Falling Apart
America’s Infrastructure In Need of Repair
Where Things Stand

The 2017 Infrastructure Report Card graded the nation’s infrastructure a D+.

There is a $2 trillion 10 year investment gap between America’s infrastructure needs and funding required to get a grade of B.

Conditions of Bridges

• There are nearly 56,000 structurally deficient bridges in the U.S.
• The average age of a structurally deficient bridge is 67 years old.
• If placed end to end, the length of the nation’s structurally deficient bridges would stretch 1,276 miles, or half the distance from New York to Los Angeles.
Condition of Roads

• 44% of America’s major roads are in poor condition.

• Driving on roads in need of repair costs U.S. drivers $112 billion per year in extra vehicle repairs and operating costs, or $523 per motorist.

• The quality of U.S. road infrastructure ranks 10th in the world, behind such countries as Portugal and Austria.
Traffic Congestion is Getting Worse

- 43 percent of America’s major urban Interstates experience congestion during peak travel times.
- The average commuter wasted 42 hours sitting in traffic in 2014. That is up from 16 hours in 1982.
- Congestion costs drivers $160 billion in wasted time and fuel – that amounts to $960 per driver.
Airports and Air Traffic Control

- America’s airports have nearly $100 billion in capital needs for projects considered essential by the airport and airport users. This is a 32 percent increase since 2015.
- It is projected that the number of passengers is expected to increase from 819.6 million in 2016 to 1.23 billion by 2037.
- Yet, America’s air traffic control system still relies on World War 2 era technology.
Water

- Every day, nearly 6 billion gallons of treated drinking water are lost due to leaking pipes, with an estimated 240,000 water main breaks occurring each year.
- The average age of America’s water pipes is 47 years with those in urban areas even older.
- One-fifth of the US economy would grind to a halt without a reliable and clean source of water.
Dams

- The average age of the 90,580 dams in the country is 56 years.
- The number of high-hazard potential dams is increasing and climbed to nearly 15,000 in 2016. A failure of one of these dams could cause loss of life.
- There are another 11,882 dams that are categorized as significant hazard potential which could result in significant economic loss should one of them fail.
The Path Forward

• America needs a bold vision and a long-term and sustainably funded infrastructure plan that is grounded in 21st century solutions for 21st century challenges.

• All levels of government and the private sector have a role to play in revitalizing and modernizing America’s infrastructure.

• It’s time for policymakers to step up and pass a comprehensive long-term plan to ensure our nation’s economic competitiveness and quality of life for all Americans.

• Visit Building America’s Future’s website www.BAFuture.org for more information.