



98-9 TR 1

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION LEGISLATION

WHEREAS CLUB 20 has worked for several important reforms in the federal transportation program, particularly a more equitable distribution formula that would guarantee Colorado at least the highway funds collected in this State, and

WHEREAS Colorado has historically received less money than it pays into the Highway Users Trust Fund (HUTF), and

WHEREAS the amounts of federal transportation funding under the program are subject to annual appropriations, and

WHEREAS western Colorado has seen numerous benefits of the funding system created by the “Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users” (SAFETEA-LU), including substantial expenditures of "enhancement dollars" on the Western Slope for projects related to intermodal uses, trail systems, landscaping, scenic byway promotion, historic restoration, and other uses related to transportation, though not always directly involving pavement, and

WHEREAS (SAFETEA-LU) and the programs it authorized expire in 2009 and if the ongoing debate over re-authorization of SAFETEA-LU is not resolved in a timely manner, the expenditure of millions of badly needed transportation dollars will be delayed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

- CLUB 20 strongly encourages the Colorado congressional delegation to continue working each year to ensure Colorado’s full share of federal transportation funding.
- CLUB 20 supports re-authorization of SAFETEA-LU, including the enhancement program which provides funds for projects related to transportation, though not always directly involving pavement.
- CLUB 20 supports equitable distribution of federal highway funds among the states, including the current requirement that each state receive a minimum of 95 cents on every dollar of federal fuel tax.
- CLUB 20 supports continuation of the current budget firewall which requires that fuel tax monies which are collected from the states be dedicated to highway purposes rather than reverting to the General Fund.
- CLUB 20 encourages Congress to re-examine all proposed transportation funding set-asides, mandates and categories to ensure that:
 - All proposed funding targets are necessary and that the benefit justifies the cost.

- All set-aside investments in Colorado should be consistent with Colorado's transportation planning process as ranked by the Transportation Planning Regions and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations.
- All set-asides should be subject to full congressional review and approval.

Adopted September 25, 1998

Amended 9/5/08