

***Says America needs to invest in a 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure system and pass robust, bipartisan highway bill***

Washington, D.C.—Today, Congressman Tim Walz released the following statement after voting to extend funding for transportation projects nationwide. Without the extension, funding for these projects would halt on April 1.

“I will not allow Washington politics to shut down our transportation system that millions rely on everyday, which is why I was willing to compromise and support this short-term extension. But I am disappointed that GOP House leadership did not present us with a comprehensive, long-term solution that would provide the certainty construction workers and small business owners need to plan for the summer months ahead. Rather than pass the two-year, bipartisan transportation bill that was overwhelmingly passed by the Senate, House leadership is forcing us to go through this whole song and dance again. Except next time it will be at the end of June during the peak of the construction season. The American people are tired of the brinkmanship, and so am I.

“At a time when our competitors overseas are investing in smarter roads and faster trains, our infrastructure is crumbling. This is unacceptable. We need to invest in a 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure system. We need to pass a robust, bipartisan highway bill that will repair our roads and bridges right here at home, like Highway 14 and the Main Channel Bridge in Winona, provide certainty to our construction workers and small business owners, and allow local communities the freedom to grow and prosper.”

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