Federal Legislative Update

Regional Transportation Council
August 11, 2011
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Current Situation

SAFETEA-LU extension expires September 30, 2011
Most of the federal gas tax also expires September 30
A full reauthorization bill is highly unlikely before the deadline

The House budget will require a 30 percent funding cut for the extension compared to the last year of SAFETEA-LU, but Senate will want higher spending
   - Likely to be across the board for the extension
   - Could be more targeted for the full reauthorization

Discretionary funding caps as part of the debt ceiling deal will impact transportation funding long-term
RTC Authorization Principles
Proposed Additions

Adequately Fund the Transportation System

Increase revenue by providing General Revenue for improvements and using the Highway Trust Fund for preservation

Specify innovative funding sources to be used (toll roads, TIFIA, infrastructure banks)
RTC Authorization Principles
Proposed Additions

Define a National Transportation Vision
Establish a population threshold of 200,000 to become a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Enhance Sustainability and Accountability
Extend the concept of Metropolitan Mobility Authorities to select mid-sized MPOs (such as Metroplan)
### MPOs Created by Decade Based on 2000 Census Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>1960s</th>
<th>1970s</th>
<th>1980s</th>
<th>1990s</th>
<th>2000s</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50,000-200,000</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200,000-1 million</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 1 million</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>56</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>384</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Addressing Additional Issues

Program consolidation – already included in February 2010 principles

VMT Tax – possibly suggest a pilot program within backup information

Transportation and land use – intent is to retain flexibility to implement sustainable development program
Action Requested

Consider sending correspondence to Congress related to SAFETEA-LU extension, funding level, and reauthorizing the gasoline and diesel tax.

Approve additions to the Principles for the Federal Surface Transportation Authorization and distribute to Congressional delegation.