

Surface Transportation Reauthorization

March 16, 2011 Wendy E. Thomas Policy Division

Getting to Reauthorization

• SAFETEA-LU

VDOT

- Status of reauthorization
- Getting to a bill
- Action to date
- Competing priorities

SAFETEA-LU

- 6-year authorization passed August 2005
- \$286 billion authorization with \$244 billion in guaranteed funding
 - Highways \$193 billionPublic Transportation \$45 billion
 - Safety \$ 6 billion
- Virginia's estimated <u>highway</u> apportionment approximately \$4.7 billion

Status of Reauthorization

- SAFETEA-LU expired September 30, 2009
- 7 extensions since 2009

• Current extension expires September 30, 2011

Getting to a Bill

- Administration bill
- Committee hearings, markups, and bills
 - House

- Transportation & Infrastructure
- Ways and Means
- Senate
 - Environment & Public Works
 - Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
 - Finance
- Full chamber markup and consideration
- Conference committee

Administration Proposal

• Not a bill

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FY 2012 budget proposes \$556 billion, 6-year reauthorization

- \$336.4 billion **Highways** Transit \$119.2 billion Rail \$ 52.6 billion _ National Infrastructure Bank \$ 30.0 billion - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Admin.& National Highway Traffic Safety Admin. \$ 12.3 billion National Infrastructure Investments \$ 2.0 billion Federal Aviation Administration \$ 3.4 billion
- Total includes \$50 billion up-front in FY 2012 for highway, transit, rail, and airport programs
 - \$450 million for Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)
 - \$25 billion for Critical Highway Infrastructure
 - Maintain and improve condition of highways and bridges on National Highway System (NHS) at 100% federal share

Administration Proposal (cont.)

Consolidates 55 highway programs into 5

- National Highway (IM, NHS, Bridge, STP)

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- Highway Safety Improvement (already existing)
- Livable Communities (Transportation Enhancements, CMAQ, Scenic Byways, Transportation Community & System Preservation)
- Research, Technology, and Education (State Planning & Research, Highways for LIFE)
- Federal Allocation (Federal Lands, Emergency Relief)
- Creates Transportation Trust Fund with highways, transit, highspeed passenger rail, National Infrastructure Bank accounts
 - Existing gas tax would fund highway and transit accounts
 - No revenue source identified for high-speed passenger rail and National Infrastructure Bank accounts
 - Without additional revenues, could have effect of shifting highway user fees to transit

Administration Proposal (cont.)

• Includes "placeholder revenue increase" of \$231 billion

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- Converts transportation programs to mandatory spending limiting Congress' ability to reduce program levels
 - Amendment to House rule in January repealed provision guaranteeing minimum spending levels each year for Highway Trust Fund (HTF) programs
 Congress could fund transportation below amount established in authorization

Committees' Progress

House Transportation and Infrastructure •Conducting "listening sessions"

•Chairman Mica indicates 6-year bill within means of HTF

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•Bill expected late spring/early summer

Senate Environment and Public Works

Conducting hearings

•Bill expected late spring/early summer

Competing Priorities

• Schedule:

- Committees need to complete work by Memorial Day recess
- Conference committee must complete work before August recess
- The 2012 Presidential campaign will be underway by late summer or early fall
- For the remainder of FY 2011, Congress will be working on:
 - FY 2011 Appropriations (Continuing Resolution)
 - Debt ceiling
 - FY 2012 Appropriations
 - Reauthorization



Questions?

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