

# GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT 

## Federal and State Context on Transportation Funding

Joung H. Lee<br>Policy Director<br>American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

# FEDERAL GAS TAX HEADWIND: SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF PURCHASING POWER 

Sample of Nominal Prices Relative to Federal Gas Tax, 1993 and 2010

| ITEM | UNIT/DESCRIPTION | 1993 |  | 2010 |  | PERCENT CHANGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| College Tuition | Average Tuition and Required Fees | \$ | 3,517 | \$ | 9,136 | 160\% |
| Gas | Per Gallon | \$ | 1.12 | \$ | 2.73 | 144\% |
| Movie Ticket | Average Ticket Price | \$ | 4.14 | \$ | 7.89 | 91\% |
| House | Median Price | \$ | 126,500 |  | 221,800 | 75\% |
| Bread | Per Pound | \$ | 1.08 | \$ | 1.76 | 62\% |
| Income | Median Household | \$ | 31,272 | \$ | 49,167 | 57\% |
| Stamp | One First-class Stamp | \$ | 0.29 | \$ | 0.44 | 52\% |
| Beef | Per Pound of Ground Beef | \$ | 1.57 | \$ | 2.28 | 46\% |
| Car | Average New Car | \$ | 19,200 | \$ | 26,850 | 40\% |
| Federal Gas Tax | Per Gallon | \$ | 0.184 | \$ | 0.184 | 0\% |

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Postal Service, U.S.Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Education, National Association of Theater Owners

## COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED ANNUAL HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT OBLIGATIONS

In billions of dollars


## FAST ACT FUNDING FOR LOUISIANA

## FY 2017 Federal Highway Apportionments

| National <br> Highway <br> Performance <br> Program | Surface <br> Transportation <br> Block Grant <br> Program | Highway <br> Safety <br> Improvement <br> Program | Railway- <br> Highway <br> Crossings <br> Program | Congestion <br>  <br> Air Quality <br> Improvement | Metropolitan <br> Planning | National <br> Highway <br> Freight <br> Program | Apportioned <br> Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $429,665,212$ | $214,197,564$ | $42,975,527$ | $4,174,554$ | $11,655,077$ | $4,368,155$ | $19,592,854$ | $726,628,943$ |

FY 2016-2020 Estimated Federal Highway Apportionments

| 2015 Actual | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | Total, <br> 2016-2020 | Average, <br> 2016-2020 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $677,413,014$ | $711,927,496$ | $726,628,943$ | $742,332,405$ | $759,087,323$ | $777,267,157$ | $3,717,243,324$ | $743,448,665$ |

FY 2016-2020 Estimated Federal Transit Apportionments and Allocations

| 2015 Actual | $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 1 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 0}$ | Total, <br> $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 - 2 0 2 0}$ | Average, <br> $\mathbf{2 0 1 6 - 2 0 2 0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $59,629,607$ | $61,355,354$ | $62,580,348$ | $63,890,686$ | $65,058,832$ | $66,425,793$ | $320,311,013$ | $64,062,203$ |

## Federal Share of State Highway Capital Expenditures

National Average: 43\%


Source: FHWA Highway Statistics, 10-year average 2004-2013, Table HF-2 and unpublished Table FA-21.

