

Congressman Joe Neguse Testimony
Members Day Hearing
House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Across the 2nd District of Colorado, my constituents are looking to leaders in Washington and representatives of this Committee, to prioritize much needed investments in our infrastructure.

At the heart of my district, we are in need of investments for the critical transportation corridors of I-70, US-36 and I-25 that stretch across our state. Investment in our highway system would reduce hazardous congestion, and provide economic-development through jobs and accessibility for our local businesses.

In our mountain communities, in Summit and Eagle Counties, we are in need of significant infrastructure investment to meet the need of population growth and heavy tourist traffic, this includes investment in rural housing, rural broadband and transportation. These investments would have wide-reaching benefits including providing businesses with much needed revenue, workers the ability to access jobs across our region and the housing they need.

Our region has grown rapidly, and our current infrastructure is no longer able to meet the needs of the population. We want to ensure our municipalities are equipped with infrastructure that is sustainable and green, and moves our communities closer to our goals for addressing climate change. Many of our cities have pledged to “go green” and are looking for opportunities to benefit the region’s rapid growth while staying true to their environmental principles and goals.

Further, I encourage the committee to include education and school buildings when considering a comprehensive infrastructure package. Just last week, I visited schools in my district where buildings are literally crumbling. It’s simply unacceptable that our country’s students are expected to learn in buildings that are not only falling apart, but in many cases unsafe to inhabit. I’m a proud cosponsor

of Chairman Bobby Scott's Rebuilding America's Schools Act and strongly encourage its inclusion in an infrastructure package.

I implore the Committee to take into consideration the needs of my district as they look to an infrastructure package. This is a fundamental area that we need to be focusing on, and a chief priority across my district and one I believe one that we can get done even with a divided government.