

BUILD BETTER



We must rebuild America's infrastructure system. Doing so will create good-paying jobs, increase economic prosperity, and give tens of thousands of hard-working households a shot at the American dream, but it can only happen through bold action.

Our country's infrastructure system is underfunded by \$2.6 trillion¹, leaving our economy to limp along on a network of critical infrastructure that is overstretched, underfunded, and in dire need of repair. But with a federal investment that matches this funding gap, we can fix it.

Fully funding infrastructure **could create 2.3 million jobs by 2024, and inject \$5.7 trillion into the economy².**

Every \$1 spent on infrastructure in the Southwest is more than doubled in the local economy³, creating **good-paying jobs in construction and beyond.**

Every \$1 billion of transportation infrastructure investment that comes to the Southwest will support **13,000 jobs a year⁴.**

¹ American Society of Civil Engineers

² S&P Global

³ Congressional Budget Office

⁴ U.S. Council of Economic Advisers

SWRCC

The Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters represents a diverse group of hard-working, American artisans in Southern California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado.

Our more than 55,000 members are comprised of: concrete form carpenters, drywallers, lathers, insulators, finish carpenters, millwrights, industrial carpenters, cabinet makers, cabinet installers, bridge builders, scaffold erectors, acoustical ceiling installers, pile drivers, modular furniture installers, shinglers, terrazzo installers, residential carpenters, and floor installers. As an affiliate of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, SWRCC is the largest council in the Brotherhood.





Rebuilding Roads

Wear and tear on our nation's roads has left **43% of our public roadways in poor or mediocre condition**. As the backlog of rehabilitation needs grows, motorists are forced to pay over \$1,000 every year in wasted time and fuel.



Protecting Drinking Water

Our nation's aging drinking water infrastructure system is made up of 2.2 million miles of underground pipes. There's a **water main break every two minutes and an estimated 6 billion gallons of clean water lost each day** in the U.S., enough to fill over 9,000 swimming pools.



Securing Our Bridges

There are more than 617,000 bridges across the United states. Currently, **42% of all bridges are at least 50 years old, and 46,154, or 7.5% of the nation's bridges, are considered structurally deficient**, meaning they are in "poor" condition.



Modernizing Our Schools

53% of public school districts report the need to update or replace multiple building systems, including HVAC systems. More than one-third of public schools has portable buildings due to capacity constraints, with **45% of these portable buildings in poor or fair condition**.



Repowering an Energy Future

Weather remains an increasing threat. Among 638 transmission outage events reported from 2014 to 2018, severe weather was cited as the predominant cause. Additionally, distribution infrastructure struggles with reliability, with **92% of all outages occurring along these segments**.

American Society of Civil Engineers,
2021 Report Card for America's
Infrastructure, March 2021

Southwest Carpenters is ready to meet the moment and contribute to this generational opportunity to build up the communities in which we all live, work and where our children play. Investing in infrastructure scale will provide hundreds of thousands of our members and neighbors with consistent work, quality health benefits for the entire family, and a strong pension that means having to worry less about retirement.

Carpenters play a central role throughout the infrastructure landscape. We are ready to **rebuild our crumbling roads, rail and transit; secure our bridges; protect our drinking water supply; modernize our schools; and help build the Southwest's energy future.**



THE COST OF INACTION



**\$10 trillion
in GDP**



**\$2.4 trillion
in exports**



**Over
3 million jobs**



**\$3,300/year
to each American
household**

It's time to

**BUILD
BETTER**



When we invest in our country and our people, we find success as a nation. Investing in union labor not only guarantees good-paying jobs and quality health benefits for tens of thousands of Americans, it also guarantees a quality of work **that is built to last and that America can be proud of.**



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www.swcarpenters.org