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Testimony of Scott Delesdernier
Before the Transportation Committee
On LCO. 373, An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's
Transportation Infrastructure

January 31, 2020

Good Afternoon Sen. Leone, Rep. Lemar and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee. My name is Scott Delesdernier and I am a Vice President and the local Office Executive for Michael Baker International, Inc., of Rocky Hill, CT. I am submitting this testimony on the draft legislation before you which is designed to create a dedicated funding stream for infrastructure improvement in Connecticut.

It is clear that the current funding sources for the state's Special Transportation Fund are completely inadequate to meet the state's needs for a safe and efficient transportation system. In fact, Connecticut's infrastructure is failing. Connecticut residents deserve better. **We need a system that provides:**

- A network of **roads, highways and bridges** that are well maintained, safe and less congested.
- Improved public transportation networks (**rail and bus systems**) that allow everyone from every corner of the state to participate in the economy.
- Design, construction and maintenance programs that promote a **cleaner, safer and healthier environment** in which to live.

- **Improved economic environment for businesses** and the employees and families that depend on them.

Our transportation network is integral to the success of the state's economy. The benefits for business are extensive and include: Enhanced intra-state competitiveness, access to a state-wide reliable, and highly-skilled labor force, increased market share and an expanded customer base, business expansion, reduced production costs and agglomeration economies.

The time is now to create a dedicated funding stream to accomplish the goal of improving Connecticut's infrastructure. Thank you for your consideration.