

Update on Bridge Legislation


2016 Western Bridge Preservation Partnership Meeting

Ivan Marrero, P.E.

Division Administrator

Utah Division, Federal Highway Administration

May 17, 2016

- 
1. MAP-21 – Bridge Performance Measures
 2. FAST Act – Changes in the Bridge Program

MAP-21

- **Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act**
- Signed in to law on July 6, 2012 (P.L. 112-141)
- Provided transportation funding for 2013 and 2014
- Extended by congress from September 30, 2014 until May 31, 2015

Performance Management

- A key feature of MAP-21
- Established a performance- and outcome-based program.
- The objective is to invest resources in projects that collectively will make progress toward the achievement of the national goals.

MAP-21

MAP-21 establishes national performance goals for Federal highway programs:

1. **Safety**
2. **Infrastructure condition**
3. **Congestion reduction**
4. **System reliability**
5. **Freight movement and economic vitality**
6. **Environmental sustainability**
7. **Reduced project delivery delays**

MAP-21 Background-Performance Elements

- ***National Goals***
- ***Measures***
- ***Targets***
- ***Plans***
- ***Reports***
- ***Accountability and Transparency***



www.fhwa.dot/map21

Measures

- USDOT is required, in consultation with States, MPOs, and other stakeholders, to establish performance measures in the areas listed below:
 1. Pavement condition on the Interstate System and on the National Highway System (NHS)
 2. Performance of the Interstate System and the NHS (System Performance)
 3. **Bridge condition on the NHS**
 4. Fatalities and serious injuries—both number and rate per vehicle mile traveled--on all public roads
 5. Traffic congestion
 6. On-road mobile source emissions
 7. Freight movement on the Interstate System
 8. Transit State of Good Repair
 9. Transit Safety Criteria

Pavement and Bridge Performance Measures

NPRM:

- **Published January 5, 2015**
- **Closed May 8, 2015**

Final Rule:

- **Anticipated October 2016**

Pavement and Bridge Performance Measures

NPRM

- Proposed NHS Bridge Condition Measures:
 - All NHS bridges regardless of ownership or maintenance responsibility
 - Percent of NHS Bridges in Good condition
 - Percent of NHS bridges in Poor condition
- Minimum Level for Condition of NHS Bridges:
 - Percentage of the deck area of the bridges classified as Structurally Deficient does not exceed **10 percent** of the overall deck area in a State.
- If for 3 consecutive years the minimum condition level is not met, the State must set aside and obligate NHPP funds for eligible projects on bridges on the NHS.

MAP-21

Program Restructuring

- National Highway System Program
- Interstate Maintenance Program
- **Highway Bridge Program**
- Appalachian Development Highway System Program –

Incorporated into the following new core formula program structure:

1. National Highway Performance Program (NHPP)
2. Surface Transportation Program (STP)
3. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)
4. Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
5. Railway-Highway Crossings (set-aside from HSIP)
6. Metropolitan Planning

National Bridge and Tunnel Inventory and Inspection Standards Program

- Establish and maintain inspection standards for bridges and tunnels
 - Specify method for carrying out inspections
 - Establish max time between inspections
 - Establish qualifications
 - Require written reports and inventory data
 - National inspector certification process

FAST Act

- Signed by President Obama on December 4, 2015
- First long-term authorization act in a decade
- Result of bipartisan cooperation and compromise
- Provides 5 years of funding certainty for infrastructure
- planning and investment
- Authorizes \$305 B (all modes) over FY 2016-2020
- \$70 B in transfers to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent

