

## Help Push a Capital Bill Across the Finish Line

*Call to Action*

May 22, 2019



## **IMMEDIATE CALL TO ACTION FOR MEMBERS: HELP IRTBA PUSH A CAPITAL BILL OVER THE FINISH LINE**

Illinois lawmakers were briefed on a proposed Capital Transportation bill on Friday . Now anti-gas tax interests are campaigning against transportation fees. **IRTBA President & CEO Mike Sturino** is in Springfield this week advocating for passage of a Capital Transportation Bill, but **we need support by the MASSES to help counter this anti-gas tax campaign** and get a Capital Bill over the finish line.

**Please contact your legislators to demand that the safety of Illinois' commuters be their number one priority, and ask your colleagues, friends and family to do the same.**

Feel free to use the draft email below. If you need help determining who your legislator is, [click here for a legislator lookup by your home address](#) .

**Please be sure to contact your legislators in their Springfield offices, as they are currently downstate in session and this will be the fastest means to getting our message across.**

### **DRAFT EMAIL:**

Dear Senator/Representative \_\_\_\_\_,

**There were TWO close calls involving Illinois bridges LAST WEEK.** First, the Jefferson Barracks Bridge on I-255 going westbound from Illinois into the St. Louis area closed completely after a SIX-FOOT CRACK was discovered in one of the steel beams on the bridge truss. Then a HOLE in the pavement was discovered on I-80 in Joliet, on the eastbound side of the bridge that travels over Illinois Route 53. Two out of three lanes were closed for emergency repairs, which caused a 6.5-mile standstill of traffic, from Illinois Route 53 to Interstate 55.

Earlier this month, on May 8, there was a partial bridge collapse on a rail bridge over 87th Street near the Chicago Skyway on the South Side, which also caused 87th Street to close. Back on February 11, a main thoroughfare, Lake Shore Drive in Chicago, closed suddenly due to structural emergencies, as crews scrambled to temporarily fix a cracked steel beam that supports the roadway.

**I don't believe these four, very recent examples are isolated incidents. It's not just *these* bridges, it's OUR WHOLE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK.** IDOT can only do so much with the limited resources they have, and the dollar amount they've been given lies completely up to you, our elected officials.

**PLEASE, please do not sit idly by.** The taxpaying citizens of Illinois deserve to be safe and have these major problems fixed. We need Illinois' economy as competitive as possible, and that requires investment – adequate funding to keep goods and services moving. Finally, and most importantly, Illinois citizens are *justified* in wanting to have critical pieces of transportation infrastructure that we can depend on to get us to our jobs safely, to get our kids safely to school, and to get us ALL home safely at night. Let's not continue to take Illinois' transportation infrastructure for granted.

**Please pass a Capital Transportation Bill today.**

Sincerely,

[Insert Your Full Name]

[Insert Your Home Address so Legislators Know You Are A Constituent]