

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

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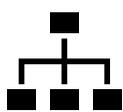


America needs a new transportation authorization bill in 2020.

Maintaining and expanding the nation's system of highways and roads, bridges, transit systems, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities is essential for the well-being of all Americans.

To maintain global competitiveness and local quality of life, the next transportation reauthorization should:

- Provide adequate, stable, and flexible funding so regions can choose the investments that work best for them across all modes.
- Enhance the role Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Rural or Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) play to achieve increased mobility, access to opportunities, and economic prosperity, while addressing rapid shifts in innovative technology and data, demographics, and climate.
- Prioritize transportation safety and encourage the use of performance metrics to track success and shape future decisions.



Economies function at the regional scale and regional collaboration is vital to ensuring transportation investments spur economic growth and meet the needs of both employers and workers.

MPOs and RTPOs are where cities and counties literally come together to set priorities for transportation investments – in collaboration with state DOTs, transit agencies, business, and other public and private stakeholders. MPOs and RTPOs use technical analysis, public engagement, and regional collaboration to coordinate decision making on infrastructure investments.



SUPPORT AND FUND TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Four areas where Congress and the administration should support regional transportation efforts:



Provide adequate, stable, and flexible funding by dedicating additional revenue to ensure Highway Trust Fund solvency, increase funding for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) and Metropolitan Planning (PL), and increase the portion of STBGP provided to local areas through their MPO.



Prioritize transportation safety. Expand opportunities for ensuring the safety of all users.



Empower regions to meet the challenges and utilize the opportunities created by technology and data, including automated and connected vehicles. Ensure regional access to appropriate data for planning, economic development, and other purposes.



Enhance the role of MPOs and RTPOs by improving the planning process to better respond to emerging opportunities and challenges and shorten the time and resources needed to review projects.



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