

# National Association of County Engineers

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To Senators and Representatives of the United States Congress

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the National Association of County Engineers (NACE) I hereby extend our strong support for the National Economic Recovery Proposal entitled, “*An Investment in Geospatial Information Infrastructure: Building a National GIS.*” This is a long overdue effort that requires appropriate and immediate attention, given our serious national economic situation and the declining state of our vital infrastructure assets.

NACE members represent local county public officials responsible for transportation infrastructure managing close to one-half of the road mileage nationally and over 50 percent of our nation’s bridges. Citizens rely on our management of these systems and through geospatial technology including GIS, GPS, Remote Sensing and related technologies we are able to more effectively maintain inventories and manage these facilities. There is no tool that is better suited, nor more effective than geospatial technology for addressing our Nation’s most pressing infrastructure-related problems. A National GIS would provide enormous impetus for overcoming the obstacles commonly experienced at federal, state and local levels that inhibit effective collaboration among elements of the public and private sectors. The resultant positive impact upon the US economic recovery effort cannot be overstated.

We are at a critical juncture in addressing unprecedented challenges. A robust geospatial infrastructure is a lynchpin to achieving a physical infrastructure that will help keep our Nation globally competitive.

NACE strongly endorses *Building a National GIS* as an urgent major priority in order to maintain, improve and protect the infrastructure, stimulate job growth, and facilitate economic recovery.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Giancola, P. E.  
Executive Director