PRESS RELEASE

National Association of County Engineers: Suspension of Federal Gas Tax Will Harm Infrastructure Development

Washington, D.C. – Chris Champion, Henry County, Alabama County Engineer, and President of the National Association of County Engineers (NACE), issued the following statement in response to President Joseph R. Biden’s call for Congress to suspend the federal excise tax for gasoline for a period of three months:

“American infrastructure investment is needed now more than ever. A suspension of the federal gas tax, while good intentioned, would severely hinder the nation’s ability to complete much-needed infrastructure projects. With inflation already cutting into the buying power of local, state, and federal funding, a federal gas tax suspension would cost the Highway Trust Fund and infrastructure programs billions of dollars more per month at a time the nation can least afford it. In Congress, leaders of both parties have recently denounced a gas tax holiday and we encourage lawmakers not to consider this step, as the long-term consequences will certainly outweigh any short-term benefit.”

NACE is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional association in its 68th year, representing over 3,000 county road officials and related professionals in the United States and Canada. In the U.S., counties own and maintain 46% of the nation’s roads and 40% of the nation’s bridges, making them the single largest owner of these transportation assets than any other division of government. Counties manage 1.74 million miles of roads and own 231,000 bridges while operating one-third of the nation’s transit systems.

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