

NARC

Building Regional Communities

NARC Transportation Committee

NARC Annual Conference

June 5, 2017

Presented by:

**Erich W. Zimmermann, Director
Transportation Programs**

National Association of Regional Councils

Agenda

- Co-chairs, introductions (5 mins.)
- FHWA & USDOT ITS JPO –
Autonomous Vehicles (30 mins.)
- Federal Picture & NARC Activities
(10 mins.)
- NARC Policy Changes (15 mins.)
- Open Discussion (15 mins.)



Co-Chairs and Introductions

Co-Chairs:

- **Honorable Fred Strong**, Council Member, City of Paso Robles, CA; NARC Board Member
- **Lyle Wray**, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments, Hartford, CT
- **Michael Parks**, Assistant Executive Director, Brazos Valley Council of Governments, Bryan, TX

NARC Staff:

- **Erich Zimmermann**, Director of Transportation Programs
- **Sarah Reed**, Program Assistant

Who are you?



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FHWA & USDOT ITS-JPO

James Garland, Planning Capacity
Building Team Leader, FHWA Office of
Planning

Egan Smith, Managing Director, USDOT
Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint
Program Office (ITS-JPO)



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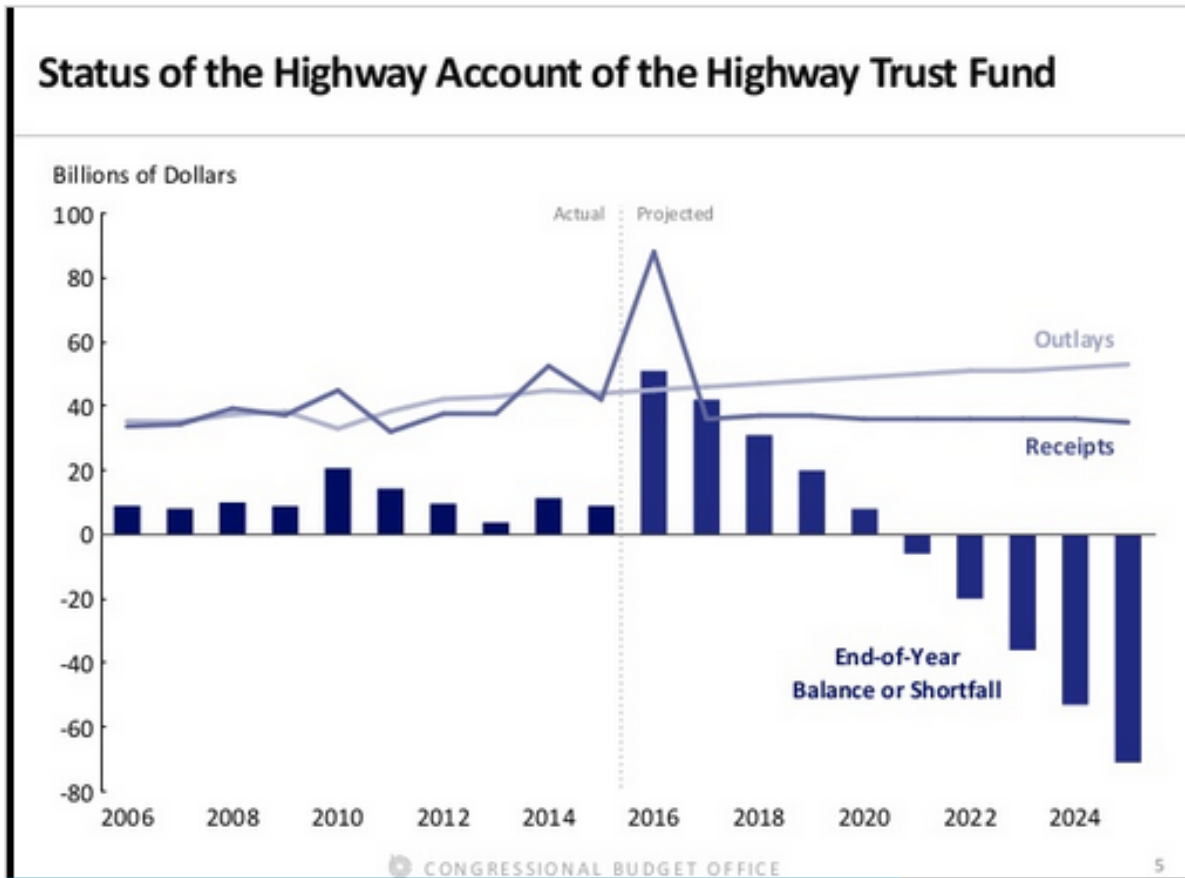
Federal Picture

- This really is different (ie. it's weird, getting weirder)
- Nobody knows
- Big distractions



Federal Picture

- FAST Act transferred \$71 billion; \$52 billion to Highway Account, \$18 billion to Transit Account; total transfers more than \$130B
- CBO expects the account to become insolvent by 2021
- Cumulative shortfall of \$139 billion by 2027 (highway and transit accts.)



