

January 31, 2018

The One Thing Legislators on Both Sides of the Aisle Wholeheartedly Agree On

It's no secret, partisan politics have strangled effective public policy. From cable news to political campaigns to social media, it's almost impossible to find positivity and consensus in our nation's capital, ***or so we thought***. There is one issue that both political parties reaffirmed over and over again last night – it's time to rebuild our national infrastructure.

At his first State of the Union Address, President Donald J. Trump said, "Together, we can reclaim our building heritage. We will build gleaming new roads, bridges, highways, railways, and waterways across our land. And we will do it with American heart, American hands, and American grit."

Roughly 30 minutes later in Massachusetts at the official Democratic response, Rep. Joe Kennedy (D-MA) said, "We choose a better deal for all those who call our country home. We choose...roads and bridges that will not rust away." (<https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4712286/infrastructure>).

As corrosion professionals, you see our nation's crippling infrastructure every day. Whether it's a local bridge that needs repair, a dam that is deteriorating, or a national water-crisis in Flint, Michigan, you understand the dangerous consequences of inaction – increased risk to public safety. As NACE members, you work diligently to raise awareness of these issues and promote sensible policies, and now your continued support is more important than ever before.

The Trump Administration and Congress will consider infrastructure legislation in the next 3 months. While policies are being drafted, both political parties will pursue increased infrastructure funding. President Trump called on Congress "to produce a bill that generates at least \$1.5 trillion for the new infrastructure investment we need." While new investments are important, they only address one side of the equation; we must ensure those investments are protected- both in terms of public safety and fiduciary responsibility.

As corrosion professionals, you understand the importance of corrosion planning and management. America's infrastructure is only as good as the materials used, the qualifications of its builders, and the building and maintenance planning put in from the start.

Join our efforts and help ensure meaningful policy is included in upcoming infrastructure legislation. Learn more about how to get involved by visiting: <https://www.nace.org/government-relations/get-involved/>. Join fellow members on May 23-24 in Washington, DC for NACE's Annual Legislative Day.

For more information about NACE's government relations efforts, please contact Adam Christopher – adam.christopher@nace.org.



Robert H. Chalker
Chief Executive Officer
NACE International