## Minimum State Gas Tax Increase* Necessary to Maintain Current State Highway Program Funding Level



Matrix of Illustrative Surface Transportation Revenue Options

| Existing Highway Trust Fund Revenue Mechanisms | Illustrative Rate or Percentage Increase | Definition of Mechanism/Increase | \$ in Billions |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Assumed 2014 Yield | Total Forecast Yield 2015-2020 |
| Motor Fuel Tax-Diesel | 15.0¢ | $\phi / \mathrm{gal}$ increase in current rate (approx. 10\% increase in total rate) | \$6.54 | \$41.79 |
| Motor Fuel Tax-Gas | 10.0¢ | $\phi / \mathrm{gal}$ increase in current rate (approx. 10\% increase in total rate) | \$13.21 | \$78.12 |
| Heavy Vehicle Use Tax | 50\% | Increase in current revenues, structure not defined | \$0.55 | \$3.42 |
| Sales Tax-Trucks and Trailers | 10\% | Increase in current revenues, structure not defined | \$0.33 | \$2.19 |
| Tire Tax-Trucks | 10\% | Increase in current revenues, structure not defined | \$0.04 | \$0.23 |
| Potential Highway Trust Fund Revenue Mechanisms | Illustrative Rate or Percentage Increase | Definition of Mechanism/Increase | Assumed 2014 Yield* | ```Total Escalated Yield 2015-2020*``` |
| Container Tax | \$15.00 | Dollar per TEU | \$0.66 | \$4.26 |
| Customs Revenues | 5.0\% | Increase in/reallocation of current revenues, structure not defined | \$1.80 | \$11.66 |
| Drivers License Surcharge | \$5.00 | Dollar annually | \$1.08 | \$6.98 |
| Freight Bill-Truck Only | 0.5\% | Percent of gross freight revenues (primary shipments only) | \$3.07 | \$19.90 |
| Freight Bill-All Modes | 0.5\% | Percent of gross freight revenues (primary shipments only) | \$3.80 | \$24.60 |
| Freight Charge-Ton (Truck Only) | 10.0¢ | ¢/ton of domestic shipments | \$1.17 | \$7.54 |
| Freight Charge-Ton (All Modes) | 10.0¢ | ¢/ton of domestic shipments | \$1.44 | \$9.29 |
| Freight Charge-Ton-Mile (Truck Only) | 0.10¢ | ¢/ton-mile of domestic shipments | \$1.41 | \$9.15 |
| Freight Charge-Ton-Mile (All Modes) | 0.10¢ | ¢/ton-mile of domestic shipments | \$3.48 | \$22.52 |
| Harbor Maintenance Tax | 25.0\% | Increase in/reallocation of current revenues, structure not defined | \$0.43 | \$2.79 |
| Imported Oil Tax | \$2.50 | Dollar/barrel | \$5.76 | \$37.28 |
| Income Tax-Business | 1.0\% | Increase in/reallocation of current revenues, structure not defined | \$2.79 | \$18.06 |
| Income Tax-Personal | 0.5\% | Increase in/reallocation of current revenues, structure not defined | \$6.70 | \$43.36 |
| Motor Fuel Tax Indexing to CPI-Diesel | - | ¢/gal excise tax | - | \$5.22 |
| Motor Fuel Tax Indexing to CPI-Gas | - | ¢/gal excise tax | - | \$10.87 |

## Matrix of Illustrative Surface Transportation Revenue Options

| Potential Highway Trust Fund <br> Revenue Mechanisms | Illustrative <br> Rercentage <br> Increase | Total <br> Escalated <br> Yield |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 2015-2020* |  |  |$|$| Definition of Mechanism/Increase |
| :---: |
| 2014 Yield |

*Base annual yield escalated using CPI-U.

## STATE REVENUE SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

－Fuel taxes（all states＋DC＋PR）； 7 index；largest single source of highway funds used by half the states
－Sales taxes on fuel，or other taxes on distributors or suppliers（ 15 states + PR）
－Motor vehicle or rental car sales taxes（29 states）
－Vehicle registration，license or title fees（48 states＋PR）
－Vehicle or truck weight fees（37 states）
－Tolls（28 states＋PR，plus non－state toll entities）
－General funds（35 states＋DC；Vt．on occasion）
－Interest income（37 states＋DC＋PR）
－Other（40 states＋DC＋PR）

## STATE TRANSPORTATION FINANCING MECHANISMS

- General obligation or revenue bonds (45 states + DC + PR)
- GARVEE bonds (33 states + DC + PR)
- Build America Bonds (BABs) (15 state)
- Private Activity Bonds (PABs) (6 states)
- TIFIA federal credit assistance (12 states + PR)
- State infrastructure banks (SIBs) (34 states + PR)
- Public-private partnerships (PPPs or P3s) (authorized in 33 states + PR)
- Design-build (authorized in 45 states + DC + PR)

Successful state plans to raise additional transportation revenue, 2012-


## MAKING THE VALUE PROPOSITION



Question: How much does the typical driver pay in gas tax in a year?

## Probably six thousand, seven thousand dollars a year

Average household pays $\$ 46$ in federal and state gas tax per month. Compare to:

- Electricity and gas: \$160
- Cell phone: \$161
- Cable and internet access: \$124


# Joung H. Lee 

Policy Director
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
202-624-5818
jlee@aashto.org

