



The Charleston Regional
Chamber of Commerce

ISSUE: INFRASTRUCTURE – HIGHWAYS, ROADWAYS AND BRIDGES

BACKGROUND

In West Virginia, there are 1,595 functionally obsolete and 952 structurally deficient bridges. In Kanawha County, there are 145 functionally obsolete and 66 deficient bridges. Public buildings need maintenance and strategic energy efficiency improvements that, in the long term, will save the State of West Virginia on expenses.

RECOMMENDATION

The Charleston Regional Chamber of Commerce supports legislation that addresses the needed repairs to aging infrastructure and the economic impact that would come from those upgrades and repairs. The Chamber calls upon the legislative and executive branches to work together on the solutions to these challenges and bring the case of what action, and why, must be taken to solve this crisis. Basic infrastructure is required to attract and retain businesses and people to the state. Operational and modern public facilities and, even more importantly, public laboratories are required to provide quality services to our citizens and preserve federal funding to many state programs.