

# RHODE ISLAND (Sen. Reed and Whitehouse)

## Current Condition:

- 41% of state's major urban roads are in poor condition<sup>1</sup>
  - \$496.0 million a year in cost to motorists from driving on roads in need of repair, which is \$662 per year for motorists<sup>2</sup>
  - A total of 344 people died on highways from 2009 through 2013<sup>3</sup>
- Rhode Island's population grew by 19% between 1990 and 2013<sup>4</sup>
  - Vehicle travel on state highways increased by 11% from 1990 to 2013<sup>5</sup>
- 37% of state's urban highways are congested<sup>6</sup>
- Congestion costs American motorists \$121B a year in wasted time and fuel costs

## Commerce:

- 79% of the \$29 billion worth of commodities delivered annually from sites in Rhode Island is transported by trucks on the state's highways<sup>7</sup>

## Need for Federal Investment:

- 83% Federal share of RI's Highway Capital Program.<sup>8</sup>
- National Interstate Backlog of \$185.24b on 47,575 miles of interstate.<sup>9</sup>
  - National Highway System (NHS) backlog of \$424.5b on 227,224 miles of the NHS.

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## **DRIVE Act**    **————>** *What this does for Rhode Island*

### Prioritize Bridge Reconstruction and Safety:

- Increased bridge set aside funding for:
  - RI's 174 structurally deficient bridges<sup>10</sup>
  - 56% of bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.<sup>11</sup>

### Improving Commerce

- In the first 3 years of the DRIVE Act, RI will receive \$24,639,006 in addition to growth of the existing programs for freight.
- Prioritizing federal spending on interstate for projects in the national economic interest

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<sup>1</sup> ASCE

<sup>2</sup> TRIP.

<sup>3</sup> FHWA

<sup>4</sup> US Census

<sup>5</sup> TRIP

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> ASSHTO

<sup>9</sup> AASHTO and FHWA

<sup>10</sup> FHWA

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

**Long-term 6 year Certainty:**

- Total share for first 3 years of DRIVE Act: \$683,974,579 that the state would not get otherwise.
- 40 projects at risk without the certainty of federal investment.<sup>12</sup>
- *Major Projects in jeopardy:*
  - Multiple Bridge Replacements- the Great Island Bridge, the McCormick Bridge, and Pleasant Valley Parkway Bridge Replacements are all costly projects on the state's agenda
  - Other Substantial Bridge Projects: The Route 95 Bridge Preservation, and the Hussey and Park Avenue Bridge Repairs are also critical projects
- Building off NEPA reforms accomplished in MAP-21, DRIVE is cutting red tape and accelerating project delivery to increase RI's ability to efficiently finish projects.
- DRIVE delivers 6 years of certainty. 12 short term extensions since SAFETEA-LU have impeded on RI's ability to properly plan and budget for transportation projects.
- DRIVE gives RI the ability to prepare for the next 50 years. With a focus on innovation, RI can better deploy technology to improve the state transportation network.

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<sup>12</sup> AASHTO