

Transportation/Aviation Update

June 23, 2023

NEXT WEEK

The House and Senate begin a two-week recess starting today, returning the week of July 9.

THIS WEEK

Senate

Markup: Appropriations Subcommittee Allocations. On June 22, the Appropriations Committee approved the allocation of FY 2024 funds among the 12 different funding bills, reflecting the funding level agreed to in the debt limit bill. The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Subcommittee received an allocation for the DOT and Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- Senate THUD allocation \$88 billion
- House THUD allocation \$65.2 billion
 - Markups for the Senate and House bills are expected in July.

<u>Department of Transportation</u>

DOT: Upcoming NOFOs. Attached is the most recent <u>list</u> of upcoming NOFOs from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill.

• On Monday, June 26, DOT will announce the RAISE grant awards and FTA will announce the Low-No Emission and Bus & Bus Facility grants awards.

DOT: Local Hiring Webinar. On June 29, DOT will hold a webinar on Creating a Local Workforce: Use of Local and Economic Hiring Provisions. This webinar will provide an overview of the Local Hire Provisions in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. In addition, participants will learn about the Phase 1 Local Hire report recently finalized by DOT. This session will feature DOT staff and representatives from local jurisdictions, who will highlight existing local hire programs in cities as well as workforce development and other tools that could be developed to create a local hire program.

FHWA: Inflation Reduction Act Program Fact Sheets. FHWA has posted three program fact sheets for FHWA programs included in the Inflation Reduction Act:

- Neighborhood Access and Equity Grant Program. \$3.2 billion for projects that improve walkability, safety, and affordable transportation access through context-sensitive strategies and address existing transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity or negative impacts on the human or natural environment, especially in disadvantaged or underserved communities. DOT staff have said they expect the NOFO for this one-time grant program to be issued later this summer.
- Environmental Review Implementation Funds. \$100 million to facilitate the development and review of documents for the environmental review process for proposed surface transportation projects.
- Low-Carbon Transportation Materials Grants. \$2.0 billion to reimburse or provide incentives to eligible recipients for the use, in projects, of construction materials and products that have substantially lower levels of embodied greenhouse gas emissions associated with all relevant stages of production, use, and disposal as compared to estimated industry averages of similar materials/products as determined by EPA.

DOT: Rail Safety - Real-Time Hazmat Information. DOT has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking aimed at improving public safety by strengthening requirements governing railroads' provision of hazardous materials information to responders during a hazmat incident. The proposal would require railroads to always maintain — and update in real-time — accurate, electronic information about rail hazmat shipments in a train consist that would be accessible to authorized emergency response personnel. Railroads would also be required to proactively "push" that information to authorized local first response personnel as soon as the railroad is aware of an accident involving any hazardous materials. The DOT press release is here.

###