

WEST VIRGINIA

Current Condition of Transportation:

- 28% of West Virginia's major roads are in poor condition¹
 - Driving on roads in need of repair costs West Virginia motorists \$715m a year, or \$575 a year per motorist²
 - Between 2009 and 2013, a total of 1,679 lives were lost on the state's roads³
 - Motor vehicle crashes cost West Virginia \$1.2b per year, \$701 for each resident, in medical costs, lost productivity, travel delays, and other related costs⁴
- Due to a lack of transportation funding, the number of miles of roadway in poor condition in the state is projected to increase from 21% to 34% by 2023⁵
- 5% of West Virginia's major urban roads are congested during peak travel times⁶
- Congestion in America costs motorists \$121b annually in wasted fuel

Current Condition of Commerce:

- Each year, 65% of the \$50 billion worth of commodities delivered annually from sites in West Virginia is transported by trucks on the state's highways⁷

Need for Federal Investment:

- 58% Federal share of West Virginia's Highway Capital Program.⁸
- National Interstate Backlog of \$185.24b on 47,575 miles of interstate.⁹
 - National Highway System (NHS) backlog of \$424.5b on 227,224 miles of the NHS.

FAST Act **→** *What this does for West Virginia*

Prioritize Bridge Reconstruction and Safety:

- Expands funding eligibilities to bridges off the NHS in order to reach the growing number of deteriorating bridges:
 - WV's 960 structurally deficient bridges.¹⁰
 - 35% of West Virginia's bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete¹¹

¹ TRIP

² Ibid

³ FHWA

⁴ TRIP

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ ARTBA

⁹ AASHTO and FHWA

¹⁰ FHWA

¹¹ Ibid.

Improving Commerce:

- Over the life of the bill (FY2016-FY2020), WV will receive \$70,028,323 in addition to growth of the existing programs for freight.
- This new formula-based Freight Program will ensure federal dollars for the state by prioritizing spending on interstate for projects in the national economic interest.
- In addition to the National Freight Program, WV through the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP), a \$4.5 billion discretionary grant program, will be able to compete for funding to address major projects of high importance to a community, a region, or the country. This will provide much needed funding for projects that are too big to get off the ground due to constraints on traditional funding. Furthermore, NSFHP has a rural set-aside and equitable geographic distribution of funds. This will ensure a balance of where federal dollars are directed, making sure rural projects see the light of day as well as the major projects that will greatly benefit the national economy.

Long-Term 5-Year Certainty:

- Total share over 5 years of the FAST Act: \$2,449,431,553 that the state would not get otherwise.
- Major State Projects that can benefit from the FAST Act:
 - **Construction of Corridor H**¹²: Needed to increase economic development and tourism, and to enhance vehicle safety¹³
 - **King Coal Highway**¹⁴: A project developed in 1999 to connect multiple counties along existing US Route 52. Needs further federal funding for completion¹⁵
- FAST delivers 5 years of certainty. 36 short term extensions since SAFETEA-LU have impeded on WV's ability to properly plan and budget for transportation projects.
- Building off NEPA reforms accomplished in MAP-21, FAST is cutting red tape and accelerating project delivery to increase WV's ability to efficiently finish projects.
- FAST gives WV the ability to prepare for the next 50 years. With a focus on innovation, WV can better deploy technology to improve the state transportation network.

¹² AASHTO

¹³ <http://www.wvcorridorh.com/route/route.html>

¹⁴ AASHTO

¹⁵ <http://www.wvkingcoal.com/default.aspx>