

DOUG BURGUM GOVERNOR OF NORTH DAKOTA CHAIR KATE BROWN GOVERNOR OF OREGON VICE CHAIR JAMES D. OGSBURY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 9, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso Chairman Committee on Environment & Public Works United States Senate 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Thomas R. Carper Ranking Member Committee on Environment & Public Works United States Senate 456 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

Western Governors support the creation of more efficient infrastructure permitting and environmental review processes without shortening timelines for state input and consultation, or compromising natural resource, wildlife, environmental, or cultural values. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which expires in 2020, was a significant step in improving the federal infrastructure approval process. The Governors also urge Congress to include funding and provisions in the bill's state-supported transportation infrastructure projects that support fish and wildlife crossings and habitat connectivity.

Thank you for examining the reauthorization of the FAST Act in your July 10, 2019 hearing on Investing in America's Surface Transportation Infrastructure: The Need for a Multi-Year Reauthorization Bill. To inform the Committee's consideration of this important topic, I request that the Committee include the following attachments in the permanent record of the hearing:

- WGA Policy Resolution 2018-15, Modernizing Western Infrastructure;
- WGA Policy Resolution <u>2018-06</u>, *Transportation Infrastructure in the Western United States*; and
- WGA Policy Resolution <u>2019-08</u>, *Wildlife Mitigation Corridors and Habitat*.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

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Attachments