






FAST Act is the current authorizing legislation for federal surface transportation programs and expires September 30, 2020. Below is a summary of how ITE believes federal policy governing funding and workforce development should be structured in the next transportation authorization.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

- Increases in funding levels are needed to address the **backlog of existing needs**, to help **meet future challenges**, and to **enable the Highway Trust Fund to meet obligations**.
- Funding **flexibility between capital and operations/maintenance investments** is necessary to support local priorities.
- Increases in funding flowing to the local level in recognition of the population growth in **metropolitan areas and the complexity of the transportation issues to be addressed**.
- We as a nation need a **cohesive, sustainable and unified planning strategy for transportation investment**.

NEW POLICY INITIATIVES OR MODIFICATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS	
	<b>Predictable, dependable, and adequate funding</b> is needed to support capital projects, systems management, operations and maintenance, innovation, and work force development.
	Established in 1956 and last increased in 1993, the Highway Trust Fund has historically been underfunded and has seen revenues sources steadily decrease. <b>New and multiple sources of funding/financing are critical to a viable new surface transportation program.</b>
	A safe, efficient, sustainable, and resilient transportation system is an investment in our economic, environmental, personal, social, work, commuting and leisure wellbeing. <b>Inadequate investment into our transportation systems has serious impacts on all of us individually, as well as a nation.</b>
	ITE’s other four guiding principles for federal surface transportation legislation of Safety; Research and Innovation; Transportation Systems Management & Operations; Planning & Sustainability are dependent on this principle being successfully advanced. <b>Without the necessary funding and workforce, the other principles are extremely important ideas and issues without the resources to make them happen!</b>
	Smart and ever evolving technology is driving the new transformational aspects of our future transportation systems. These technologies require a workforce that can effectively communicate, collaborate, cooperate, and coordinate. <b>A diverse and inclusive workforce is critical to developing and implementing our next generation of transportation systems.</b>

**RETAIN THESE FAST ACT POLICIES**

- Maintain the implementation of integrated system performance measures (codified at 23 CFR 490) that can be used for tracking trends and setting benchmarks and providing affected agencies with the flexibility on how best to meet the economic improvement, health, equity, and other national goals and outcomes.
- Continued funding for the University Transportation Centers program.
- Continued federally funded fellowships and grants and state education and training programs.
- Continued flexibility of federal surface transportation program funds to be eligible for use by state and local transportation agencies.

The Advocacy Committee is your resource for educational materials, the importance of the reauthorization process, key talking points, and identifying local Advocacy Committee members to connect with. This page is a summary of ITE’s White Paper on Funding and Workforce Development hosted in addition to periodic updates and additional materials at <https://ite.org/membership/advocacy-committee/>





**WHAT ITE MEMBERS CAN DO:**

The outcomes of the FAST Act Reauthorization process have the potential to greatly impact our country’s ability to meet the transportation needs of our states, cities, and local communities. ITE members need to rally together to support thoughtful, federal Reauthorization approaches so we can collectively shape the future of transportation. It is critically important that ITE members take an active role in the Reauthorization process. We are proud of the great work that ITE members are doing and want to make sure that we are able to continue doing this important work with the right federal support system.

*We are ITE. We help to shape the future of transportation.*

**WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT**

- Safe & resilient mobility infrastructure requires a predictable, dependable, and adequate source of funding.
- The FAST Act supplemented Highway Trust Fund revenue with general funds. If not renewed, funding levels would substantially drop to what the Highway Trust Fund alone could sustain.
- This is the opportunity to advocate for new approaches to transportation policy and funding

<b>GET ENGAGED</b>	
	<p>Educate Yourself:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the <a href="#">ITE Reauthorization Principles</a>, white papers, and one-pagers</li> <li>• Read the FHWA’s Resources on the FAST Act               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/legislation.cfm">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/legislation.cfm</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Track the news around this topic</li> </ul>
	<p>Talk to your colleagues, family, and friends about why dependable transportation funding matters</p>
	<p>Share a personal testimonial on <b>#FASTAct</b></p>
	<p>Build an “Advocacy Minute” into the beginning of your meetings (your team/organizations and ITE working groups):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk with your local ITE District/Section/Chapter about holding discussions/workshops/events/ luncheons/dinners around these issues (or volunteer to help them organize this)</li> <li>• Educate key decision makers in your region to the importance of dependable transportation funding</li> <li>• Identify your federal <a href="#">Senate</a> and <a href="#">House</a> representatives and the schedule for their home visits</li> <li>• Encourage your local ITE D/S/C leadership to hold educational dinners with representatives (or volunteer to help them organize this)</li> </ul>