

SR 25-158, Att.1.

# Transportation/Aviation Update April 4, 2025

#### **NEXT WEEK**

#### **House**

*Hearing: Airport Infrastructure.* On April 8, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a hearing titled "America Builds: Airport Infrastructure, Safety, and Regulatory Environment." Witnesses have not yet been announced. Information on the hearing is <a href="here.">here.</a>

*Hearing: Transit Policies and Programs.* On April 9, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a hearing titled "America Builds: A Review of Our Nation's Transit Policies and Programs." Witnesses have not yet been announced. Information on the hearing is <a href="here">here</a>.

*Hearing: Member's Day.* On April 9, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Subcommittee will hold a hearing for all House members to testify on their individual priorities.

#### Senate

As of today, there are no transportation or aviation related activities scheduled for next week in the Senate.

#### THIS WEEK

### **House**

*Markup: Transportation Legislation.* On April 2, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved the following bills:

- <u>H.R. 2390</u>, the *Maritime Supply Chain Security Act* introduced by Rep. David Rouzer (R-NC). The bill clarifies that Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) funds can be used to replace port crane hardware and software of Chinese origin.
- <u>H.R. 252</u>, the *Secure Our Ports Act of 2025* introduced by Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA). The bill prohibits certain foreign entities, including state-owned enterprises of China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran, from entering into contracts for the ownership, leasing, or operation of U.S. port facilities that are subject to security plans.
- <u>H.R. 2035</u>, the *American Cargo for American Ships Act* introduced by Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA). The bill requires that 100 percent of cargo procured, furnished, or financed by DOT be transported on U.S.-owned, privately-operated commercial vessels.
- H.R. 188, the Amtrak Transparency and Accountability for Passengers and Taxpayers Act introduced by Rep. Troy Nehls (R-TX). The bill applies the Government in the Sunshine Act's federal open meetings requirements to meetings of Amtrak's board of directors.



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• <u>H.R. 248, the *Baby Changing on Board Act*</u> – introduced by Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL). The bill requires Amtrak to install baby changing tables in all *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*-accessible bathrooms on Amtrak-owned cars.

#### Senate

*Markup: FTA Nomination.* On April 3, the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee voted 20-4 to advance the nomination of Marcus Molinaro to be the next FTA Administrator. Next will be a vote by the full Senate, likely in late April.

*Hearing: Surface Transportation Reauthorization.* On April 2, the Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee held the first of two hearings on DOT's perspectives on the reauthorization of the next five-year surface transportation bill. The current authorization expires on September 30, 2026. The sole witness was Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy. Information on the hearing is here.

- Full Committee Chair Senator Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV) highlighted her three principles for reauthorization: 1) improving safety and reliability of surface transportation investments, which includes the elimination of duplicative programs; 2) reforming and modernizing federal programs to increase efficiency; 3) addressing the variety of transportation needs in different states.
- Predictably, many of the questions focused on individual projects in the states of the Senators on the Committee.
- Several questions focused on the Trump Administration's decision to review all grants before the funds are released. Secretary Duffy said that there are about 3,200 projects that do not yet have grant agreements that still require review. When asked why they have not been approved, Sec. Duffy said that he was complying with the will of Congress by pulling reviewing projects to pull out the "green and social justice" elements of projects, as those issues were not in the last transportation bill.
- Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA) asked if DOT would continue to advance projects in the Capital Investment Grant program would be continued based on merit, mentioning projects in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Secretary Duffy gave no real commitments, other than saying he wants them to be safe.

*Hearing: Safety at The Boeing Company.* On April 2, the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a hearing titled "Safety First: Restoring Boeing's Status as a Great American Manufacturer." The hearing focused on steps Boeing has taken to address production deficiencies and safety issues. The sole witness was the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Boeing Company. Information on the hearing is here.

### **Department of Transportation**

FHWA: Safe Streets for All NOFO. On April 1, FHWA released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) of \$982 million for the Safe Streets for All grant program. This is the first competitive grant solicitation from DOT that reflects the new funding priorities of the Trump Administration. SS4A funds will support communities in the development of road safety action plans and improve unsafe roadway corridors by implementing effective interventions. The Safe Streets and Roads for All NOFO can be found at here. Applications are due by June 26.



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## Congressional Research Service

**Report:** Highway Trust Fund. On March 27, the Congressional Research Services released a <u>report</u> that focused on the revenues and expenditures from the Highway Trust Fund and the annual revenue shortfall. In FY 2024, the revenue and interest credited to the Highway Account of the HTF in were about \$43 billion, while expenditures were about \$57 billion, a shortfall of approximately \$14 billion. The report outlines alternatives that could address the revenue shortfall, which will be an issue Congress will address in the next surface transportation authorization bill.

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