

## **CALL TO ACTION: FAST Act Expires September 30, 2020 - ITE Member Advocacy Needed**

The [Fixing America's Surface Transportation \(FAST\) Act](#) is set to expire on September 30, 2020.

The \$305 billion five-year FAST Act legislation (Public Law 114-94) has provided long-term funding certainty for federal surface transportation programs, meaning that states and local governments could move forward with critical transportation projects with the confidence that they would have a federal funding partner. Currently, [two distinct versions of surface transportation reauthorization legislation](#) are pending in the U.S. Senate and House—at this time, neither legislative body seems poised to caucus and negotiate a bill to pass to the executive branch for approval.

**The expiration of the FAST Act would have significant impacts on our ITE members, the transportation profession, and the communities that we serve.** *Without federal funding program assurances, it will be difficult to plan for and implement a forward-looking surface transportation system that addresses rising fatality rates amongst vulnerable roadway users, equips our metro areas to invest equitably in chronically underinvested communities, supports economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and maintains our previous infrastructure investments.*

**We are the voice of the transportation profession.** To fulfill our core mission of serving the needs of communities and shaping the future of transportation, there ultimately must be resources available to do so. Safe and resilient mobility infrastructure systems require a predictable, dependable, and adequate source of funding. Other trade and technical organizations, such as ASCE, AASHTO, and APA are advocating around this issue – and we feel that ITE has a unique perspective to share.

**We need all ITE members to take action:  
help us educate decision makers, legislators and the general public  
on the importance of this issue.**

**ITE has developed educational resources to help YOU learn more about this issue:**

Last summer, the ITE Reauthorization Task Force released the [ITE FAST Act Reauthorization Principles](#). These principles highlight three priority areas for federal transportation programs:

1. Establishment of a new safety program consistent with a Vision Zero philosophy
2. Increased and sustainable funding, with an emphasis on metropolitan areas
3. Support for the research and deployment of new and emerging technologies

ITE has also developed **topical white papers that discuss specific policy elements that should be considered** in forthcoming legislation. These include: [Funding and Workforce](#), [Planning and Sustainability](#), [Research and Innovation](#), [Transportation Systems Management and Operations](#) and [Safety](#).

These white papers have also been summarized into **topical one-pagers, which can be found on the [ITE Advocacy Committee webpage](#)**, along with other updates and resources.

**How to join in the conversation:**

**Over the next few weeks ITE will be promoting these educational FAST Act reauthorization resources through [ITE's e-community website](#) and social media platforms**, with the intent of providing the opportunity for ITE members to learn more about this issue and sparking productive discussions across the profession.

At the end of this ITE member educational campaign, **the ITE Advocacy Committee will host a virtual drop-in session on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, where we will discuss these topics** of federal transportation funding, FAST Act Reauthorization, and the role that ITE members can play in advocating for our industry.