



LCFOR
666 North Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

March 25, 2021

Dear Members;

Over the past four years and with your tremendous support, LCFOR has poured significant time and resources into engaging a diverse coalition of organizations, parish councils, economic development and business organizations, stakeholders, legislators, and media from around the state in support of infrastructure investment. As you know, we have been working in tandem with Rep. Jack McFarland and staff on legislation responsive to the sentiments of legislators across the state and were approaching the final stages of the Government Reform in Transportation (GRIT) Act. However, we were informed yesterday evening by Rep. McFarland that he will not be filing the GRIT legislation this session and, instead, will shift his focus to identifying alternative funding sources that can garner the votes necessary for passage. While this shift is unexpected, we nonetheless will remain committed to our core mission which is greater sustainable funding for roads and bridges in our state.

It is important that you know that because of our aggressive efforts, infrastructure investment is experiencing unprecedented support from the public, legislators of both parties and from all corners of the state. It will be a significant theme during this session and depending on guidance from the US Department of Treasury on how states can use their American Rescue Act allocations, we also expect significant infusion of one-time resources that were not previously possible. Additionally, several pieces of legislation have already been filed by multiple legislators all directed at shifting existing resources to infrastructure. While we are disappointed that the GRIT legislation will not be filed as expected, we understand it is part of the legislative making process. Be assured that LCFOR will continue to rally and actively support those instruments that achieve our ultimate goal of creating sustainable long-term infrastructure funding.

Your support has been invaluable and effective in building momentum for infrastructure investment for our state's roads and bridges. We are only getting started and we will keep you informed of our legislative efforts throughout this process. The action starts April 12!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erich Pont", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Erich

Erich Pont
President LCFOR