Responding to the recently passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) will be one of the Department of Transportation’s (DOT) highest priorities this year and in the years to come. IIJA authorized more than $660 billion for transportation funding over the next 5 years, which directed the Department to establish new discretionary and formula programs. The Office of Inspector General (OIG) shares DOT’s commitment to maximize the effectiveness of IIJA funds and ensure taxpayer dollars are used for their intended purpose.

We acknowledge the inherent challenges for DOT in carrying out its IIJA responsibilities and overseeing this influx of funds. To aid the Department in its efforts, we intend to provide an initial product in the coming months summarizing crosscutting oversight risks and suggestions for mitigating risks. This product will leverage key insights from our longstanding body of infrastructure work to bolster the Department’s oversight of IIJA grantees and contractors. Subsequent to this initial effort, we will announce future work related to IIJA as needed and will coordinate with DOT staff in advance to ensure we focus on the areas of increased risk.

As the Department is aware, the volume of IIJA funds puts them at a higher risk for fraud, waste, and abuse. Working together, the Department and OIG can examine early indicators of potential misuse to ensure good stewardship of these critical funds. We encourage submitting any suspicions of fraud, waste, or abuse to OIG as soon as possible via the DOT-OIG Hotline¹ or direct communication with previously established OIG points of contact. Through our shared efforts to

¹ Allegations may be reported via email, at hotline@oig.dot.gov; phone, at (800) 424-9071; or through our online form.
communicate fraud awareness and implement other proactive best practices, DOT and OIG can help maximize the efficacy of these vital IIJA funds.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 202-366-1959.

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cc: Deputy Secretary