Dear Editor:

America’s infrastructure has become a global embarrassment. This year, the American Society of Civil Engineers once again graded American infrastructure and gave it a D+ ranking. This is unacceptable.

As a manufacturer in [CITY, STATE,] I am very concerned about the impact our aging infrastructure has on [COMPANY NAME’s] ability to compete and get our products to consumers. We want to create more jobs and put more people to work, but that’s harder to do when we face delays and higher costs due to crumbling roads and bridges.

Now is the time to call on our elected leaders in Washington to act—and to make a serious investment in infrastructure. We need an all-of-the-above approach to improving our highways, bridges, waterways, ports, rail, drinking and wastewater systems, broadband, pipelines, electric grid, transit and airports.

  States and localities cannot do this alone. We need real federal leadership. President Donald Trump committed to invest $1 trillion into U.S. infrastructure to ensure it is “second to none.”Manufacturers stand ready to work with Congress and the president to pass an infrastructure bill that will make America the most competitive place in the world for manufacturing.

  Manufacturers need reliable, public funding for federal infrastructure programs to address neglected projects like [IMPORTANT LOCAL PROJECT] that make a system-wide difference and improve manufacturers’ supply chains. [DESCRIBE THIS PROJECT’S VALUE TO YOUR COMMUNITY.] We should leverage private-sector financing and operational experience with innovative public–private partnerships. We also need good governance reforms, such as expedited environmental reviews, to better deliver 21st-century infrastructure.

  We are in an infrastructure crisis, and it’s irresponsible to leave this crisis to the next generation.