



DESTINATION 2030

THE ROAD TO A STRONGER
TRANSPORTATION FUTURE

JOIN THE COALITION

Shaping a 21st Century Transportation Strategy

North Carolina continues to face a transportation crisis. In recent years, we've seen historic storms send the costs of road repairs surging and revenue shortfalls sideline major projects across our transportation network. More troubling, evidence continues to mount showing that we rely too heavily on increasingly unworkable funding mechanisms – like an outdated motor fuels tax – to support the mobility needs of our fast-growing state. Disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic have only complicated these challenges.

The landmark Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, secured by federal leaders in 2021, may have given states like ours a bipartisan boost to help cover short-term transportation and infrastructure needs. But North Carolina still lacks a modernized, sustainable transportation formula that can keep our state competitive over the long haul. That's where the NC Chamber's Destination 2030 Coalition comes in. We're an alliance of businesses and economic development organizations urging state leaders to enact a 21st century transportation financing model that works for modern-day North Carolina.

The truth is, there's a lot to like about our state's transportation prospects, starting with our position as a natural nexus of East Coast commerce. We're growing an enviable network of multimodal connections, anchored by industry-leading port, rail, and airport facilities. If job creators and our allies can convince our leaders to commit to a revamped funding formula the same way they've committed to these key transportation assets, we stand to create explosive impacts across North Carolina's economy – and cement our status as a best-in-class state to do business for decades to come.

The NC Chamber's Destination 2030 Coalition is committed to giving business a front-row seat at the transportation policy table, for as long as it takes to see transformative progress in our state. But we'll need bold support from organizations like yours to inspire the visionary leadership that can secure the world-class transportation future North Carolinians deserve.

**Won't you go bold with us?
North Carolina's success – and that of our
businesses – hangs in the balance.**



Meet Mark Coggins

Director of Government Affairs

As the NC Chamber's lead lobbyist on transportation policy, Mark Coggins heads up our efforts to advance a forward-thinking transportation investment strategy with the support of our partners on the Destination 2030 Coalition. Prior to joining the Chamber, Mark served in various roles connected to the North Carolina General Assembly. He brings years of proven experience solving problems and building relationships in state-level politics. Have a policy-specific question about the NC Chamber's transportation priorities or the efforts of the Destination 2030 Coalition? Mark has the answers you're looking for.

Mark Coggins

Director of Government Affairs
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The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: Paving the Way to a Sustainable Solution

Congress' 2021 passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), with its \$550 billion in new funding for American infrastructure, proved that leaders can still come together across the political aisle to take historic infrastructure action. The billions of federal transportation dollars the IIJA provides to our state will help us shore up many of our most pressing funding gaps. However, the long-term security of our transportation network will hinge on state leaders following suit to enact our own bipartisan, North Carolina-based solutions.

Key transportation-related benefits of the IIJA for North Carolina:

- \$7.2 billion for federal-aid highway apportioned programs, \$457 million for bridge replacement and repairs, and \$109 million to expand EV charging infrastructure throughout the state, allocated over five years.
- The chance to compete for additional pools of \$16 billion to support transportation projects with substantial economic impacts and \$12.5 billion to reinforce and repair economically significant bridges.

Solutions Are on the Table

Recently, numerous research organizations and blue-ribbon initiatives like the NC FIRST Commission have looked closely at North Carolina's problematic transportation funding strategies and laid out potential solutions to modernize our revenue streams. These reports are among the key resources guiding our efforts to equip policymakers with effective, forward-thinking options to reform transportation funding in our state.

Learn more at ncchamber.com/destination2030.



Coalition Wins

In 2021, even as state-level transportation funding priorities were overshadowed by landmark federal infrastructure legislation and the COVID-19 pandemic, the NC Chamber's Destination 2030 Coalition secured several important legislative victories. We're committed to elevating our engagement with elected leaders and other policymakers to continue building on these victories in 2022 and beyond.

Coalition wins in 2021 included:

- Securing \$90 million in new annual state transportation revenue by passing a measure that guarantees all funds created by the sale of short-term vehicle leases are directed to the Highway Fund (previously, only about 10 percent of these funds went to transportation, with the rest going to the General Fund).
- Supporting optimal utilization of newly available IIJA funds through persistent advocacy that helped ensure the creation of roughly \$8.7 billion in one-time funding for important transportation projects.

BY THE NUMBERS

\$11.7B (and growing)

The amount NC currently falls short in funding projected long-term transportation needs across our network.

8th

Highest motor fuels tax nationwide (NC depends on this increasingly inviable tax for 54.7% of total state transportation revenues).

44th

Where NC ranks among states for per-mile investment in state-maintained roads.

37%

Of major NC roads and highways in poor or mediocre condition (approximately 8,400 miles).

\$10.3 Billion

In annual vehicle-related costs from driving on rough and deficient roadways in NC.

1.9 Million

Full-time jobs* are completely dependent on NC's transportation network.

**Virtually all jobs are impacted by the network in some way.*

\$10.8 Billion

In gross state product for every \$1 billion invested in transportation.

NC CHAMBER

DESTINATION 2030

Join the Coalition

By 2030, will we be able to look back and say we did everything in our power to build the strongest possible transportation future for our state? The NC Chamber's Destination 2030 Coalition is all about making sure the answer to this question is a resounding "yes"! If you represent an organization with interests in shaping a modernized transportation strategy for North Carolina, join us by following the link in the QR code and filling out the online submission form.

By completing this form, your organization will be listed online as a member of the Destination 2030 Coalition and your individual email will be added to our distribution list to receive developmental updates and invitations to exclusive meetings where strategies are coordinated to advance forward-thinking transportation solutions. Member organizations do not commit to specific policy outcomes and have the choice to opt in to joint policy recommendations issued by the Coalition. Learn more about our efforts at ncchamber.com/destination2030.



Follow the link and join
the coalition!