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February 25, 2020

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: AGC Support for H.R. 5912, the *Expedited Delivery of Airport Infrastructure Act of 2020*

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), I write to express support for H.R. 5912, the *Expedited Delivery of Airport Infrastructure Act of 2020*. This measure would ensure that Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds can be used to provide incentive payments to contractors for early completion of eligible projects.

AGC supports legislation to ensure that AIP funds, which provide for airport construction projects such as runway and taxiway construction, improvements to lighting and signage, and other projects to address capacity, safety, and security, can be used to encourage early completion of vitally needed airport infrastructure. Early completion incentives have been widely and successfully used in the Federal-aid Highway Program for over 20 years. Incentives allow public authorities to identify projects that provide significant public benefits that would be enhanced if the project were completed earlier. They also allow facility owners to address existing construction constraints, such as a limited construction season or a project that may impact other parts of an airport facility's operation.

Rather than the owner agency establishing unrealistic completion dates, which could discourage some contractors from bidding on those projects, incentive payments allow the private sector to use their ingenuity to determine how to earn the incentive. The additional compensation also allows the contractor to pay the increased costs associated with accelerating construction, such as adding extra work crews, paying workers higher compensation to work overtime, and obtaining extra equipment, while still benefiting from the bonus payment.

AGC urges all members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to support this legislation when it is considered by the Committee at the mark up on February 26.

Sincerely,

James V. Christianson
Vice President, Government Relations

Cc: All members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure