



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 4a

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Memorandum

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: May 4, 2012

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1131

RE: Update on Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization

On April 24, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 4348, a three-month extension of the surface transportation program from June 30 through the end of September 2012. While only an extension of current law, this bill will nevertheless serve as the house counterpart to S. 1813, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP 21), the reauthorization proposal adopted by the Senate last March.

The conferees for the conference committee have been selected and include Senator Boxer and Congressman Waxman from California. All conferees are noted below, listed by committee area of jurisdiction.

House

- **Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure** - 12 Republicans: Mica, Young, Duncan, Shuster, Capito, Crawford, Herrera Beutler, Buschon, Hanna, Southerland, Lankford, Ribble - and 9 Democrats: Rahall, DeFazio, Costello, Norton, Nadler, Brown (FL), Cummings, Boswell, Bishop.
- **Committee on Energy and Commerce** - 2 Republicans: Upton, Whitfield - and 1 Democrat: Waxman.
- **Committee on Natural Resources** - 2 Republicans: Hastings, Bishop - and 1 Democrat: Markey.
- **Committee on Science, Space and Technology** - 2 Republicans: Hall, Cravaack - and 1 Democrat: E.B. Johnson.
- **Committee on Ways and Means** - 2 Republicans: Camp, Tiberi - and 1 Democrat: Blumenauer.

Senate

- Democrats: Boxer, Baucus, Rockefeller, Durbin, Johnson (SD), Schumer, Nelson (FL), Menendez
- Republicans: Inhofe, Vitter, Hatch, Shelby, Hutchison, Hoeven

As first noted by *Roll Call's* John Stanton, the composition of the Republican conferees from the T & I Committee is very interesting - five veterans and seven freshmen. Since opposition from the huge GOP freshman class has been the key factor in the House's inability to move its own full-fledged surface transportation reauthorization bill this year, the fact that freshmen outnumber

veterans among Republicans on the conference committee appears designed to ensure that freshmen buy into the final conference work product.

MTC is working closely with our Washington representative, our allies in California and other transportation associations to ensure that our key policy priorities — as laid out in our 2012 Report to Congress — are conveyed to the conference committee.

Staff will update you with the latest developments at your meeting.



Steve Heminger