



## **STATEMENT OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR DRIVING LOUISIANA FORWARD**

Driving Louisiana Forward is a statewide campaign organized by businesses and interested parties committed to improving Louisiana's highway infrastructure. The campaign is moving into its third year and involves educating citizens and elected officials on the need for sustained, reliable, long-term funding for building and maintaining Louisiana's infrastructure without increasing taxes or fees.

**Driving Louisiana Forward is more than a slogan.** It is a plan to pave the way to job creation and economic growth for Louisiana. Louisiana has a \$14 billion backlog in unmet road, bridge and port construction needs. Many of our state's bridges are more than 40 years old, dilapidated and need repair. Crumbling roads and traffic congestion are hurting Louisiana in its efforts to compete for industry and jobs, and grow into the transportation hub it should be for the country.

**We have made progress, but we must keep the wheels in motion.** While we had success in the 2008 legislative sessions, there's still work to do. According to the Reason Foundation, Louisiana's transportation system has dropped to a ranking of 40th in the nation, and the DOTD remains drastically underfunded.

**Bottom line, Louisiana's current method of funding its roads does not work.** The state's primary source of road money, the Transportation Trust Fund, is a 16-cent gas tax, approved in 1984 and never adjusted to current inflation. Today, the buying power of that 16 cents is less than eight cents. This is the primary reason for a \$14 billion backlog in unmet road and bridge construction needs.

Driving Louisiana Forward is about economic development, it's about our future and it's about keeping our roads safe. To secure the necessary funding to move us forward, we need your help.

Driving Louisiana Forward is committed to securing adequate, long-term and reliable funding for the state's transportation system without increasing state taxes or fees.

I want to join the effort to keep the wheels in motion by offering solutions to our state's transportation funding struggles and contacting my local legislators.

Please contact me about other groups I am involved in that would like to hear about the "Driving Louisiana Forward" campaign.

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Name

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Business

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Email Address

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Phone

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Mailing Address

Please return to: Jennifer Marusak, 666 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
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