FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE:
THE BUDGET, AUTOMATED VEHICLES AND BUILD

CARON WHITAKER
POLICY SPECIALIST
CARON@CLWCONSULTING.NET
AGENDA

The budget
- Potential Rescissions
- 2018 budget underway

Changes to TIGER

Automated Vehicles

The infrastructure package?
And it’s a big one!

- In March Congress passed a $1.3 TRILLION budget
  - This bill covers FY 2018 (October 1, 2017- September 30, 2018)
  - Part of a 2 year deal between Republicans and Democrats

What does it mean for transportation?

- Including a higher base level for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations funding
  - AND an additional $10 billion a year for 2 years for infrastructure
HOW IT WAS SPENT

Two types of programs

- Those covered by Highway Trust Fund (formula funding)
- Programs not covered by HTF
  - TIGER
  - Amtrak
  - Capital Investment Transit grants
  - State/federal priorities program
    (Gateway Project- Rail projects between NJ and NY )
NEW YORK (CBSNewYork) — President Donald Trump is reportedly trying to nix the $30 billion Gateway project.

**Politico**

**Trump threatens veto over Gateway tunnel funding**

The move could complicate efforts to avoid a government shutdown this month.

**The Hill**

**Chao confirms Trump pushing Ryan to withhold Gateway project funding**

By Mallory Shelbourne - 03/06/18 12:31 PM EST
NON-HTF PROGRAMS

- **TIGER funding tripled to $1.5 Billion***

- **Compromise on Gateway:**
  - Not specific funding for Gateway but
  - Significant Increase for Amtrak, CIG transit, and increase for state/federal partnership programs
    - Can be used in NY/NJ crossing
    - BUT Gateway proponents must work with US DOT to use this funding for Gateway

- There is also a set aside of funding for positive train control
FORMULA PROGRAMS

- Increases for
  - Federal lands infrastructure by $300 million
  - Territories and Puerto Rico by $420 million
  - Almost $2 billion to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program- 1.980 billion

Good news

- STBGP is the most flexible of highway programs
  - It increases funding suballocated to local governments
TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

- No Increase for TA
  - TA funds now a set aside of STBGP.
    - BUT TA set aside has a dollar amount and not a percentage.
  - Therefore no increase
  - It is something we will look to change in the next reauthorization
SAFE STREETS REPORT LANGUAGE

- Not Legislative, but Directives from Congress to DOT
- Safe Streets implementation: directs FHWA to conduct training with its district offices on:
  - lessons learned from the Safer People, Safer Streets initiative;
  - Context sensitive solutions in transportation planning;
  - revisions of controlling criteria for design and documentation of design exceptions;
  - road diets;
  - and the evolving use of level of service metrics in transportation analysis
White House plans to introduce a Rescissions Package in May
Will propose rescinding between $30-60 Billion
- From non-defense discretionary in 2018 Budget
  - (everything but entitlements and defense= 15%)
- Potentially also from older unspent funds

Congress won’t pass, but
Once proposed all those program funds frozen for 45 days
Which may cause:
- Delays
- Potentially effect expiring funds
- CDC funds etc.
TIGER – DIRECTIVES BY CONGRESS

- Budget includes $1.5 Billion
- Directed DOT to get TIGER Notice of funding out within 60 days!

- Congress required the same criteria as before
  - Safety
  - State of Good Repair
  - Economic Competitiveness
  - Quality of Life
  - Environmental Sustainability
CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Size of Grants
- Maximum grant award = $25 million for any one project
- Minimum grant award (non-rural) = $5 million
- Minimum grant award (rural) = $1 million
- Maximum for any state = $150 million

Rural requirements
- 30 percent required for Rural areas

Distribution
- Equitable geographic distribution
- Balance needs of urban and rural areas, and
- Investment in a variety of transportation modes.
Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD)

Refocused on infrastructure investment that will:

- make a positive impact throughout the country
- have a significant local or regional impact

Admin will give special consideration to rural projects

Includes planning grants=$1.5 million
Additional Criteria

- **Innovation**:  
  - financing innovation,  
  - project delivery innovation, and  
  - technological innovation

- **Partnerships**

- **Non-Federal Revenue for Transportation Infrastructure Investment**:  
  - Application should include funding source or plan to secure funding, not from federal funds
WHAT IT MEANS FOR BIKE/PED

BUILD resembles Infrastructure package

Focus on Private sector funding/ partnerships

- Partnerships/ support from Chamber/ Business Districts

2017 TIGER Funding:

- 2 Trail projects (AK- vital transportation link, PA- economic competitiveness)
- 7 Complete streets projects
  - Described as economic competitiveness.
WEBINAR SERIES

- A webinar on how to compete for BUILD Transportation Grants for all applicants will be held on Thursday, May 24.
- A webinar for rural and tribal applicants will be held on Tuesday, May 29.
- A webinar on how to prepare a benefit cost analysis for a BUILD application will be held on Thursday, May 31.
- Details and registration information regarding these webinars will be made available at https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants.
- The Department will schedule additional webinars on these topics in June.
- The deadline to submit an application for the FY 2018 is July 19, 2018.

