

SAFETEA-LU Research: TRB-Related Provisions

AASHTO Annual Meeting
September 17, 2005

Ann M. Brach
Transportation Research Board

National Cooperative Freight Transportation

- New program in Research title
- \$3.75 million/year for 4 years
- Total: \$15 million
- Content: freight benefits, traffic, trade, infrastructure, logistics, etc. all modes
- Governance: TRB panel with public, private, academic members

Hazardous Materials Research Projects

- New program in HazMat title
- \$1.25 million/year for 4 years
- Total: \$5 million
- Content: TRB Special Report 283; report on need to establish a cooperative research program
- Governance: not specified (TRB panel)

Surface Transportation Environment & Planning

- New program in Research title
- \$16.875 million/year for 4 years
- Total: \$67.5 million
- Content: models, demand factors, economic/environmental/social performance indicators
- Governance: Secretary administers using panels; may engage NAS

Transit Cooperative Research Program

- Ongoing program in Transit title
- Averages \$9.2 million/year for 5 years
- Total: \$46 million
- Content: wide variety of transit-related topics
- Governance: Secretary established independent board

National Cooperative Highway Research Program

- Ongoing voluntary state program
- Funding expected to increase with State Planning and Research program
- Average 6-year increase 20%?
- Content: wide variety of highway-related topics
- Governance: AASHTO SCOR

Strategic Highway Research Program II

- New program in Research title
- \$51.25 million/year for 4 years
- Total: \$205 million (\$450 requested)
- Content: topics in TRB report and NCHRP 20-58 research plans:
 - Renewal
 - Reliability
 - Safety
 - Capacity

SHRP II (cont.)

- Governance: NRC committee with strong AASHTO representation; technical committees
- Implementation report required 2/09
- GAO review required

- Requires significant redevelopment
- Program to begin in CY 2006

Policy Studies

- National Transportation Information Needs Study
- Public Transportation National Security Study
- Rail Transportation and Regulation Study

Policy Studies (Reviews)

- Review of R&T strategic plans
- Review of *De Minimis* Impacts Study
- Review of On-Scene Motor Vehicle Collision Causation Study Design

Opportunities

- Advancement in both new and traditional areas of research and innovation
- State involvement on committees and panels
- Competitive research in SHRP II and cooperative programs

Coordination Challenge

- Many new and diverse programs
- Multiple institutions
- Need to:
 - Communicate what's being done
 - Avoid duplication
 - Promote synergy and cooperation
 - Integrate earmarks into a national strategy
- Heightens importance of TRB coordination function, with AASHTO and USDOT