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Federal Picture

- **What We Know We Know,**
What We Think We Know
 - FY18 Budget: Big Decrease for DOT
 - Kills New Starts, Amtrak, EAS, TIGER
 - FY17 final funding levels may offer hope
 - Infrastructure pkg fact sheet in budget
 - Fairly light on details
 - Feds: \$200 billion
 - (\$5B FY18, most front loaded)
 - Leveraged investment: \$1 trillion



Federal Picture

- A Trillion Bucks Ain't What It Used to Be
 - Airports/air traffic, bridges, highways and roads, transit, ports, waterways, high-speed internet and telecommunications, freight railroads, pipelines, dams, levees, water and wastewater facilities, electricity transmission
 - Schools, veterans facilities, hospitals ?????
 - Leveraged investment: \$1 trillion
 - P3s & “asset recycling”
 - Keystone as example
 - Streamlining



Federal Picture

- What We Know We Know,
What We Think We Know
- FY18 Budget: DOA
 - But bad ideas always slip through
- Infrastructure package details on their way
 - Ohio later this week
- FAA first (today!)



NARC Transportation Activities

- Ding Dong the (MPO Coordination) Rule is Dead!
- New administration
 - Budget, Infrastructure Package
 - Intergovernmental team in place
- Performance Rules Live On
 - Except GHG measure
 - Awaiting guidance
- Scenario Planning Project
 - Final paper to FHWA
 - Consortium launching soon
 - Learn more at 2:15pm today in this very room!



NARC Transportation Activities

- Autonomous Vehicles
 - Infrastructure Week event with NLC
- Panels, Committees, and Boards (oh my!)
 - TRB ADA20 Committee
 - Advisory Board for ITS @ UC Davis
- Transportation Thursdays
 - Let us know if you don't get it and want to
- Member events
 - Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
 - Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission
 - Illinois Association of Regional Councils
 - Southern California Association of Governments
 - Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council
 - Arizona Rural Transportation Conference
 - Yakima Valley Conference of Governments
 - Northern Jersey Transportation Planning Authority



NARC Transportation Activities

What's Next?

- Infrastructure Package
 - Slate of proposed changes
- Autonomous Vehicles
 - NLC
- Freight
 - CAGTC
- Other Strategic Alliances



NARC Transportation Policy

- Reorganization, in particular to highlight freight as a focus area
- Increased emphasis on funding for all modes, support for transit, TIGER
- Broke out a section about implementation



NARC Transportation Policy

- Freight (starts bottom of page 1)
 - Broke freight out as its own section
 - Bullets 1&2: previously in “Ports and Inland Waterways” section
 - Bullet 3: adds emphasis on multi-modal, access to NHS
 - Bullet 4: Requests suballocation of freight program funds (also added below in reauthorization recs)
 - Bullet 5: previously in “Ports and Inland Waterways”



NARC Transportation Policy

- Alternative modes (middle of pg. 2)
 - New bullet to highlight the importance of transit, bike, ped
- Other (pg. 2)
 - Broadens smart city language
 - Explicitly lists per-mileage user fee
- Aviation (begins bottom pg. 2, changes on pg. 3)
 - Uncapping of PFC fee for large airports



NARC Transportation Policy

- Rail (bottom pg. 3, top pg. 4)
 - Is change to “intercity passenger rail” too limiting?
 - Too Amtrak-specific
- Ports and Waterways (pg. 4)
 - “Inland”
 - Portions moved to more appropriate “freight” section

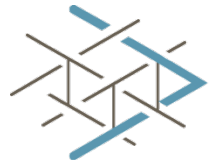


Open Discussion

- Can we develop a set of policies to improve planning processes, project delivery, streamlining?
- What do folks need on performance rulemakings?
- Other areas of need, research, etc.?
- Anything else



Thank you!



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Email if you want to receive
Transportation Thursdays