- For more information, please see https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants.
AUTOMATED VEHICLES
AVS AND CONGRESS

Currently the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) govern how vehicles are designed

- Based on human drivers (requires steering wheel, brake pedals, etc)
- FMVSS gives out 2500 exemptions per manufacturer a year

Manufacturers want more exemptions one set of rules, and

Flexibility in rules for testing stage
AV START ACT

Sens Thune (R-SD) and Peters (D-MI)

- Interim framework for deployment of self-driving technology
- Raises exemptions to 15,000 in year 1, 40,000 in year 2, 80,000 in year 3
- Pre-empts state and local safety laws. (goal- have one set of rules)
- Does not require manufacturers from making safety data publicly available (goal- keeping data proprietary)
- Safety reporting – manufacturers must report to NHTSA how they tested safety
  - But data cannot solely be reason for denying an exemption.
OBJECTIONS TO AV START

Several Senators have a ‘Hold’ on the bill stopping it from moving forward
Sens.Blumenthal (D-CT), Feinstein (D-CA), Gillibrand (D-NY), Markey (D-MA), and Udall (D-NM) concerned about:

- Lack of safety standard
- Number of exemptions allowed
- Pre-emption of state and local laws
- Lack of transparency with safety data
WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW

Senate leaders hope to attach the AV START bill to the Federal Aviation Authorization (FAA)

They are hoping to compromise on:
- Pre-emption issue
- Potentially safety data
APBP AV POLICY POSITION

APBP Supports:

- Establishing minimum performance standards for detection and reaction
- Enhancing testing and regulation
- Reducing exemptions from safety standards
- Requiring regulations for all AVs
- Establishing public database of limitations, capabilities, and safety evaluations.

Overview of APBP Policy Statements
The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) supports the community of professionals working to create more walkable, bikeable places through facilitating the exchange of professional and technical knowledge and by promoting fundamental positions that are broadly acknowledged and acted upon by APBP members.

APBP Policy Principles:
1. APBP represents the professional expertise and practical experience of its members in transportation policy discussions to advance active and healthy communities.
2. APBP endorses active transportation as an integral part of transportation systems through all stages of planning, design, funding, and implementation.
3. APBP supports connected, convenient, and safe streets and pathways in every community and planning with the input of every member of a community.
4. APBP advances street designs that make walking and bicycling a viable option for everyone in every place.

Position:
APBP believes automated vehicles represent an emerging technology that carries with it great potential for both positive and negative outcomes, but must be designed and operated to ensure functional safety for all people using streets and highways. AVs must reliably detect and protect people walking and bicycling – regardless of age, ability, location, time of day, and other factors – from serious injury or death. The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) supports:

- Public agencies establishing minimum performance standards for detection and reaction capabilities of Automated Vehicle (AV) technologies
- Enhancing testing and regulation, including implementation of policies that emphasize actions to improve safety for people walking and biking
- Reducing, or eliminating, the number of AVs allowed exemptions from safety standards
- Requiring safety regulations for all AVs, regardless of the level of automation
- Establishing a public database of limitations, capabilities, and safety evaluation reports to increase consumer awareness of AV performance
APBP ENDORSES A “VISION TEST”

Advocates for Auto and Highway Safety

- AVs should have to pass a vision test to be on the road
- Must detect other vehicles and roadway infrastructure
- Must detect all roadway users, including: Pedestrians, bicyclists, wheelchair users, construction workers, first responders and law enforcement officers
NEXT STEPS

Senate hopes to move on FAA in May

- APBP letter to Senators, and include statement
- Join partner organizations pushing for stronger safety standards.

Overview of APBP Policy Statements
The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) supports the community of professionals working to create more walkable, bikeable places through facilitating the exchange of professional and technical knowledge and by promoting fundamental positions that are broadly acknowledged and acted upon by APBP members.

APBP Policy Principles:
1. APBP represents the professional expertise and practical experience of its members in transportation policy discussions to advance active and healthy communities.
2. APBP endorses active transportation as an integral part of transportation systems through all stages of planning, design, funding, and implementation.
3. APBP supports connected, convenient, and safe streets and pathways in every community and planning with the input of every member of a community.
4. APBP advances street designs that make walking and bicycling a viable option for everyone in every place.

Position:
APBP believes automated vehicles represent an emerging technology that carries with it great potential for both positive and negative outcomes, but must be designed and operated to ensure functional safety for all people using streets and highways. AV’s must readily detect and protect people walking and bicycling – regardless of age, ability, location, time of day, and other factors – from serious injury or death. The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) supports:

- Public agencies establishing minimum performance standards for detection and reaction capabilities of Automated Vehicle (AV) technologies
- Enhancing testing and regulation, including implementation of policies that emphasize actions to improve safety for people walking and biking
- Reducing, or eliminating, the number of AVs allowed exemptions from safety standards
- Requiring safety regulations for all AVs, regardless of the level of automation
- Establishing a public database of limitations, capabilities, and safety evaluation reports to increase consumer awareness of AV performance.
WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO...

- The Infrastructure Package?
- A new funding mechanism?

Congress focused on next years Budget... and elections

White House departures of Gary Cohn and DJ Gribbins

Still Hope

- Chairman Shuster still thinking about lame duck session
- Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO) hopes to be Chairman next year
  - Plans to tackle long term funding
The 2019 Budget and open amendment processes…
Thank you

Caron Whitaker
Policy Specialist
caron@clwconsulting.net