AASHTO FAST ACT REAUTHORIZATION

White Paper Compilation Part 2:
Modal Councils and Special Committee on Freight

AASHTO TRANSPORTATION POLICY FORUM
TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2019
2:00-5:00PM EST

Call-in number: 1-888-585-9008 | Conference Room Code: 573-175-380
AASHTO REAUTHORIZATION ROADMAP

• Sep 2018: FAST Act reauthorization kickoff
• Nov 2018: White Papers from 11 Working Groups
• Feb 2010: White Papers from 4 Modal Councils and Special Committee on Freight
• Apr 2019: TPF to prioritize issue areas
• Aug 2019: TPF Special Session to develop draft Policy resolutions
• Oct 2019: Board consideration and adoption of policy resolutions
• Oct 19 onward: Messaging and communication of AASHTO policy recommendations

HTTP://POLICY.TRANSPORTATION.ORG
MODAL COUNCIL AND FREIGHT SPECIAL COMMITTEE WHITE PAPERS

12. Council on Active Transportation
13. Special Committee on Freight
14. Council on Highways and Streets
15. Council on Public Transportation
16. Council on Rail Transportation
12: COUNCIL ON ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Chair
Leslie Richards, PA

AASHTO Staff
Shannon Eggleston
Safely Deploy Connected and Automated Transportation Technologies

• Develop, collect and analyze additional data on the safety of connected and automated vehicles, including vehicle ability to detect/stop for pedestrians and bicyclists.

• Deploy existing, proven automated safety technologies.

• Ensure appropriate legislative and regulatory framework is in place as transitioning to new technologies; once transitioned revise/remove outdated safety laws, regulations and guidance.
Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Set Aside for Transportation Alternatives

- Allow State DOTs to be reimbursed for eligible costs incurred in administering the TA program.
- Restore authority for states to receive TA funding and administer TA projects, at the request of a local agency.
- Allow State DOTs to flex MPO STP set-aside funding for TA projects each year if an MPO fails to spend their obligation authority.
- Allow TA funds to be used for non-infrastructure programs.
- Develop Task Force to make recommendations to USDOT on streamlining federal processes and expediting project delivery for TA projects.
- Change the TA set aside from a fixed dollar amount to a percentage.
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Eligibilities

- Restore flexibility to allow states to use HSIP funds for non-infrastructure safety programs such as behavioral efforts, public awareness, education and research.
- Allow HSIP funds to be used for pilot experimental, temporary installations.
- Finalize in regulation, the Public Rights of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)

12: ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
13: FREIGHT

Chair
Roger Millar, WA

AASHTO Staff
Avital Barnea
13: FREIGHT

• Primary Goals:
  o Expand Federal funding eligibility for freight projects and freight research
  o Streamline Federal freight planning documents and program oversight

• Six Issues Areas

• Issues identified with input from the Special Committee on Freight
13: FREIGHT

• Issue 1: Expand the Extent of both the Primary Highway Freight System and National Multimodal Freight Network

• Issue 2: Expand Eligible Activities Through the National Highway Freight Program

• Issue 3: Changes to Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Discretionary Grant Program
13: FREIGHT

- Issue 4: Make Consistent the Financial Planning Requirements among the Required Performance-Based Planning Documents
- Issue 5: Reinstate the National Cooperative Freight Research Program
- Issue 6: Establish Office of Multimodal Freight Transportation within U.S. DOT Office of the Secretary
14: HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Vice Chair
Paul Degges, TN

AASHTO Staff
Jim McDonnell
14: HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

• Issue 14-1: Stability of the Highway Trust Fund
• Issue 14-2: Flexibility, Transferability and Set-aside Programs
• Issue 14-3: Flexibility in Participation Percentages
• Issue 14-4: Railroad/Highway Grade Crossing Safety
• Issue 14-5: Thoughts on Reduction of Regulations
### 14: HIGHWAYS AND STREETS
#### ADDITIONAL PRIORITY ISSUES

