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## INTRODUCTION

From personal travel to trade and commerce, highways form the backbone of the U.S. transportation system. As the traffic volume increases each year, however, and the highway system ages, the challenge of improving this system to meet the growing demands becomes greater, requiring innovation and a willingness to move beyond the status quo. Vital to meeting the infrastructure challenge is launching the long-term, high-risk, and high-payoff research that will yield the necessary breakthrough technologies of tomorrow. A number of new technologies are available today that can improve the safety, efficiency, reliability, and durability of the Nation's highways; effectively deploying both existing and new technologies is key to meeting



















































































































































































































