



Surface Transportation Funding and Reauthorization

The second session of the 110th Congress will confront several key transportation infrastructure issues, including a significant shortfall in the highway trust fund in 2009, as well as wide-ranging recommendations for the future of the nation's transportation programs and the impact of transportation on energy consumption.

Message to Congress

- *As owners of 77 percent of the miles of roadway in the United States and home to the citizens who support roads, bridges, and transit systems through gas taxes, cities and towns have a significant stake in the national transportation debate.*
- *The Highway Trust Fund, financed by federal gasoline taxes and redistributed to cities and towns through the states, is not keeping up with demand; estimates indicate that it will fall \$4.3 billion short of the authorized spending level in 2009.*
- *The current lack of a national vision for and underinvestment in our country's transportation future threatens the economic health of metropolitan areas; every \$1 billion in new infrastructure investment creates 47,500 American jobs.*
- *Without action, the nation's transportation system assets will further deteriorate; our current system is aging, requiring increasing investment just to maintain its current condition, much less improve it.*
- *Federal transportation policy must be coordinated with our country's energy and environmental policies by decreasing reliance on foreign oil, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and other adverse public health impacts.*

Request to Congress

- **Provide** full funding for federal transportation programs that support bridges, roads, highways, transit and Amtrak, and **support** funding that goes directly to local governments, such as funding for transit, transportation enhancements, and the Congestion Management Air Quality Program that helps reduce congestion and protect the environment.
- **Ensure** that local elected officials have an opportunity to participate in the upcoming reauthorization debate.