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**Heller Welcomes White House Push to Upgrade America’s Infrastructure**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) today welcomed President Donald Trump’s plan to upgrade America’s infrastructure. As a member of three Senate committees with jurisdiction over infrastructure – Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Finance; and Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committees – Heller will play a critical role in advancing infrastructure improvements for Nevada and our nation.

“As a strong advocate of the federal government’s responsibility to advance critical infrastructure projects, like the extension of I-11 that I helped push through the Senate and into law, I welcome the release of the Trump Administration’s roadmap to repair our nation’s aging infrastructure,” **said Heller.** “There’s no denying that in Nevada, and across the country, there is a great need to significantly improve our infrastructure, whether it’s highways and bridges, broadband facilities, waterways, or public buildings. As a champion for expanding rural Nevadans’ access to quality, high-speed Internet, I’m also encouraged by the President’s focus to accelerate and streamline the permitting process for broadband buildout and other environmental reviews, which have caused project delays for our own state’s transportation department.”

Since coming to Congress, Heller has advocated for infrastructure projects and rural broadband investment in Nevada. As a member of the U.S. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, Heller was able to secure six provisions in the FAST Act, the first long-term highway bill in nearly a decade that facilitates the construction and repair of existing roads, bridges, and other important infrastructure without increasing our nation’s deficit. Heller has also used his role to successfully advance Nevada’s top transportation projects, such as I-580 improvements near Carson City, Project NEON in Las Vegas, and the I-11 connecting Phoenix and Las Vegas.

Additionally, [Heller and a bipartisan group of senators introduced the Public Buildings Renewal Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=1CDEE01E-2036-4CCC-A59C-5DE76F3301FC),a bill that enables communities to establish public-private partnerships (P3s) for needed public infrastructure improvements, such as in schools or public universities, by creating $5 billion in new private activity bonds for public buildings.

**Heller continued,** “This is an extraordinary opportunity to bring Nevada’s infrastructure into the 21st Century. As a member of three U.S. Senate committees with jurisdiction over infrastructure, as well as the Chairman of the Finance Subcommittee on Infrastructure, I’m looking forward to working with the President, Administration officials like Transportation Secretary Chao, and my colleagues to make sure that Nevada’s priorities are reflected in the final product.”

[Heller has also worked extensively to encourage investment in and streamline the construction of rural broadband](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/videos?ID=62146E69-C12C-4B3F-B92E-A99E75DE628D) infrastructure, which is essential to the success of businesses, schools, and local communities in rural Nevada. Because nearly 85 percent of Nevada is owned by the federal government, Heller introduced [bipartisan legislation that would expand Americans’ access to broadband by streamlining the application process required to construct broadband infrastructure on federal lands](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2017/6/heller-manchin-introduce-bill-to-expand-access-to-rural-broadband). Heller also fought for three amendments that would address issues with access to quality broadband to be included in the MOBILE NOW Act (S.19).

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