



AMERICAN CONCRETE PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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May 21, 2021

The Honorable Haley Stevens
Chairwoman
Committee on Science, Space & Technology
Research and Technology Subcommittee
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael Waltz
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space & Technology
Research and Technology Subcommittee
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Heavy Freight Autonomous Trucking Research Corridor (ATRC) program in the Surface Transportation R&D Bill

Dear Chairwoman Stevens and Ranking Member Waltz:

The American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) is the world's largest trade association that exclusively represents the interests of those involved with the design, construction, and preservation of concrete pavements. ACPA supports research, deployment, and education to improve the quality of concrete pavements and expand their use. We represent nearly 400 member companies and 2,300 individuals across the US and abroad.

ACPA is very much vested and engaged in the future of U.S. surface transportation. In the fall of 2017, ACPA brought together a blue-ribbon panel of 28 highway stakeholders representing FHWA, State Departments of Transportation, Transportation Research Board, Contractors, Materials Suppliers, Consulting Engineers, Academia, and Equipment manufacturers to discuss a wide range of topics related to the needs for movement of people and goods in coming decades. This effort culminated in a *VISION 2040* report that presented a vision for the future of US surface transportation. Among other things, the panel concluded that highway agencies will in the future need better, adaptable, resource efficient and resilient pavements that have reliable long-term performance, while accommodating a variety of sensing and measurement technologies needed for connected vehicles of the future.

As such, **ACPA supports the inclusion of the proposed Heavy Freight Autonomous Trucking Research Corridor (ATRC) program in the Surface Transportation R&D Bill.** As freight increasingly will move across the nation and between mega-regions along dedicated freight corridors (or a freight network) largely via autonomous connected trucks, it is critical that we do the research needed now to fully understand and better optimize such freight corridors.

We look forward to working with the subcommittee to advance such strategic and forward-thinking programs in surface transportation legislation. ACPA stands ready to be a resource to you and your staffs in those endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leif Wathne". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Leif G. Wathne, P.E.
Executive Vice President
American Concrete Pavement Association