

MINNESOTA TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE

NOVEMBER 5, 2009

111th Congress-Federal Update

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CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE

- Estimated Adjournment Dates:
 - Senate:
 - Veterans Day recess November 11-13
 - Thanksgiving recess November 23-27
 - No Year adjournment set
 - House:
 - Veterans Day recess November 11-13
 - Thanksgiving recess November 25
 - No Year adjournment set
 - Note:
 - CR expires December 18, 2009

COMING UP IN CONGRESS

- Completion of Fiscal Year 2010 Federal Appropriations Process
- Completion of Health Care Overhaul Legislation
- Climate Change Legislation
- Reauthorization/extension of the Federal Transportation Bill
(SAFETEA-LU)

TRANSPORTATION RELATED INITIATIVES UNDERWAY

- Transportation Reauthorization
- Highway Trust Fund Solvency
- Transportation-HUD Appropriations
- High Speed Rail
- Livable Communities Act
- FAA Reauthorization

TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION

- Current Law Expired on September 30, 2009
- House and Senate passed one-month extension that expired October 31, 2009
- House and Senate passed an additional extension, funding the government through Dec. 18, 2009 on October 29th.
- House-Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009 (Oberstar's Plan)
 - June 24th, House T&I Committee Passed the Surface Transportation Authorization Act
 - \$500 billion, six-year reauthorization bill
- Senate Proposal: 6-month extension of existing law
- A main concern: How to fund the Highway Trust Fund

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

- August 7, 2009: \$7 billion from the General Treasury Fund was transferred into the Highway Trust Fund (HR 3357)
 - Short term, was only expected to fund through September- however funds are still available to-date
 - Passed in House by 363-68
 - Passed in Senate by 79 – 17
- DOT estimates an additional \$8 to \$10 billion will be needed for FY 2010
- The Highway Trust Fund shortfall is primarily due to declining vehicle miles traveled and a federal motor fuel tax that has not been raised from its current levels since 1993.
- Without additional revenues a six-year bill could fund approximately \$229 billion in highway, highway safety, and transit investment
- Well over \$250 billion short of what would be needed for Chairman Oberstar's bill

OBERSTAR'S PLAN SURFACE TRANSPORTATION ACT 2009

Funding Summary: \$500 billion, six-year reauthorization bill

- \$337.4 billion highway program
- \$99.8 billion for public transit
- \$12.6 billion for highway and motor carrier safety
- \$50 billion for high speed rail
- Refines the Federal role and restructures Federal surface transportation by consolidating or terminating more than 75 programs
- Reform the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to require intermodal planning and decision-making; ensures projects are planned and completed in a timely manner; and ensures that DOT programs advance the livability of communities.
- Authorizes funding of \$450 billion over six-years and invest an additional \$50 billion to develop 11 authorized high-speed rail corridors linking major metropolitan regions in the U.S.
- With 1.6 million construction workers out of work, enactment of this bill would provide good, family-wage jobs, while also improving the deteriorating infrastructure and lay foundation for future economic growth.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

House: Passed: all 12 appropriations bills

Senate: Passed: 7 of 12 appropriations bill

Pending:

- Commerce-Justice- Science (HR 2847)
- Financial Services (HR 3170)
- Labor-HHS-Education (HR 3293)
- Military Construction-VA (HR 3082)
- State-Foreign Operations (HR 3326)

Congress: Cleared 5 appropriations measures

- Agriculture (HR 2997/S 1406)
- Energy-Water (HR 3183/S 1436)
- Homeland Security (HR 2892/ S 1298)
- Interior-Environment (HR 2996)
- Legislative Branch (HR 2918/ S 1294)

APPROPRIATIONS TABLE

	House			Senate			Conference		
	<i>Approved by Subcommittee</i>	<i>Approved by Committee</i>	<i>Passed Floor</i>	<i>Approved by Subcommittee</i>	<i>Approved by Committee</i>	<i>Passed Floor</i>	<i>Through Conference</i>	<i>Approved by House</i>	<i>Approved by Senate</i>
Agriculture	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Commerce-Justice-Science	X	X	X	X	X				
Defense	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Energy-Water	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Financial Services	X	X	X	X	X				
Homeland Security	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Interior-Environment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Labor-HHS-Education	X	X	X	X	X				
Legislative Branch	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Military/VA	X	X	X	X	X				
State-Foreign Operations	X	X	X	X	X				
Transportation- HUD	X	X	X	X	X	X			

APPROPRIATIONS STATUS

Stopgap Funding/Continuing Resolution:

- Passed on October 29, 2009
- Funds the government at FY 2009 levels through December 18, 2009
- Exceptions: Veteran's health programs and the Census Bureau continue to receive funding higher than 2009 levels.

