

2022 February PIN Update

Protect Investment in Ohio's Roads and Bridges

Recently the Ohio Senate introduced legislation that proposes to suspend a much-needed revenue increase for state and local roads and bridges. S.B. 277 would reverse an agreed upon revenue increase from 2019 in the bipartisan biennial transportation budget (also known as H.B. 62), which was signed into law by Governor DeWine.

As currently written, S.B. 277 would reduce the tax rate on gasoline and diesel fuel to 28¢ per gallon for five years beginning no sooner than July 1, 2022 and suspend collection of the additional annual motor vehicle registration fee applicable to certain alternative fuel motor vehicles for five years beginning on January 1, 2023. The bill currently awaits review by the Ohio Senate Transportation Committee.

ASCE's 2021 Report Card on Ohio's Infrastructure gave the state an overall grade of "C-", while the state's Roads received a "D" and Bridges received a "C+". Ohio's roads and bridges carry the third highest freight volume in the U.S. and accommodate the sixth most vehicle miles travelled, making the state an essential tool in the national economy. With the state's surface transportation investments needed to ensure the safety of all Ohioans and expand the local economy, making cuts to these critical investments would be short sighted.

Furthermore, according to the Fix Our Roads (FOR) Ohio coalition, which the ASCE Ohio Council is a member of, the proposed cuts in S.B. 277 will force cutbacks to local and state road construction, repair, and maintenance work across Ohio. With nearly 30,000 Ohioans directly employed by the construction and maintenance of Ohio's infrastructure network, good-paying jobs will be at stake, as well as promised safety and upkeep of our state's roads. Read more about FOR Ohio's concerns about S.B. 277 and its harmful impacts in its letter [here](#).

Urge your State Senator and Representative to vote 'No' to S.B. 277 and commit to keeping Ohio's roads and bridges safe.