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March 25, 2022

RE: I-40 Hernando DeSoto Bridge

To Whom It May Concern,

We are pleased to have the opportunity to offer this letter for the AASHTO's 2022 America's Transportation Awards competition – Best Use of Innovation and Technology for the work on the I-40 Hernando DeSoto Bridge in Memphis on behalf of the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

In May of 2021, a crack in the I-40 Hernando DeSoto Bridge was discovered that greatly hindered transportation. TDOT worked diligently to flow traffic through this closure with as much ease as possible. Repairs were set to happen in two phases. Phase one was completed swiftly and TDOT began plans with contractors to have Phase Two underway immediately.

Thanks to TDOT working on the innovative design that adds additional steel plating adjacent to the damaged area, bypassing the fractured components and removing a smaller section of the fractured piece, the I-40 Hernando DeSoto Bridge was able to be opened earlier than the estimated.

TDOT has great leaders and engineers in place that took charge of the situation and addressed it as quickly as possible while making sure everyone's safety was top priority.

Should you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sincerely,

Donna England
President & CEO
Tennessee Trucking Association