

# The Road to Reauthorization

Joseph S. Toole

Associate Administrator for Safety  
Federal Highway Administration

GHSR Annual Meeting  
September 2, 2009

# Putting the Pieces Together

---

- ARRA – Recovery Act
- Extension of SAFETEA-LU
- Solvency of the Trust Fund
- Appropriations
- Reauthorization



# Recovery Act Highlights

---

- \$787 Billion total
- Provides \$48.1 billion for transportation
- \$27.5 billion for highways
- \$1.5 billion for National Surface Transportation Discretionary Grants
- High Public Expectations...Significant accountability and transparency

# Recovery Act Status

- 67% of funds obligated...\$18.1 Billion
- Over 6000 projects
- Safety:
  - \$800 Million in safety and operational improvement projects
  - Safety countermeasures incorporated in many other projects
  - Rumble strips/stripes; cable guardrail; pedestrian



# Extension of SAFETEA-LU

- Expires September 30, 2009...29 days
- Last reauthorization extended 12 times
- Administration proposal...18 months
- Key Issues:
  - How Long?
  - Clean?
  - How Much?

# Trust Fund Solvency

- Trust Fund source of all our programs
- Receipts have decreased
  - Lower miles traveled
  - More efficient vehicles
- \$7 Billion “bailout” last month to get us through the end of FY 2009
- Will require another infusion of funds to sustain the program through the next fiscal year
- Issue: How much? How long?

# Reauthorization: Core Issues

---

- Money, Money, Money
- Scope and Program Structure
- Federal role
- Timing

# Reauthorization: Safety

- Highway Safety Improvement Program
- Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSP)
- Flexibility across programs
- Open Issues:
  - Set aside programs (High Risk Rural Roads; Railroad Grade Crossings)
  - Accountability

# Reauthorization: Accountability

- Performance Measures
- Performance Targets
- Investment Plan
- Federal Oversight
- Issues:
  - Federal vs. State Approval
  - Sanctions

# Livability

My goal is to enhance the economic and social well-being of all Americans by creating and maintaining a safe, reliable, intermodal and accessible transportation network that

- enhances choices for transportation users,
- provides easy access to employment opportunities and other destinations,
- promotes positive effects on the surrounding community

**-USDOT Secretary Ray LaHood**

# National Strategic Safety Plan

---

- Articulate our shared vision
- Create a framework for achieving that vision
- Focus on collaboration and innovation
- Informed decision-making
- Inclusive, data-driven process

# Advice for Weathering the Storm

---

Be fiscally prudent

Stay informed

Stay engaged

Stay focused

