cultivating agglomeration economies.

Today, mobility and the state economy in Connecticut are suffering. The revenues supporting the Special Transportation Fund are insufficient to meet scheduled operational and capital expenses. Service reductions, fare increases and project deferments are underway. Mobility is declining and the potential loss of economic activity is staggering. The transportation sections of the Commission Report address this situation and include revenue recommendations to negate the deterioration of the state's transportation systems and economy.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 860-529-6855 or dshubert@ctconstruction.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald J. Shubert

Shaping the Future of the Construction Industry

