



Transportation/Aviation Update

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NEXT WEEK

House

Markup: FY 2021 Appropriations. On July 8, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Subcommittee will remotely consider the FY 2021 funding bill. The full committee is expected to debate the FY 2021 THUD bill on July 14.

Senate

The Senate will be in recess until July 21.

THIS WEEK

House

Floor Vote: H.R. 2 The Moving Forward Act. On July 1, the House voted 233-188 to approve H.R. 2, “The Moving Forward Act.” The vote was largely along party lines, with three Republicans voting for the bill and two Democrats voting against it. The \$1.5 trillion bill includes provisions of the \$494 billion, five-year surface transportation bill approved last month by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

- According the Congressional Budget Office, the bill would require a transfer of \$145 billion from the General Fund to the Highway Trust Fund. That compares to the FAST Act, passed five years ago, which required a General Fund transfer of \$70 billion. A Fact Sheet on the highway, transit, and rail provisions in the bill is [here](#).
- The bill also authorizes \$1 trillion in funding for broadband, schools, housing, upgrading the electrical grid and clean energy, hospitals, drinking and wastewater, the U.S. Postal Service, as well as a series of tax incentives such as reinstating advance tax refunding and Build America Bonds, and expanding private activity bonds. A summary of the substitute bill is [here](#).
- Prior to consideration of H.R. 2, the White House issued a Statement of Administration Position (SAP), stating that if H.R. 2 was presented to the President, “his advisors would recommend that he veto the bill.” The SAP expressed concern that the bill focused too much on cities at the expense of rural areas and would be financed by additional debt. The SAP is [here](#).

Report: Climate Change. On June 30, the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis issued a report prepared by the Democratic Committee staff entitled “Solving the Climate Crisis: The Congressional



Action Plan for a Clean Energy Economy and a Healthy, Resilient, and Just America.” The report lays out the Climate Crisis Action Plan, calling for Congress to set a price on carbon dioxide pollution, eliminate pollution from cars by 2035 and from power plants by 2040, and achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The report and summary are [here](#).

Senate

Hearing: Highway Safety Grant Programs. On June 30, the Subcommittee on Transportation and Safety of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held a hearing entitled "Safety on Our Roads: Overview of Traffic Safety and NHTSA Grant Programs." Witnesses included representatives from the Governors Highway Safety Association, Lincoln Nebraska Police Department, and National Safety Council. Information on the hearing is [here](#).

Hearing: Smart Infrastructure. On July 1, the Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing entitled “Better, Faster, Cheaper, Smarter, and Stronger: Infrastructure Development Opportunities to Drive Economic Recovery and Resiliency.” Witnesses included representatives from the Associated General Contractors, Bipartisan Policy Center, Williams Brothers Construction Company, and Center for American Progress. Committee Chairman John Barrasso (R-WY) highlighted the provisions of S. 2302, America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act, which was unanimously approved by the Committee last August and stressed the need for a bipartisan bill. Information on the hearing is [here](#).

Department of Transportation

FAA: Airport Grants, On June 30, the Federal Aviation Administration announced the award of nearly \$800 million for 383 grants for airport development. This includes \$698 million in FY 2019 Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants and \$104.4 million in CARES Act grants. The CARES Act grants can be used to cover 100 percent of project costs. The FAA press release and list of grant recipients is [here](#).

FRA: Maglev NOFO. On July 1, the Federal Railroad Administration issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFO) for the Magnetic Levitation Technology Deployment Program. A total of \$2.0 million is available for pre-planning and capital development activities related to a maglev project. Applications are due July 31. The NOFO is [here](#).

FTA: CARES Act Grant Information. On July 2, the Federal Transit Administration published a Federal Register notice on the CARES Act transit grants, summarizing the guidance, program information, apportionments, and allocations. The Federal Register Notice is [here](#).

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