

MISSISSIPPI

Current Condition of Transportation:

- 24% of MS's major roads are in poor condition¹
 - ASCE grade of C²
 - Driving on roads in need of repair costs Mississippi motorists \$1.1b a year, or \$582 a year per motorist³
 - Between 2009 and 2013, a total of 3,166 lives were lost on the state's roads⁴
- MS's population increased by 19% from 1990 to 2013⁵
- Vehicle travel on Mississippi's highways increased by 39% from 1990 to 2013, while new road mileage only increased by 4%⁶
- 28% of Mississippi's major urban highways are congested⁷
- Congestion in America costs motorists \$121b annually in wasted fuel⁸

Current Condition of Commerce:

- Each year, 66% of the \$91b worth of commodities delivered annually from sites in Mississippi are transported by trucks on the state's highways⁹

Need for Federal Investment:

- 49% Federal share of Mississippi's Highway Capital Program.¹⁰
- National Interstate Backlog of \$185.24b on 47,575 miles of interstate.¹¹
 - a. National Highway System (NHS) backlog of \$424.5b on 227,224 miles of the NHS.

FAST Act **→** *What this does for Mississippi*

Prioritize bridge reconstruction and safety:

- Expands funding eligibilities to bridges off the NHS in order to reach the growing number of deteriorating bridges:
 - MI's 2,275 structurally deficient bridges¹²
 - 21% of MS's bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete¹³

¹ TRIP

² ASCE

³ TRIP

⁴ FHWA

⁵ US Census

⁶ TRIP

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ ARTBA

¹¹ AASHTO and FHWA

¹² FHWA

Improving Commerce

- Over the life of the bill (FY2016-FY2020), MS will receive \$77,530,046 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, MS, 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: \$2,713,934,360 that the state would not get otherwise.
- Major State Projects that can benefit from the FAST Act:
 - a. **I-55 From Byram To McDowell Road**¹⁴: \$94 Million project started in summer 2013 to expand the 7.5 mile stretch to six lanes¹⁵
- FAST delivers 5 years of certainty. 36 short term extensions since SAFETEA-LU have impeded on MS'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 MS's ability to efficiently finish projects.
- FAST gives MS the ability to prepare for the next 50 years. With a focus on innovation, MS can better deploy technology to improve the state transportation network.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ AASHTO

¹⁵ <http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/2015/01/30/million-mdot-project-put-hold/22632897/>