

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #22

Support Capital Construction on an Annual Basis

Submitted by Delegate Ralph Affrunti, Chicago & Cook County Building and Construction Trades Council

WHEREAS, the economic vitality of Illinois is key to the well-being and quality of life for businesses and residents throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Illinois' transportation network is a key pillar in the economic vitality of the state; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway System in Illinois is the 4th largest in the nation, containing 7,945 miles – only Texas, California, and Florida have more; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Governor Pritzker signed a historic, bipartisan \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital infrastructure spending package to invest in roads, bridges, rail, universities, schools, and government building across the state over the next six years creating jobs and supporting local economies; and

WHEREAS, the \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital infrastructure spending package invests \$33.2 billion for transportation projects including roads, bridges, rail, and mass transit; and

WHEREAS, the \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital infrastructure spending package is the largest in the state's history; and

WHEREAS, before Governor Pritzker signed Rebuild Illinois in 2019, the last large-scale Capital Construction legislation, Illinois Jobs Now, was signed 10 years ago by Governor Quinn; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Budget fully re-appropriates projects from the \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois capital program; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on the state's economy and resulted in massive amounts of unemployment; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration estimates that for every \$1 billion spent on road and highway funding, approximately 13,000 jobs per year are created; and

WHEREAS, Illinois' transportation network is critical to the growth and re-development of both state and local economies; and

WHEREAS, support for capital investment is a continuous need that supports economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Illinois still has a \$32 billion projected need over the next 20 years for drinking, storm water, and wastewater infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, Illinois needs to maintain a sustainable infrastructure investment program that plans for the future of Illinois, where our children will live; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Illinois AFL-CIO goes on record in support of an annual funded capital construction bill in Illinois and will use its membership mobilization efforts to pressure state government to continue this effort; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Illinois AFL-CIO calls upon the President of the United States and members of Congress to continue to appropriate funds nationwide to fix our ailing infrastructure.