

To Compete, America Must Rebuild Its Infrastructure

For America to continue to compete we must strengthen our infrastructure and build the next generation of roads, schools, waterways, airports, subways and railways.

- According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, the estimated cost to rebuild our nation's infrastructure is \$1.6 trillion.
- We have little choice—our country, economy and transportation needs are growing, and the situation will grow worse with delay. Over the next 50 years, the U.S. population is expected to grow by 140 million to 435 million. Our highways today carry 246 million cars and trucks—in less than 50 years, 400 million vehicles will crowd our roadways, according to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. And rail tonnage is expected to grow by 63 percent by 2035.

To continue leading the global economy, America will need to move faster, better and less expensively than today.

- From China to India, countries competing with the U.S. are investing in their infrastructure. For example, according to the AASHTO, China is close to completing a 53,000-mile National Expressway System which will rival the 47,000-mile U.S. Interstate System.

By building America, America's workers can build stronger, healthier and better lives for themselves and their families. That's why LIUNA has joined with partners in industry to increase infrastructure investment.

- LIUNA supports investing in our nation's infrastructure using every responsible funding mechanism available—and we should ensure that infrastructure projects carry Davis-Bacon wage protections to protect local community wage standards, increase productivity and ensure that construction jobs are good, family-supporting jobs.
- For every billion dollars in federal infrastructure investment, 48,000 good jobs can be created. Those jobs—when protected by Davis-Bacon—allow construction workers, whether union or non-union, to earn a living wage with pension and health benefits.