

**The Transportation Investment Accountability Act  
(HB 2359 – introduced by Rep. Kathy Ryg)**

**Amends the Dept. of Transportation Law of the Civil Administrative Code (20 ILCS 2705)**

**Creates an open public process to ensure that state transportation investments are:**

**Accountable, Transparent, Well-planned & Measurable**

**1. A new Illinois Transportation Policy Committee will work with IDOT and the state's 14 metropolitan planning organizations to set transportation goals and recommend a capital spending program to the Governor and General Assembly to best achieve those goals.**

- The Committee will include representatives of the metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and IDOT, plus ex-officio legislative members.
- IDOT will provide all necessary staff support for the Committee.
- The Committee will be required to:
  - Work with IDOT and the MPOs to prepare the state transportation plan that will guide all spending decisions and present priorities, performance measures, and criteria for project evaluation.
  - Recommend state transportation capital programs for approval by the Governor and General Assembly, based on project evaluations and recommendations from the MPOs and IDOT.
  - Allocate funds equitably to all regions of the state, and ensure that roads and bridges are maintained at the same level throughout the state. The allocations must comply with federal and state law, and any federal or state funds designated for a specific purpose or area must be allocated accordingly.
  - Study and propose new revenue sources to pay for state transportation investments.
  - Work with IDOT to enable the public to review and comment at key points in the planning and project selection process, and before spending programs are approved by the General Assembly.
  - Annually evaluate and report the results of capital spending decisions

**2. The IDOT planning and programming statute will be revised to ensure greater accountability, transparency and evaluation of projects on the merits.**

- IDOT will prepare the state transportation plan every five years, with involvement of the MPOs and with advice and approval of the Committee.
- IDOT will annually recommend a statewide transportation program to the Committee that is based on MPO regional capital programs and IDOT recommendations for non-urbanized areas and projects of interregional or statewide significance. All included projects must be evaluated using objective criteria.
- The state's MPOs will be responsible for transportation planning in urban regions, building on the federal system that is already in place. The MPOs will plan and program funds allocated by the Committee to their regions, subject to approval by the Committee and appropriation by the Governor and General Assembly.
- Each MPO will establish criteria and a measurement system to prioritize projects for inclusion in its capital program. The MPOs will have discretion over regional projects and priorities, subject to the Committee's review. MPOs will retain their existing authority to develop transportation programs for federal funding.
- The General Assembly may elect to fund projects that are not included in the recommended statewide transportation program, and IDOT will be required to publicly report such funding.