The Major Issues Facing U.S. Surface Transportation
It’s more than money (but it’s also about the investments)

Presented by:
Jim Tymon, Executive Director

National Focus—Mobility

MOBILITY
Innovator Jay Rogers of Local Motors

National Focus—Mobility

Demands on the System


Note: Data for 1970 and prior years will be revised to prevent any potential bias. Data are subject to further approval.

Demands on the System

- 33% of Major Urban Roads: Poor Condition
- Nearly 48,000 Bridges are in Poor Condition
- The Average Motorist Losing $599 Annually Due to Congestion
- Costing the US Economy $130 Billion a Year
Estimated Federal Highway Trust Fund Obligations

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Dollars in Billions

Highway Account

Work Force Development

9.1% Labor Force = 13.3 Million Workers

September 2018 Unemployment Rate

3.7%

Work Force Development

- Missouri DOT could lose up to $30 million in a fiscal year due to the employee turnover
  
  "We have to then go through the training and onboarding of the individuals. You're taking people away from their other duties in order to do that. There's a learning curve."
  - Patrick McKenna
  - Missouri DOT Director and AASHTO Vice President

Work Force Development

- Washington State DOT employees eligible for retirement
  - 41 percent of 2,000 engineering employees
  - 31 percent of 2,000 maintenance workers
Work Force Development

- Washington State DOT car ferries’ employees eligible for retirement
  - 33% of its vessel workers
  - 25% of the port facility staff
  - 75 percent of ferry captains

What Is Being Done

- Alabama is one of 6 states participating in a nationwide workforce development pilot.
- Colorado DOT partnered with community college to develop a maintenance operations degree.
- Arizona DOT founded a Construction Academy

State DOTs Deploying Technology

- Iowa and other state DOTs equip snow plows with GPS technology

- Arizona DOT detects wrong-way drivers on highway

- Connected and Automated Vehicles
  - Not as close as people think, but they ARE coming
Transportation Matters

- Carlos Braceras, AASHTO President Critical Areas
  - Funding for the Highway Trust Fund
  - Attention on Work Force Development Issues
  - Emphasize the Critical Role the Transportation System Plays in Our Lives

Transportation Matters

- May 10, 1869, dignitaries marked the completion of the 1,900-mile-long transcontinental railroad

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Transportation Matters

- In 1956, Dwight Eisenhower was part of a convoy that crossed the country from D.C. to San Francisco