



Obama Administration Announces FY2011 Transportation Budget Proposal

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The Obama Administration released its transportation budget for fiscal year 2011 on February 1, 2010, calling for \$79 billion in transportation funding, an increase of two percent over the FY2010 budget. The proposal's stated priorities are to improve transportation safety, invest for the future, and to promote livable communities. Highlights of the proposal include \$4 billion to create a national infrastructure bank, the National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund, to finance major transportation projects, an additional \$1 billion for the development of high-speed rail, more than \$500 million to help state and local governments make more sustainable transportation investments as part of the administration's multi-agency Sustainable Communities Partnership, and \$30 million for the Federal Transit Administration to strengthen safety oversight and hire additional staff for that purpose. The proposal does not include measures to address the Highway Trust Fund, which is expected to end FY2010 with a shortage of \$1 billion, or to provide funding for the implementation of positive train control technology as mandated by the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008.