



## Rural America's Transportation and Infrastructure Need Serious Investment

- \$60 million Americans live and work in rural communities.
- Roads, bridges, highways, and waterways provide the first and last links in the supply chain.
- To remain competitive in the marketplace, rural America needs to have reliable and safe infrastructure to efficiently move our products.

## Waterways Infrastructure Keeps U.S. Farmers Competitive

- America's inland waterways system provides the most fuel efficient, lowest cost, and environmentally friendly method of transporting products.
- United States corn producers move more than 50 percent of corn for export on the inland waterways system.
- The inland waterways system allows the United States to stay competitive internationally with countries like Brazil and Argentina.
  - These countries are quickly moving to surpass the United States in corn production but lack the infrastructure to move their product like the United States.

## The Lock and Dam System Urgently Needs Extensive Maintenance and Modernization

- Most locks and dams were built in the 1920s and 1930s and have far exceeded their 50-year design lifespan.
- In 2017, 49 percent of barge vessels experienced delays, up from 35 percent in 2010. The impact of these delays costs nearly \$45 million annually and adversely affects the price farmers earn for their grain.

## Rural Roads and Bridges

- The nation's rural roads and bridges have significant deficiencies due to underfunding. 15 percent of the nation's major rural roads have pavements rated in poor condition, 21 percent in mediocre condition, and 10 percent rated structurally deficient.
- An increase in federal transportation funding is needed to meet the needs of this crumbling infrastructure.