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**D.C. Citizens' Request for the City Council of the District of Columbia to Support and Adopt the National Infrastructure Bank Resolution.**

Whereas, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2025 report card that the United States received a grade of C regarding the current state of infrastructure. More than nine trillion dollars would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair. Nearly four trillion dollars is currently not funded, the remainder is inadequately funded, and new 21<sup>st</sup> Century projects are unfunded; and,

Whereas, the 2021 ASCE Report Card for the District of Columbia grade was C; and

Whereas, the ASCE grade for Bridges was B-. Average age of DC bridges is 62 years and 30% of DC bridges must be rehabilitated in the next ten years; and,

Whereas, Water received a C+ grade; the average age of pipes is 77 years and the water main break rate is twice the national average. DC has 42,000 lead water service lines, which will cost \$420 million to replace quickly; and,

Whereas, Roads received a D+ grade; time spent in traffic was 43 minutes for the average commute, 60% more than the national average. Drivers spent \$2,000 per year stuck in traffic; and,

Whereas, Transit was graded D; \$1.8 billion is needed to comply with safety and security directives and for upgrades; and \$6.6 billion is needed to address the backlog repairs needed to bring the system to a state of good repair; and,

Whereas, the District needs at least 37,500 new rental units of truly affordable housing; 57,000 renter households are extremely low income; and,

Whereas, the District faces a possible \$1 billion budget shortfall due to congressional budget cuts; and Moody's Investor Service downgraded the District bond rating; and,

Whereas, Congress introduced the National Infrastructure Bank Act (NIB) to create a \$5 trillion public bank to invest in infrastructure projects; and,

Whereas, the NIB is modeled on previous institutions which helped build much of our infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, Herbert Hoover, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. The last such bank helped end the Depression and win WWII; and,

Whereas the National Infrastructure Bank will be capitalized by existing Treasury debt and require no new federal appropriations and no new federal taxes; and,

Whereas, the NIB will invest five trillion dollars into infrastructure projects only and create twenty-five million new jobs. The NIB will pay Davis-Bacon wages and mandate Buy America provisions. Disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE) will be supported as will extensive minority hiring. The NIB will finance seven million new units of truly affordable housing, repair or replace all infrastructure outlined by the ASCE Report Card, finance mass transit, passenger and High-Speed Rail, including High-Speed Rail from Washington, DC to Boston, and all other needed projects. The Bank will grow the economy by at least 5% per year as did its predecessors; and,

Whereas, the NIB wants to keep public infrastructure in public hands and will prioritize financing to public entities. The NIB will not finance privatization of public infrastructure. The NIB has a Trust Fund to issue grants to poor communities; and,

Whereas, many organizations are in support of the National Infrastructure Bank Act. Thirty state legislatures have introduced resolutions of support, and eight passed at least one chamber. City council resolutions have been adopted in: New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Kansas City, and many more; Other endorsements include: National Black Caucus of State Legislators, National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators, National Asian-Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators, the US High Speed Rail Association and many more; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the City Council of the District of Columbia endorses the National Infrastructure Bank Act to finance urgently needed infrastructure projects; and be it further

Resolved, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, Mayor Muriel Bowser, and to the President of the United States.

#DefendDC!

Thank you,

Dr. Rhonda L. Hamilton