



**For Immediate Release**

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – Yesterday, the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA), on behalf of its 1,600 members, strongly applauded the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure. The Report Card gives an overall grade of "D" to America's infrastructure. Although the findings are troubling, the information is imperative.

This information was first reported by ASCE in 1998, and at that time, the grade was "D" as well. In 11 years, there has been no significant betterment of the infrastructure system in the United States. ASCE estimates that it will take \$2.2 trillion to bridge the gap between where we are today as a nation and where we should be. ASCE is, and has been, a leader in ensuring that America's roadways are reliable, safe, and sound. ATSSA is proud to be working with ASCE on roadway safety issues.

ATSSA understands this crisis and is actively working to change America's future. ATSSA President and CEO Roger A. Wentz stated, "ATSSA applauds ASCE for its annual report card and efforts to bring awareness to this vital need to invest in America's infrastructure and in particular roadway safety. To this end, ATSSA is working with Congress to show that there is a way forward and a sound strategy to reach a higher grade. Through roadway construction and rehabilitation, ATSSA's members are working to make our roadway safer and more efficient as a system as a whole, thus delivering double dividends to all Americans. Simply put, "Safer Roads Save Lives."

Within the broader grade of "D", ASCE attached a grade of D- for America's roads. This category has witnessed a steady decline from 2001, when it received a grade of D+. Americans have always been a mobile society and have come to rely on an ability to travel from city to city, but this task has become more and more difficult. ATSSA is committed to doing its part in fixing roadways and highways throughout the country while in the process creating jobs and saving lives.

It is important to note that challenges and hurdles lie ahead. Wentz further added, “ATSSA understands that the challenges of fully funding America’s infrastructure needs are serious; however, we look forward to working with the Obama Administration, Congress, and the American people to find creative and innovative ways to move our nation forward. Again, I extend ATSSA’s sincerest appreciation to ASCE for its continued efforts to improve America’s traffic safety and roadways.”

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