FAST Act

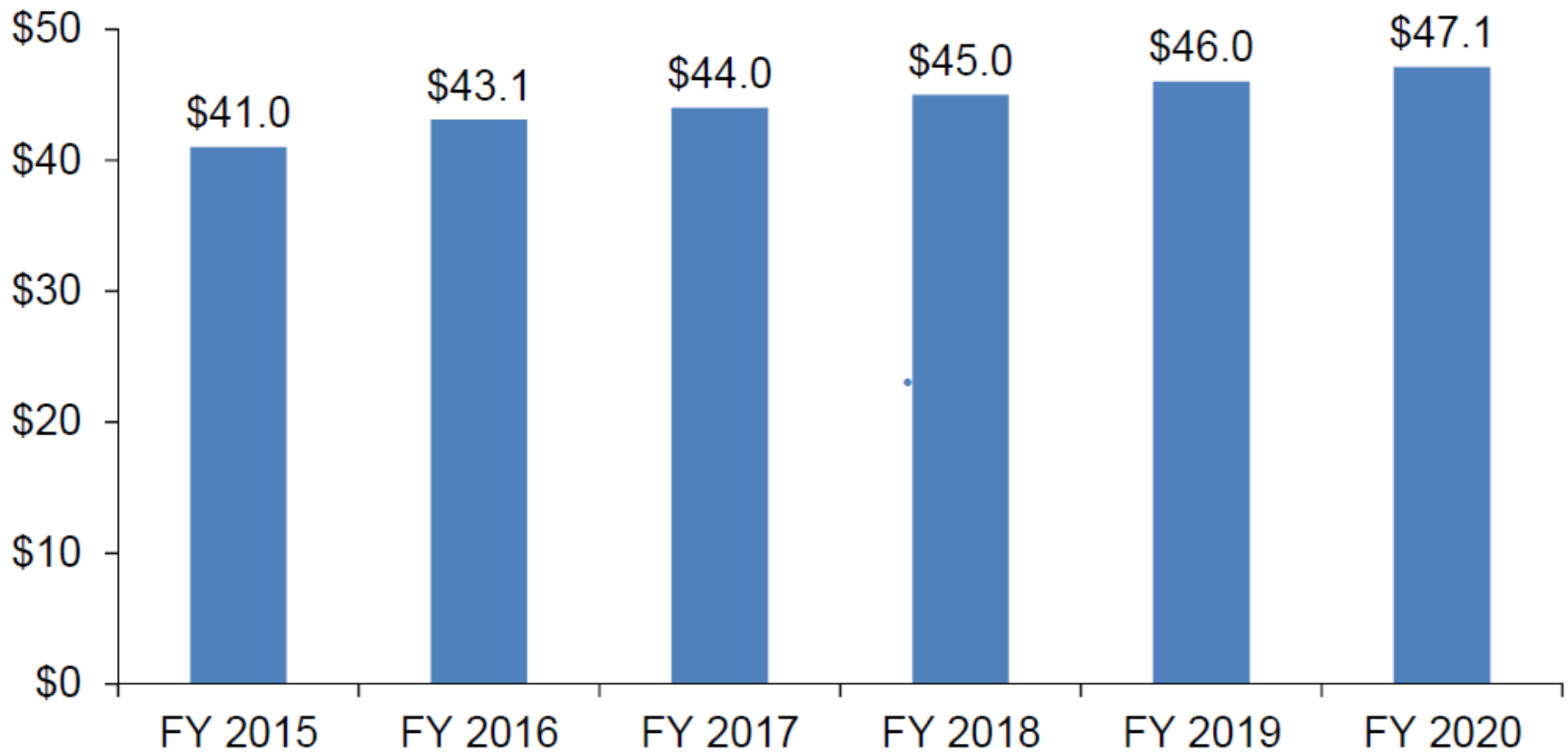
- \$226.3 Billion from the HTF for highway investments over 5-years.
- A \$20.2 Billion increase over 5-years compared to 2015 funding
- Provides every state a 5.1% increase in formula funds for FY-2016
- Followed by annual increase ranging from 2.1% in 2017 to 2.4% in 2020

