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Commissioner James P. Redeker Connecticut Department of Transportation 2800 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06111-4123

Dear Commissioner Bedeker

I want to formally congratulate you and the Connecticut Department of Transportation for winning the prestigious Grand Prize in the 2016 America's Transportation Award competition. CTDOT's Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge project was selected by a panel of industry experts as the top transportation project in the nation. As part of the award, your agency will receive \$10,000 to be donated to a scholarship fund or a charitable cause of your choice.

This year, a record 84 entries were submitted by 40 state transportation departments in the categories of "Quality of Life/Community Development," "Best Use of Innovation," and "Under Budget." The America's Transportation Awards competition exists to showcase the outstanding achievements our members accomplish every day and the Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge project certainly exemplifies all of that and more. As we have just concluded the ninth year of the competition, we continue to be impressed with projects like yours and so many others that improve our communities.

While I want you to take the time to celebrate your big win, I also hope you're thinking about the projects CTDOT may enter in the 2017 America's Transportation Awards. We anticipate a big year for the 10th anniversary of the competition.

Congratulations on your win from all of us at AASHTO, AAA, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. We're excited to present you with your award during the AASHTO Annual Meeting awards luncheon at noon on Monday, Nov. 14. Please contact Maggie Kasperski, AASHTO communications manager, with any questions or comments regarding the competition at mkasperski@aashto.org or (202) 624-3659.

Sincerely,

Bud Wright

Executive Director