

# FAA REAUTHORIZATION

## Approve Funding for Airport Runway Construction

### Action Needed:

Tell the House and Senate to pass the FAA Reauthorization to ensure funding for airport runway projects across the country.

### Background:

On September 30, 2023, the current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization is set to expire. Congress must pass legislation to reauthorize these programs that ensure aviation safety and funding for infrastructure programs. Specifically, the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) provides funding for runway and taxiway construction and rehabilitation, land acquisition, and airfield lighting and signage. The AIP program helps support high-paying construction careers while improving the traveling experience for millions of Americans.

### AGC Message:

- **The House passed its bill.** The bipartisan bill, *Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act* (H.R. 3935), reauthorizes the FAA and aviation safety and infrastructure programs for the next five years. Highlights for the construction industry include:
  - **Increases funding for airport runway projects.** The AGC-supported, bipartisan bill includes increased funding levels for AIP which funds airport runway projects across the country.
  - **Allows for price adjustment clauses.** There was a ban on these adjustment clauses in AIP projects, which caused significant problems for airports (especially small airports) and contractors doing airport runway work in 2022.
  - **Creates new opportunities for the use of drones.** The bill directs the U.S. Department of Transportation to do a rulemaking to allow for drone use beyond the visual line of sight.
- **It is time for the Senate to do their part.** Unfortunately, the Senate version of the bill has been held up in committee over a debate about pilot training requirements. Until the Senate passes their own version of the bill, the two chambers are unable to go to conference and reach a compromise.
- **Need for a short-term extension.** If the Senate is unable to reach an agreement by September 30, it is critical that Congress pass a short-term extension to allow for enough time to reach a deal.