

FEDERAL UPDATE

DEC. 19, 2018

12/19/2018

116TH CONGRESS – CHANGES RE. IOWA DELEGATION

Senate

- Senator Grassley (R) - will now chair the Finance Committee (HTF issues)
- Senator Ernst (R) – will become vice chair of the Senate Republican Conference (still a member of EPW)

House

No word yet on committee assignments for two new representatives:

- Abby Finkenauer (D) in Iowa 1
- Cindy Axne (D) in Iowa 3

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116TH CONGRESS –LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: EPW AND T&I

Senate

Environment and Public Works (highway and transit):

- Chair - Senator John Barrasso (R, Wyoming)
- Ranking member – Senator Tom Carper (D, Delaware)

House

Transportation and Infrastructure:

- Chair - Rep. Peter DeFazio (D, Oregon) - not yet official
- Ranking member – Rep. Sam Graves (R, Missouri)

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TRANSPORTATION-RELATED BALLOT ISSUES

- Increasingly common and varied as to place, source and purpose
- In 2018:
 - proposals in 33 states - 81% were local measures
 - about 70 percent passed
 - most deal with state and local roads
 - sales taxes, bonds, property taxes did well – actual user fees did not
 - multi-modal and pedestrian did relatively well

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FY '19 T-HUD APPROPRIATIONS

- Currently under a Continuing Resolution through Dec. 21, 2018
- Federal funding for transportation and several other agencies stays at FY 18 levels
 - delays higher authorized amounts for FY 19
 - several NOFOs on hold until an approps bill is passed
- Outcome?

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STATUS OF GRANT PROGRAMS – BUILD

<https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants/about>

FY '18 (\$1.5 billion appropriated) – awards announced last week:

- Iowa 64 Platt Street Corridor in Maquoketa - \$3.8 million
- Des Moines transload facility - \$11.2 million
- Siouxland Regional Transit Operations and Bus Storage Facility - \$7 million

Congratulations!

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STATUS OF GRANT PROGRAMS – BUILD (CONT.)

- \$1.5 billion available
- 851 applications requesting a total of \$11 billion
- 91 awards in 49 states (no Hawaii)
- Median grant size increased to \$19.4 million (compared to \$10.2 million in FY 17)
- Percentage to rural projects increased to 69.6 percent (compared to 64 percent in FY 17 and 28 percent 2010-2016)

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STATUS OF GRANT PROGRAMS – BUILD (CONT.)

- *No planning grants, despite language allowing \$15 million*
- Modes (approximate):
 - road and bridge – 69 percent
 - transit – 11 percent
 - freight rail – 10 percent
 - port/maritime – 10 percent
 - intercity passenger rail – 0 percent

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STATUS OF GRANT PROGRAMS - COMPETITIVE BRIDGE (NEW)

FY '18 (\$225 million)

- Working group: counties, cities, FHWA, AGC, plus help from county engineers
- Iowa application for 77 bridges (requesting \$45.9M in federal funds):
 - 68 county bridges in 45 counties
 - five municipal-owned bridges in four cities
 - four Iowa DOT bridges

Program currently set for FY 18 funds/FY 19 award (Budget Deal)

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STATUS OF GRANT PROGRAMS – CONSOL. RAIL INFRA / SAFETY

FY '18 (second round)

- Joint application by Iowa Interstate Railroad and Iowa DOT for the Booneville Bridge
 - requesting \$3.5 million
- Second CRISI deadline extended due to the hurricane in the Carolinas
- No word yet on awards

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STATUS OF GRANT PROGRAMS –DISC.AIRPORT GRANTS (NEW)

FY '18 (second round)

- Deadline was Oct. 31
- No word yet on awards

FY '19 – on hold during the Continuing Resolution

Program currently set for FY '18, FY '19 (and FY' 20?) only

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WAITING ON FY '19 NOTICES OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:

- INFRA
- Bus and Bus Facilities (requires an approps bill)
- Low or zero emission buses (requires and approps bill)

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QUESTIONS?

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