2010 HOUSE TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL (HR 3288)

- Bill Total: \$123.1 billion
- Discretionary spending: \$68.8 billion
- 2009 Enacted: \$54.99 billion
- Key Investments:
 - \$4 billion- high-speed passenger rail grants (\$2 billion for transfer to the national infrastructure bank)
 - \$78.8 billion Transportation Department
 - \$47 billion to Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department

2010 SENATE TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL (THUD) (HR 3288)

- Bill Total: \$122 billion
- Discretionary Spending: \$67.7 billion
- FY 2009 Enacted: \$117.1 billion
- Key Investments
 - \$1.2 billion high speed rail (zero for infrastructure bank, substituting \$1.1. billion in grants for large infrastructure projects.)
 - \$75.8 billion for the Transportation Department
 - \$45.8 billion Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department

MINNESOTA APPROPRIATIONS PROJECTS

MN Total Congressionally Directed Spending: \$17,861,661

The President -

- Northstar Corridor Rail, Minneapolis-Big Lake, MN... \$711,661

Senator Amy Klobuchar-

- Blue Earth CSAH 12 Extension/TH 14 Interchange, Mankato MN ...\$600,000
- Hastings Bridge/Highway 61 Right-of-Way and construction, MN ... \$500,000
- Federal Lowry Avenue Bridge Replacement, Hennepin County, MN ... \$500,000
- Street and Utility Reconstruction—Main Avenue, Park Rapids, MN ... \$750,000
- Southern Rail Corridor, Rochester, MN ... \$500,000
- Cedar Avenue Bus Rapid Transit, Phase I, Dakota County, MN ... \$700,000
- Northstar Phase II Commuter Buses, St. Cloud Area, MN ... \$100,000
- Northstar Corridor Rail Project, MN ... \$711,661
- Northstar Phase II—Extension of Northstar Commuter Rail to the St. Cloud Area, MN...\$4,000,000

Senator Al Franken-

- We not yet sworn into office during this period

MINNESOTA APPROPRIATIONS PROJECTS CONTINUED...

Congressman Walz -

- 55th Street Expansion in Rochester, MN \$300,000
- Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority Rehabilitation Project, Red Wood Falls, MN \$1,000,000 (Peterson & Walz)

Congressman Paulsen -

- Interstate 94 / Brockton Lane Interchange, City of Dayton, MN \$700,000
- TH 169/I-494 Interchange Construction, Eden Prairie, MN \$400,000
- TH 610 construction, Maple Grove, MN \$400,000

Congresswoman McCollum -

- Twin Lakes Infrastructure Project, City of Roseville, MN \$1,000,000
- Interstate 94 Transit Corridor, St. Paul to Eau Claire, Alternatives Analysis and Environmental Assessment, Ramsey County, MN \$250,000

MINNESOTA APPROPRIATIONS PROJECTS CONTINUED...

Congressman Ellison -

- Grand Rounds National Scenic Byway Missing Link®Phase I: Design, Acquisitions, Environmental Remediation, Construction, Minneapolis, MN \$500,000
- Bottineau Transitway, Hennepin County, MN \$250,000
- Minneapolis Intermodal Station, MN \$500,000

Congressman Peterson -

- SE Main Avenue, 20th, 21st Street Underpass and Ancillary Improvements, City of Moorhead, MN \$500,000
- Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority Rehabilitation Project, Red Wood Falls, MN \$1,000,000 (Peterson & Walz)

Congressman Oberstar -

- Northern Lights Express, Twin Cities to Duluth, MN \$500,000
- Cambridge-Isanti Bike-Walking Trail, Cambridge, MN \$400,000
- City of Isanti Pedestrian Bridge over TH 65, MN \$1,200,000
- Twin Cities-to-Twin Ports Trail Linkage, Pine City, MN \$600,000

FUTURE OF HIGH-SPEED RAIL IN AMERICA

- Projected Total Investment: \$62 Billion
 - ARRA: \$8 billion
 - Transportation Appropriations Bill (HR 3288): \$4 Billion
 - Oberstar's Plan: \$50 billion (Over six-years)
- Remarks from Chairman Jim Oberstar (MN-08)
 - In the past 50 years, the federal government has invested nearly \$1.3 trillion in our nation's highways and over \$473 billion in aviation, however since 1970 (creation of Amtrak) we have only invested \$53 billion in passenger rail.
 - U.S. lags significantly behind the rest of the world when it comes to high speed rail
 - "This is an historic opportunity to create jobs, develop a domestic manufacturing base and provide an environmentally friendly and competitive transportation alternative to the traveling public".

THE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

- Introduced by Senator Chris Dodd (D-CT)
- Intended to help communities plan for and create better and more affordable places to live, in part by promoting new transportation policies:
 - Increase access to and utilization of sidewalks, bike paths, public transit as alternatives to cars.
 - Preserve and enhance unique community characteristics
 - Link land use and housing development with transportation policy

PROVISIONS OF THE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

- Incentives to Plan for Livable Communities
 - \$400 million in competitive grants over four years for comprehensive regional planning.
- Funding to Implement Sustainable Development Projects
 - \$3.75 billion in competitive grants over three years for projects in regional plans.
- Partnering with Local Communities
 - Ensures that the federal government is a supportive partner for communities' planning and sustainable development efforts.
- Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities
 - Establishes an office under HUD to coordinate federal policies that foster sustainable development.

QUESTIONS?

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