



## **Transportation & Goods Movement**

### **Provide Greater Federal Support:**

Commit to a greater federal role in surface transportation infrastructure funding to maintain and grow the Nation's system. Maximize federal investments by prioritizing states and local governments that generate their own funding.

### **Prevent Highway Trust Fund Insolvency:**

Prevent projected Highway Trust Fund Insolvency in 2009 without removing money from other funds or modes of transportation. Use the Baucus-Grassley plan to move emergency financial obligations and fuel credits to the general fund and crack down on fuel tax evasion.

### **Create a National Freight Trust Fund:**

Create a separate account to fund goods movement related projects. Programs should be based on a National Freight Transportation Plan developed in conjunction with states and metropolitan areas. Funding sources may include tax credits, a portion of customs duties revenues, and a federal freight fee. Funds should be distributed solely by objective merit based criteria and spent on projects in the corridor in which they are generated

### **Maximize New and Small Starts Funding:**

Continue to fund New and Small starts programs at congressionally authorized levels. In the future maximize funding for new and small starts above the current \$1.7 billion appropriations. Traditional bus and rail transit must be a primary component of all metropolitan mobility strategies. Increase transit funding as part of mobility plans and to address issues of energy independence and sustainability. Finally, disperse all appropriated transit funding.

### **Diversify Funding Streams:**

New funding should prioritize user and beneficiary financing and public private partnerships to the maximum extent feasible. Investigate a variety of sources to fund system improvements and any new federal program should be tied to an adequate funding stream.

### **Speed-up Delivery Times for Major Transportation Projects:**

Prioritize reducing project delivery as part of the 2009 re-authorization. Eliminate redundancies in project studies and allow states with stricter rules than federal environmental laws to expedite the NEPA and other processes.

### **Create Metropolitan Congestion Relief Fund:**

Create congestion relief funding for urban areas of over one million people. Use traffic congestion, transit use, and population exposure to air pollution as part of allocation formulas for congestion funds for transit, road, and highway projects in these heavily impacted urban areas.

Stimulate Economic Growth:

Use a second economic stimulus package to fund infrastructure investments. Start by providing funding by using stimulus money to fund shelf-ready transportation projects.

**Housing**

Support the Creation of a Federal Employer Assisted Housing Program. Communities are negatively impacted when our local workforce, including teachers, nurses, public safety officials and nonprofit workers, can not afford to live nearby.

Modify the HUD Regulations to Adjust the Allocation Formula from a per capita basis to one proportional to true need. High cost low-income areas like Los Angeles would then receive an allocation proportional to need instead of being unfairly penalized.

Support the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007 that commits to producing, rehabilitating and preserving 1.5 million housing units in the next 10 years.

Support the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act of 2007, which will reform consumer mortgage practices through establishing licensing requirements for lenders and minimum standards for loans.

Support the Homeownership Protection and Enhancement Act of 2007 which will provide better assistance to low and moderate-income households by amending the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

Support the Federal Housing Financing and Reform Act of 2007 which would establish a Federal Housing Financing Agency.