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The Republican legislators' desperation to put the issue behind them is palpable. They worry they will bear the brunt of the blame for a continued standoff with its costly work stoppages and the idling of thousands of construction workers.

Moreover, the pressure is building steadily from business interests and transportation advocacy groups that failure to replenish the Trust Fund sends a disturbing signal to investors and corporate executives that New Jersey has placed political considerations above the need to build and maintain an adequate transportation infrastr

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