Key Provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) Impacting the Florida Department of Transportation

(12/14/15)

Highway Funding

Florida's 2015 federal highway funding at \$1.82 billion would increase to \$1.9 billion in 2016, and grow to \$2.1 billion in 2020.

- FY 2016 \$1,921,860,645
- FY 2017 \$1,961,547,473
- FY 2018 \$2,003,939,263
- FY 2019 \$2,049,169,471
- FY 2020 \$2,098,246,272

Florida's total federal highway funding over the next five years is projected to be \$10.034 BILLION.

Florida will receive 4.84% of the total funds for a 95% rate of return on highway funds distributed by formula.

Transit Funding – Florida's 2015 federal transit funding at \$360 million would increase to \$370 million in 2016, and grow to \$401 million in 2020.

Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects – This new discretionary grant program is funded at \$800 million in 2016 and grows to \$1 billion in 2020.

- Applicants can be states, MPOs, municipal governments and others
- Projects can be highway freight projects and intermodal projects
- The minimum discretionary grant of \$25 million can fund up to 60 percent of the total project costs but other federal funds can be used to a maximum of 80 percent of costs

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program – The current Surface Transportation Program is converted into a block grant program with the sub-allocation by population increased by 1% per year from the current 50 percent to 55 percent over the next five years. Funding for "Transportation Alternatives" is set aside within the new block grant program.

National Highway Freight Program – A new formula program is created at \$1.15 billion in 2016 that grows to \$1.5 billion in 2020.

- Florida is projected to receive \$301 million from this program over the five the years
- Funds can be spent on the primary highway freight system or critical rural or urban freight corridors
- Up to 10 percent of the state's funds can be spent for intermodal or freight rail projects

Acceleration of Project Delivery – The FAST Act includes a Subtitle on "Acceleration of Project Delivery" with nine subsections.

- Florida DOT is applying to assume responsibilities for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and all other Federal environmental laws pertaining to transportation
- The changes in this portion of the FAST Act are being carefully reviewed to determine how they will impact Florida's pursuit of NEPA Assignment efforts

National Highway System Modifications – Within 90 days of enactment of the FAST Act, federal guidance is to be issued to states to allow reclassification of roads added to the National Highway System under MAP-21 changes. Florida's NHS mileage grew from about 4,500 miles to over 8,000 miles under MAP-21.

For more information and updates go to: <u>www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/FASTAct</u>