



Principles for Reauthorization:

The Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council supports a comprehensive transportation bill that moves transportation planning into the 21st century which better addresses the needs of our nation. In moving forward with our five principles for reauthorization; we are encouraging a new transportation bill that will address both rural and urban planning issues throughout our State which can only be achieved in a thorough discussion.

1. Create a national infrastructure strategy

- Develop a national freight plan
- Develop national objectives

2. Holistic approach to planning

- Encourage transit oriented development and mixed use projects
- Increase incentives for green planning and construction
- Improve metropolitan mobility
- Encourage communities to implement plans aimed at sustainable, energy efficient development
- Promote efforts to advance health and wellness through community planning and design
- Plan for an increased use of personal mobility devices for the growing aging population
- Ensure Environmental Protection, Restore Climate Stability and Resolve Persistent Environmental Justice Issues
- Provide equal and equitable access to transportation options in urban, suburban and rural communities
- Develop a geographically tiered multimodal access program; three areas focused on meeting the mobility needs of the inter-regional, metropolitan and small town/rural levels.
- Maintain the current threshold of MPO size at 50,000 population

3 Revamp government programs

- Reduce the number of programs
- Develop Performance measurements
- Reduce the number of highway and transit programs
- Allow the flexibility of highway and transit funds to each other.
- Cut the federal obstacles to project delivery

4. Change Funding Approaches

- Encourage Congestion Pricing
- Expand legislation for National Infrastructure Banks
- Enact legislation to create Regional Infrastructure Improvement Zones
- Provide guiding principles for Public Private Partnerships
- Support the increase of the federal motor fuel tax indexed to inflation
- Develop new tax policies that promote green communities
- Create a unified trust fund that incorporates investments in rail, freight, highways, bus and nonmotorized

5. Improve Safety

- Direct safety money to regions and localities through a mechanism similar to the Surface Transportation Program.
- Promote strategies to integrate safety into statewide and metropolitan planning
- Support the federal collection and dissemination of safety data among states and regions
- Support the rural roads safety program.
- Focus on ITS and research on new building materials and construction techniques
- Upgrade national and regional data collection to assist with planning
- Avoid creating unfunded mandates on regions and local governments

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