2005 Report Card For America's Infrastructure

Aviation	D+
Bridges	C
Dams	D+
Drinking Water	D-
Energy	D
Hazardous Waste	D
Navigable Waterways	D-
Public Parks and Recreation	C-
Rail	C-
Roads	D
Schools	D
Security	I
Solid Waste	C+
Transit	D+
Wastewater	D-
America's Infrastructure GPA	D
Total Investment Needs	$1.6 Trillion

Estimated 5-Year need
(does not include security investment needs)

Each category was evaluated on the basis of condition and performance, capacity vs. need, and funding vs.need

A = Exceptional
B = Good
C = Mediocre
D = Poor
F = Failing
I = Incomplete

www.asce.org/reportcard

2007 Report Card for Delaware's Infrastructure



"The future health of our economy and safety of the American people requires proper maintenance of our infrastructure, whether flood control, transportation or water quality. No nation can be prosperous without these fundamental building blocks. As we look for the best way to address the needs of our country with tighter and tighter budgets, we need to ensure we protect communities by properly maintaining our current infrastructure and setting targeted priorities for future investments."

-Sen. Thomas R. Carper (D-Del.) on the introduction of the National Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2007

ASCE
American Society of Civil Engineers
Delaware Section

Schools



School Grades

2007 Grade	C
2000 Grade	D+

- With the initiation of school choice, charter schools, and other specialty schools, funding new school projects has become increasingly more difficult
- There has been increasing migration of schools to the suburbs and away from population centers, where in the past schools often served as the center of neighborhoods and communities
- As more families elect to send students to schools outside their traditional district, funding of school construction through referenda is becoming increasingly more difficult. Users of the schools are often asked to fund construction for projects where they do not directly benefit
- When a new public school or substantial renovation to an existing school is proposed, life-cycle cost analysis should be conducted to assess the overall short-term and long-term costs of project alternatives, and to select the design that ensures that the facility will provide the lowest overall cost of ownership
- To expedite the design and approval processes, the requirements for obtaining approvals from state and local agencies should be uniform and consistent throughout the state
- School districts shall comply with Neighborhood Schools Legislation and should be designed and renovated to become an integral part of the community
- To address these conditions the State of Delaware should institute and manage state wide funding for school infrastructure



Transportation



SECTOR	GRADE 2000	GRADE 2007	GRADE 2010 (WITH PROPOSED FUNDING)	GRADE 2010 (WITHOUT PROPOSED FUNDING)
Highways	C	C	C+	D-
Bridges	C	B	B	C-
Mass Transit	D	C	C	D-

- The lack of an increase in dedicated revenues for the Delaware Department of Transportation's budget has reduced the ability to meet the demands being placed on the state's transportation network
- Capital transportation project costs continue to rise significantly, but the sources of revenue have not increased to meet the ever rising cost of labor, fuel, materials and land
- Without an infusion of much needed capital, Delawareans will not only see a downward trend in the ability of the state to meet current needs, bust also a possible future obsolescence of the state's transportation system
- Funding required to maintain the transportation network and support new projects identified by the public continues to exceed the available revenues
- Operating and debt service expenses account for almost half of the trust fund expenditures
- A lack of new investment into the Transportation Trust Fund over the past several years has brought construction funding to a crossroads
- To address these conditions, the initiatives set forth by Governor Minner must be implemented in order to meet the current demand on Delaware's transportation infrastructure. Additional initiatives must be planned now to address future needs