



BACKGROUND

On an annual basis 110 million metric tons of the cement are consumed in the United States with approximately half being used in federally-funded infrastructure projects. Cement is the primary ingredient in concrete, which is a resilient building material, used to build everything from roads and bridges, water and sewer infrastructure, flood control and prevention infrastructure, military construction, and public buildings. The cement industry is committed to reaching carbon-neutrality by 2050 across the cement and concrete value chain. Blended cements are an important part of reducing the carbon footprint of both cement and infrastructure projects over their full lifecycle. Market demand for lower-carbon cements continues to increase. Blended cements made up 54 percent of the cement consumed in the United States in 2023 versus 2 percent in 2019.

STATUS

Cement is a critical construction material to building U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) infrastructure projects, and cement manufacturers rely on our nation's waterways to ship their product to market.

Stability in the Highway Trust Fund provides certainty to federal-aid highway program recipients they need to move forward on critical highway and transit projects to make repairs, address bottlenecks, provide for the efficient movement of freight and public access to transportation choices. Therefore, it is important to restore the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.

As providers of construction materials, cement manufacturers and concrete producers regularly compete in the private sector with other materials. Over the past several years, one of those competing construction materials - mass timber - has sought to gain a competitive advantage in federal infrastructure by promoting policies to direct mass timber in federal infrastructure, including military construction and federal buildings.

ASKS

- Support increased use of low-carbon cement and concrete in federally funded infrastructure projects.
- Support passage of the Water Resources Development Act to continue the cycle of passing legislation to authorize critical U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects every two years.
- Respect the engineer's discretion to choose the best construction material for the project by opposing legislation that gives preference to one construction material over another.
- Build on the investments made in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and address the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund to continue to help states and communities build critical infrastructure.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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