



Principles for Reauthorization:

IMPO believes the next federal transportation authorization should develop a bold new vision for our national infrastructure system. We recommend five principles for reauthorization that should provide every effort to create an equal and equitable access to transportation options in urban, suburban and rural communities by expanding pedestrian and bicycle facilities, provides proper maintenance of existing roads and highways and supports bus and rail networks in a mode agnostic approach between rural and urban MPO boundaries. The economic vitality of metropolitan regions depends on a sound and safe transportation system.

1. Develop a bold new vision for our national infrastructure system by ensuring mobility of people, freight and goods efficiently throughout a national freight network and highway systems.
2. Develops a comprehensive and holistic approach to planning
 - 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.
 - Encourage transit oriented development and mixed use projects
 - Increase incentives for green planning and construction aimed at sustainable, energy efficient development
 - Promote efforts to advance health and wellness through community planning and design
 - Maintain the current threshold of MPO size at 50,000 population
3. Revamp government programs to stream unnecessary bureaucratic red tape.
 - 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. Consider all options for transportation financing reform.
 - 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
 - Encourage Congestion Pricing
 - Protects MPOs from federal budget rescissions
5. Provides technical assistance to MPOs and improve safety in transportation planning
 - Promote strategies to integrate safety into statewide and metropolitan planning
 - Support the federal collection and dissemination of safety data among states and regions
 - Support formation and creation of Rural Planning Organizations.
 - Focus on ITS and research on new building materials and construction techniques
 - Upgrade national and regional data collection to assist with planning