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<td>• Strengthen Eligibility for Investments in Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) and Related Technology</td>
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<td>• Improve Buy America Requirements</td>
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<td>CAV</td>
<td>• Deploying CAV Technologies in the Safest Manner Possible is Paramount</td>
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<td>• Minimum Condition Levels for NHS Bridges and Pavements Could Encourage a Worst-First Asset Management Approach</td>
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<td>• Do Not Increase Any Regulatory Burdens Related to Planning but Rather Look for Opportunities to Reduce Burdens and Unnecessary Requirements While Maintaining a Thorough Planning Process</td>
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<td>Performance</td>
<td>• Performance Management Regulations Should Be Improved to Reduce the Burden on State DOTs</td>
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# 14: HIGHWAYS AND STREETS
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15: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Vice Chair
Ron Epstein, NY

AASHTO Staff
Shayne Gill
Richard Price
15: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

• Issue 15-1: Retain, strengthen and expand the Federal program for public transportation. Retain the Mass Transit Account within the Highway Trust Fund.

• Issue 15-2: Maintain the current maximum federal funding match ratios for public transit programs to support rural and urban communities, individuals with disabilities and seniors and our nation’s transit infrastructure.

• Issue 15-3: Maintain and grow the Bus/Bus Facility formula and discretionary program.

• Issue 15-4: Support the goals of Safety Management Systems (SMS), the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP), and State of Good Repair (SGR).
15: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- Issue 15-5: Establish a new 4-year pilot program that combines requirement certification under the Buy America program with the Altoona Test requirements, creating one set of certifications with the Federal Transit Administration.

- Issue 15-6: Congress should direct the Government Accountability Office to study streamlining the federal transit grant approval process.

- Issue 15-7: Reauthorize the Transit Cooperative Research Program.
15: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

• Issue 15-8: Enhance opportunities and streamline regulations for state DOTs and transit providers to partner with technology and other companies to improve the service delivery to communities.

• Issue 15-9: Expanding research grants and funding to explore mobility opportunities through Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) technology.

• Issue 15-10: Encourage Ongoing Federal and State Coordination of the Coordinated Council for Access and Mobility.
15: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

• Issue 15-11: Support the Commuter Tax Benefit and Restore the Employer Deductible for Transportation Fringe Benefits to Employees.

• Issue 15-12: National Transit Database reporting.

• Issue 15-13: Cooperative Procurements.
16: PASSENGER RAIL

Vice Chair
Matt Dietrich, OH

AASHTO Staff
Shayne Gill
16: PASSENGER RAIL

- Issue 16-1: Clarify that States, and political subdivisions of States, who sponsor, but do not operate intercity passenger rail services, are not railroads nor are they railroad carriers.
- Issue 16-3: Reauthorize the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Grant Program (CRISI), State of Good Repair Grant Program (SGR), and Restoration and Enhancement Grant Program (R&E).
16: PASSENGER RAIL

• Issue 16-4: Reauthorize the State-Amtrak Intercity Passenger Rail Committee (SAIPRC), Northeast Corridor Commission (NEC), and Next Generation Corridor Equipment and Pool Committee (NGEC).

• Issue 16-5: Reauthorize Operation Lifesaver, Inc.

• Issue 16-6: Section 130
  o Increase federal match for Section 130 program to 100% federal share similar to many other highway safety programs.
  o Increase the limit of $7,500 incentive payment of Section 130 funds for the closing of a highway/railway grade crossing to $100,000.
  o Add eligibility of Section 130 funds for the replacement of functionally obsolete warning devices.
NEXT STEPS

- **By Fri 15 Mar**: TPF to provide written recommendations to Modal Councils and Freight by Fri 15 Mar
- **By Fri 12 Apr**: Modal Councils and the Special Committee on Freight will finalize their white papers
- **By the AASHTO Spring Meeting (20-23 May)**: TPF will be asked to start prioritizing all issue areas, to be teed up as policy resolutions
- **Thu 8 Aug—Fri 9 Aug**: TPF will hold a special session to consider all priority issue areas, and draft policy resolutions for AASHTO Board; more information about this meeting will be available after the Washington Briefing
- **By the AASHTO Annual Meeting (5-9 Oct)**: AASHTO Board will consider and formally adopt the reauthorization policy package