

NOVEMBER 25, 2015

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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS**

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS

NARC Members:

NARC's *Transportation Thursdays* (TT) newsletter will return to its regular schedule next week. With Congressional deadlines looming, we have an extremely abbreviated version of TT with a quick update on the transportation reauthorization below.

***From the NARC staff, we wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!***



## **CONGRESS BRIEF**

### **Congress Needs to Return Ready to Work**

Once Thanksgiving festivities conclude, Congress will return to Washington with only a few work days remaining until the current transportation reauthorization extension expires on December 4

(also of note, the continuing resolution funding most of the government expires on December 11). This week, House and Senate staff are working to forge a compromise between each of their bills, but the lack of an announcement prior to recess indicates that unresolved issues remain. One of the major sticking points is whether to make it a six-year bill that keeps annual funding basically the same but with an inflationary increase or a five-year bill with higher annual spending levels. Given the extremely short time frame Congress has to act, there is a good chance we'll see yet another extension... maybe an additional week or so, to finalize the bill and do all the pomp and circumstance that comes with passing such a major piece of legislation.

As noted last week, we've compiled a **side-by-side document** outlining current law and how that compares with the details of the Senate DRIVE Act and the House STRR Act. Additionally, NARC and the rest of the LOT Coalition **sent a letter to conferees** last week outlining a number of issues that impact regions and local areas.

If you have a Senator or Representative that serves on the conference committee, we urge you to reach out and make your feelings known about what should be in the final legislation. The LOT Coalition letter above has some great talking points you can include in your own communications. We are happy to assist in any way we can.

Click **HERE** for a list of conference committee members from the Senate and House transportation committee.

## **JOBS**

***View full list of jobs!***

### **Regional Transportation Demand Management Planner**

San Diego Association of Governments, San Diego, CA

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

***View full list of grants and events!***

### **2016 National Conference of Regions**

February 7-9, 2016\* – Washington, DC

The National Conference of Regions is NARC's forum to determine key policy issues and a legislative agenda for the year ahead, targeting topics central to our members' missions and their local elected officials' focus. Additional information will be available later this year. *\*Note: Capitol Hill Day is February 10. Please make room in your travel plans to meet with your representatives.*

## **CONTACT US**