FAST Act

- Of the \$226.3 Billion total, \$207.4 Billion will be apportioned among the states by formula.
- The apportionment formulas are set by Congress.
- About half of this increase goes to two new programs:
 - The National Freight Program
 - A program of Nationally Significant Freight and Highways Projects
- The remaining \$17.8 Billion will fund:
 - Discretionary Programs and Grants
 - FHWA Administrative Expenses
 - R&D

Highway contract authority grows each year

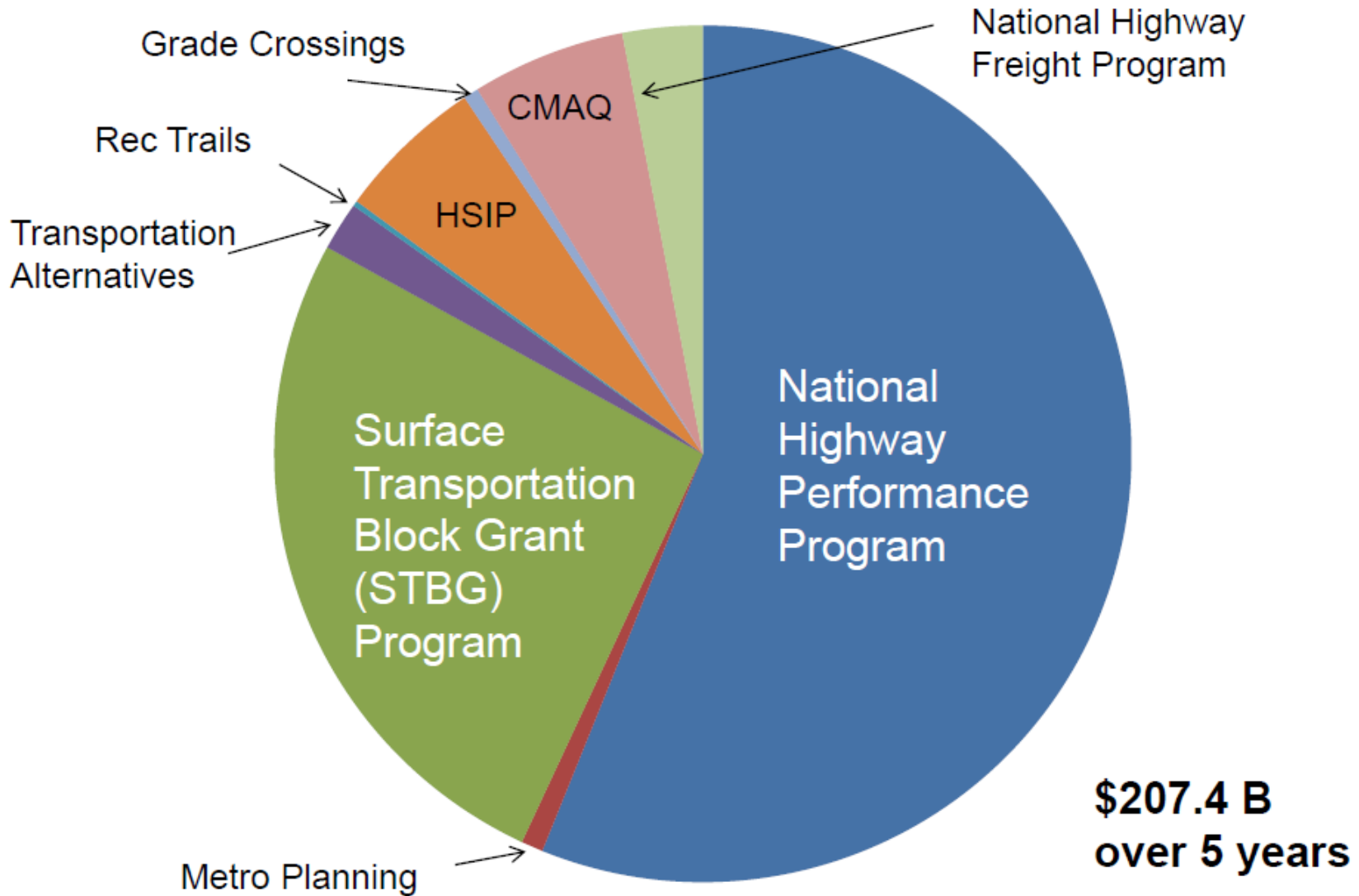
Highway Authorizations from Trust Fund (billions)



