#### **Rebecca Higgins - PowerPoint Presentation**

# **Surface Transportation Reauthorization Update**

Rebecca Higgins, Eno Center for Transportation





## **Congressional Context: Senate EPW**

Four hearings since February; Request for member priorities

- ➤ Chair Shelley Moore Capito priorities
  - > Eliminate duplicative programs
    - optimize the impact of federal funding/prioritize commitment to the safe and reliable movement of goods and people
  - >Improve efficiency
    - planning and procurement procedures, environmental review process for projects, and discretionary grants and loans requirements
  - > Flexibility/avoiding top-down mandates
- > Ranking Member Whitehouse priorities
  - ► Large Grant Programs
    - > INFRA, Mega, Bridge Investment, and PROTECT
  - ➤ Bipartisan permitting reform
  - > Faithful Execution of Law
    - "Can't [work on reauthorization] if the Trump Administration violates its duty to see that bipartisan laws we pass are executed faithfully"



# Congressional Context: Commerce and Banking

#### **Senate Commerce** Committee work:

Five transportation hearings since February

#### ➤ Chair Cruz priorities

- > Aviation safety, airspace modernization, commercial space activity
- > Tech oversight
- > Expanding spectrum availability for commercial use

#### ➤ Ranking Member Cantwell priorities

- > Freight investments
- ➤ Support for passenger rail
- ➤ Emphasizing safety

### Senate Banking Committee work:

Nomination hearing and confirmation of FRA Administrator



## **Congressional Context: House T&I**

- ▶17 Committee hearings since January
- ➤ April-May: Requested legislative priorities for surface reauthorization

#### ➤ Chair Graves and Subcommittee Chair Rouzer Priorities

- > Returning the surface transportation reauthorization back to "traditional" infrastructure bill (focusing on roads, bridges, and movement of freight)
- > Streamlining regulations to expand investment, state flexibility

#### ➤ T&I Ranking Member Larsen Priorities

- Ensuring broad access to transportation funds and benefits, particularly for local and tribal communities
- Supporting all modes of transportation to move people and goods across all regions of the country efficiently
- Commitment to bipartisan bill, hope to get out of the House by "late summer or early fall"



### **Administration Context**

- ➤ Secretary Duffy testimony before House and Senate. Focused on ATC modernization and Surface Reauthorization
- ➤ July RFI: "Advancing a Surface Transportation Proposal that Focuses on America's Most Fundamental Infrastructure Needs"
  - > Requesting ideas, comments, and information for consideration in the development of the next surface transportation authorizing legislation.
  - > Responses due Sept 8
  - ➤ Kick-off event at USDOT with House Republican Committee leaders
    - ➤ Improve Safety
    - ➤ Speed Project Delivery
    - > Promote opportunity, economic growth and private investment
    - > Improve collaborations and partnership
    - ➤ Focus on "traditional" reauthorization programs



# IIJA Reauthorization: 2 Funds, 3 Deadlines

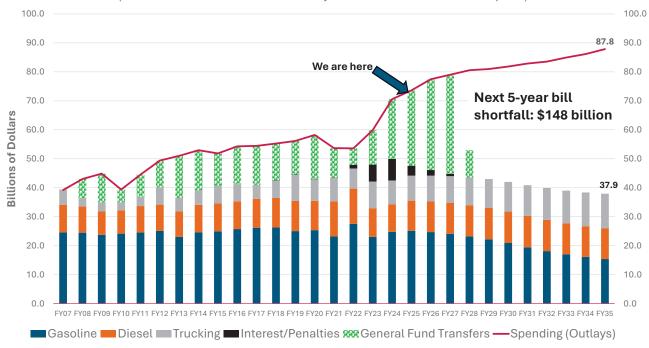
	Highway Trust Fund	<b>General Fund Advances</b>
FHWA	\$63.4 B/yr	\$9.5 B/yr
FTA	\$14.6 B/yr	\$4.25 B/yr
FRA		\$13.2 B/yr
NHTSA	\$1.06 B/yr	\$322 M/yr
<b>FMCSA</b>	\$927 M/yr	\$135 M/yr
FAA		\$5.0 B/yr
OST		\$3.8 B/yr
Total	\$80 B/yr	\$36.8 B/yr
Highway account solvent until 2028, Transit account solvent until 2027		Advance appropriated programs expire Oct. 2026



#### Highway Trust Fund - FY 2007-2024 (Actual), FY 2025-2034 (CBO Jan. 2025 Baseline)

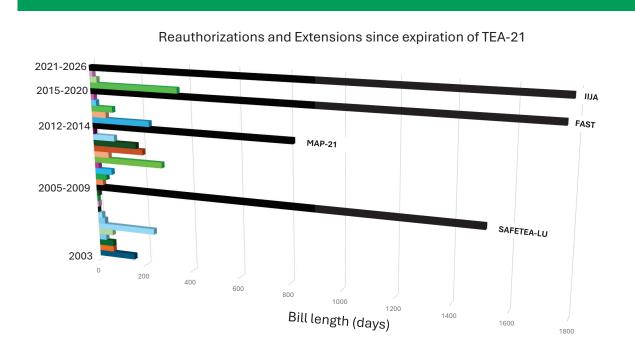
Stacked columns are receipts by type – red line is outlays.

(General Fund transfers shown in the year the transferred funds are spent.)





## **Historical Context - Bills & Extensions**





## Thank you!

### Questions? Want to keep in touch?

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