



What They Are Saying: *Falling Apart and Falling Behind*

Reihan Salam, *The Daily*: the Building America's Future report couldn't be better timed. Led by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Govs. Ed Rendell of Pennsylvania and Arnold Schwarzenegger of California, Building America's Future is offering a way out of America's economic doldrums.

Tanya Snyder, *DCStreetsblog.org*: ...we're glad to see that today's contribution to the infrastructure debate... [recommends] concrete ways to build smarter, not just more.

Eric Jaffe, *Infrastructurist*: ...[Any future studies that] emerge will have a hard time presenting a stronger plan for building America's infrastructure future than the one released earlier this week by the bipartisan advocacy group Building America's Future.

U.S. Conference of Mayors: This report shows how America continues to fall behind in economy-building investments in infrastructure. The nation's mayors believe that raising our commitments here is job one in accelerating the growth of the U.S. economy. We commend Mayors Bloomberg and Governors Rendell and Schwarzenegger on this report, and we look forward to working with them as we advocate to Congress and the White House to put millions of unemployed Americans back to work.

Richard Trumka, *AFL-CIO*: Rebuilding our nation's crumbling infrastructure will employ millions of workers and ensure efficient and timely movement of goods, services and people. We commend the leadership of Building America's Future in building a bi-partisan coalition to demand a new era of investment in our nation's infrastructure.

Pat Natale, P.E., *F.ASCE, American Society of Civil Engineers*: The release today of Building America's Future new report, "Falling Apart and Failing Behind" further strengthens the national call for elected officials to stop talking about the woes of the nation's infrastructure and do something. The report concludes with five solid, achievable and desirable recommendations... The bottom line is that the nation's surface transportation infrastructure today is failing to sustain the economy, is failing to bolster business innovation and exporting, and is failing the American family.

Janet Kavinsky, *U.S. Chamber of Commerce*: Today's report from Building America's Future further reinforces that the U.S. is missing a huge opportunity to ignite economic growth, improve our global competitiveness, and create jobs. This is not just 'transportation for transportation's sake.' Without more robust economic growth, the U.S. will not create the 20 million jobs needed in the next decade to replace those lost during the recession and to keep up with a growing workforce, will not have the revenue to get the deficit under control, will not have the ability to keep pace with global competitors, and will not be able to provide our children and grandchildren with a better future.

Robert Puentes, *Brookings Institution*: America needs more jobs, better jobs, and jobs that are more accessible. So we've got to invest, but we've got to invest smarter. The report by Building America's Future strikes the right chord at the right time by laying out a pragmatic approach for doing that.



Bruce D'Agostino, Construction Management Association of America: Falling Apart & Falling Behind is exactly on target in describing the enormous price America stands to pay for its continuing neglect of vital infrastructure. CMAA commends BAF for not only continuing to sound this alarm but also for stepping forward with a concrete and practical set of solutions. We must begin by recognizing the difference between expenditures and investments. Sound investments not only pay back their own costs but continue to deliver tangible returns well into the future... By neglecting our infrastructure, we will miss out on that revenue. Moreover, this number only represents an avoidable loss; it does not consider all of the positive things that will not have a chance to happen. We will miss out on the dynamism that occurs when people are employed and confident. Houses, cars, appliances, airline seats, hotel rooms, sports tickets will all go unsold. Great ideas will be shelved, new products deferred. The ripple effect throughout our economy will be profound. We applaud BAF's emphasis on innovation, flexibility and accountability, as these are among the key benefits of professional Construction Management.

Governor Gerald L. Baliles, Miller Center, University of Virginia: Transportation is essential to American prosperity. We applaud Building America's Future on the production of clear recommendations that acknowledge the need for a long term increase in transportation investments to move people, goods and services quickly and efficiently; such action is essential to economic growth and economic stability. Their recommendations are very much in line with our own at the Miller Center's David R. Goode National Transportation Policy Conference. We need to get started, for it is our future that is at stake.

Stephen Lee Davis, Transportation for America: We've fallen behind the world on investing in transportation and our physical infrastructure, but Building America's Future lays out a clear path forward to help restore America's prominence and lay a strong foundation for our economic future... This report from BAF is a concise summary of the problem we face and the perhaps obvious solution staring us in the face: If we want to continue leading the world in economic dominance, we've got to lead the world in investing in our transportation networks — and casting a vision for the next 50 years of investment.

Mortimer Downey, The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors: We are delighted to see that Building America's Future has identified freight as a key growth component for our nation, and emphasized that without proper investment in freight infrastructure, we are neglecting one of our nation's most tremendous assets. The report contributes to the important debate over how our nation should go about providing for our goods movement system demands.

Emil Frankel, Bipartisan Policy Center: Even in a time of constrained resources, investment in the nation's transportation infrastructure is critical to the nation's economic recovery and growth. In this report, Building America's Future has urged significant programmatic reform and a targeting of resources on economically significant programs and projects. Many of the reforms they propose, including promoting accountability, leveraging greater private investment in transportation, and removing barriers to state and local innovation, echo the recommendations of the Bipartisan Policy Center's National Transportation Policy Project, in our June 2009 and June 2011 reports. Given the nation's current economic and fiscal challenges, this report by Building America's Future reinforces the argument that this is the moment to make more efficient use of scarce resources and to invest adequately and productively in our transportation infrastructure, in order to create and sustain economic growth.