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CMAA Calls for Responsible, Effective Stimulus Measure

In letters to President Obama and key senate leaders, the Construction Management Association of America has expressed its “concern and disappointment” with the stimulus package passed by the House of Representatives.

CMAA urged the president and senators to insist on “a responsible, effective stimulus measure and not a special interest bonanza.”

The full text of CMAA President Bruce D’Agostino’s letter to the president follows:

“On behalf of more than 5,500 members of the Construction Management Association of America (including major construction owners and providers of professional CM services in both the public and private sectors), I am writing to express our concern and disappointment with the Economic Stimulus legislation passed by the House of Representatives and now being debated in the Senate.

By one estimate, less than one dollar in every eight will actually be spent in a way that will support our long term prosperity. Yet that is where the funds are needed: To help rebuild and expand our highways, bridges, schools, railroads, power grids, water and wastewater projects, and other vital infrastructure. This kind of spending meets both goals, economic revitalization and infrastructure investment.

Here is the real risk. If we let this opportunity get away – if instead of investing, we simply spend today – we will not be able to address our infrastructure needs effectively any time in the foreseeable future. Those needs will only grow more acute, but our multiplying deficits and debts will preclude us from ever tackling them again. Our children, and *their* children, will inherit the bills.

We urge you to insist that Congress truly embrace “change we can believe in.” Insist on a responsible, effective stimulus measure and not a special interest bonanza.

This is our opportunity, the best if not the only one we are likely to have. Please don’t let it be squandered in a return to the old Congressional politics.”

CMAA is North America's only organization dedicated exclusively to the interests of the professional Construction and Program management industry. On behalf of its 25 regional chapters and more than 5,400 public and private firms and individuals throughout the nation, CMAA promotes the Construction Management industry and provides professional resources, advocacy, professional development, certification, and business opportunities to its members. CMAA's national headquarters is located in McLean, Va. The Association's website is www.cmaanet.org.

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