



AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

Your Comprehensive  
Public Works Resource

[www.apwa.org](http://www.apwa.org)

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Suite 500A  
Washington, DC 20001  
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March 11, 2025

The Honorable Congressman Joe Neguse  
2<sup>nd</sup> District of Colorado  
2400 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Neguse:

On behalf of the 32,000 members of the American Public Works Association (APWA), we are writing in support of H.R. 744, the “Disaster Management Cost Modernization Act” which you introduced. As you may be aware, APWA members serve in both the public and private sectors, providing expertise at the local, state, and federal government levels. Working in the public interest, our members plan, design, build, operate, and maintain, America’s vast infrastructure network that is so fundamental to our economy, environment, public health, and safety.

As first responders, public works professionals are recognized as the “silent arm of public safety” and are often called upon before, during, and following disasters be they natural or otherwise. This includes APWA members providing assessments, financial recommendations, and guidance as to how to best respond to emergencies in the areas of remediation.

With that in mind, H.R. 744 aligns with APWA’s policy priority in this area by authorizing the President to make available to a grantee or subgrantee receiving financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) any excess funds for management costs. ***These excess funds may be used for activities associated with building capacity to prepare for, recover from, or mitigate the impacts of a major disaster.*** Additionally, this bill also aligns with APWA’s streamlining/mitigation policies in that H.R. 744 ***would provide local governments with greater flexibility in the use of federal assistance.*** Included for reference is a copy of the APWA 119<sup>th</sup> Congress Emergency Management policy priority document.

For your awareness, we are sending copies of this letter to the co-chairs of the bipartisan House Public Works and Infrastructure Caucus, that APWA helped to establish in 2016, Representative Jeff Van Drew (R-NJ-02) and Representative Dina Titus (D-NV-01). The caucus was established to work on behalf of the many aspects of our nation’s infrastructure and emergency management that depend on public works professionals.

In closing, APWA stands ready to offer any additional expert input to assist with moving H.R. 744 through the House of Representatives and ultimately its enactment into law. For additional information and follow-up, please contact APWA Government Affairs Manager Marty Williams at [mwilliams@apwa.org](mailto:mwilliams@apwa.org) or 202-218-6732.

PRESIDENT  
Dominick A. Longobardi

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Scott D. Grayson, CAE



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dominick A. Longobardi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and "L".

Dominick A. Longobardi  
APWA President

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Scott D. Grayson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "S" and "G".

Scott D. Grayson, CAE  
Chief Executive Officer

CC: The Honorable Jeff Van Drew (R-NJ)

CC: The Honorable Dina Titus (D-NV)

PRESIDENT  
Dominick A. Longobardi

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Scott D. Grayson, CAE