Growth Varies by Program

Program	Avg. Annual Funding (\$ millions)	Change from FY 2015
<i>National Highway Performance Program</i>	23,280	+6.3%
<i>Surface Transportation <u>Block Grant</u> Program</i>	11,654	+15.6%
<i>Transportation Alternatives Set-aside</i>	[760]	+3.3%
<i>Recreational Trails Program Set-aside</i>	[84]	0.0
<i>Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (net of TAP & Rec Trails)</i>	10,809	+7.3%
<i>Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement</i>	2,405	+6.1%
<i>Highway Safety Improvement Program</i>	2,317	+5.7%
<i>Railway-Highway Crossings Program</i>	235	+6.8%
<i>Metropolitan Planning</i>	343	+9.5%
<i>National Highway Freight Program</i>	1,249	NEW +100.0%

92% of Highway Funds Are Apportioned



FAST Act

Streamlines the environmental review process for bridge repair projects by:

- Exempting “common post 1945 concrete or steel bridges or culverts” from individual review
- Loosening requirements under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act for repairs made to bridges in serious condition or worse.
 - Authorizes taking of nesting swallows for at-risk bridges

FAST Act

Bundling of Bridges

- States are allowed to bundle multiple bridge projects into one that can be awarded as a single contract, either as a package of projects or as a statewide bridge improvement program.
- This is something that some states were looking for to simplify contracting for batches of small bridges

FAST Act

Truck Size and Weight

- Weight exemptions for—
 - Heavy-duty tow/recovery vehicle while towing to the nearest appropriate repair facility a disabled vehicle when the tow vehicle has a GVW \geq the vehicle under tow
 - Emergency vehicles up to 86,000 lbs.
 - Logging vehicles on specified routes in MN and WI
 - Grandfather Arkansas 15 & 75 and certain Texas routes after designated Interstate
- Allows States to issue permits for overweight vehicles hauling fluid milk products.
- Length exemptions for—
 - Certain stinger-steered automobile transporters
 - Commercial delivery of light and medium duty trailers
 - Auto transporters carrying other freight on backhaul

FAST Act

Natl. Significant Freight & Hwy. Projects | **NEW**

- \$900M/yr. (avg.) for competitive grants or TIFIA loans for projects >\$100M (reduced for States w/ small programs)
- Eligible activities:
 - Highway freight projects on Nat'l. Highway Freight Network
 - NHS highway/bridge projects, projects in National Scenic Areas
 - Freight rail/intermodal projects (\leq \$500 M over 5-year period)
 - Rail-highway grade crossing or grade separation projects
- States, large MPOs, Tribes, localities, & FLMAs may apply
- OST selects projects; Congress has 60 days to disapprove
- Set-asides for rural areas, projects below cost threshold

NATIONAL HIGHWAY PERFORMANCE PROGRAM (NHPP)

The FAST Act continues all NHPP provisions that were in effect under MAP-21, including minimum pavement and bridge standards and bridge and tunnel inspection standards.

New eligible category:

- **Reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, or preservation of a bridge on a non-NHS Federal-aid highway (if Interstate System and NHS Bridge Condition provision requirements are satisfied)**

In Conclusion

Along with these legislations, comes the expectation from Congress and the American people that:

- Our projects will be delivered quickly so people can get to work and the money can enter the economy and
- Projects will be efficient and cost-effective to get the maximum value out of our investments.

Thank You