

**Transportation/Aviation Update**

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NEXT WEEK**House**

Hearing: FAA Aircraft Certification. On October 21, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will hold a hearing entitled “Three Years Aft Lion Air 610: FAA Implementation of the 2020 Aircraft Certification Safety and Accountability Act.” Witnesses have not yet been announced. Information on the hearing will be posted [here](#).

Senate

Markup: DOT Nominations. On October 20, the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will vote on the nominations of four DOT nominees. Nominee testimony and a video of the September 22, hearing is [here](#).

- Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, to be Chief Financial Officer ([bio](#))
- Mohsin Raza Syed, to be Assistant Secretary of Government Affairs ([bio](#))
- Amitabha Bose, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration ([bio](#))
- Meera Joshi, to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration ([bio](#))

LAST WEEK

The House and Senate were in recess last week and there were no transportation-related events. The House did return for a vote on October 12 to extend the federal debt limit, which the President then signed into law. The federal debt limit is now December 3, which is when the Continuing Resolution to fund the government will also expire.

White House

Roundtable: Supply Chain Bottlenecks. On October 13, the White House convened a virtual roundtable to examine steps to address the supply chain problems being experienced at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. President Biden, Vice President Harris, Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, and National Economic Council Director Brian Deese met with the leaders of the two ports and representatives of labor and the business community, to discuss solutions to the congestion at the two

ports. A complete list of participants and a readout of the roundtable is [here](#). A fact sheet produced by the White House is [here](#).

Congressional Budget Office

Report: Substitution of Highway Funding. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a report this week examining whether states use federal grant dollars to substitute for state highway spending. After analyzing two decades worth of data on federal, state and local highway spending, CBO found that for every additional dollar in federal highway grants, state and local governments spent about \$0.26 less of their own funds on highway capital projects. Additionally, CBO concluded that highway grants provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA), which were awarded on a one-time basis, rather than the recurring annual federal highway grants, resulted in states increasing their own spending by \$0.13 cents for each dollar of ARRA highway grants. The CBO report is [here](#).

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