ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

AR Asphalt Pavement Assoc. Board Meeting
March 28, 2012
Quality Partners

“Quality is not an act, it is a habit.”
- Aristotle
Reauthorization

- 910 days since SAFETEA-LU expired
- 8 extensions since September 30, 2009
- Current extension expires March 31, 2012, along with authorization to collect Federal fuel taxes ($100 million daily into Highway Trust Fund)
- Funds appropriated through September 30, 2012, but may not have spending authorization
Reauthorization – Senate

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21)

- Passed by Senate on March 14th
- 2-year bill – started 6 months ago
- At current funding levels – Arkansas to receive $1.05B over 2 years
- Paid for by $10 billion in one-time transfers to Highway Trust Fund
- State guaranteed 95% return
- Eliminates Earmarks
- Consolidates many programs
- Bike-ped spending eligible but not required
- Performance measures for safety, road conditions, overall system performance – make progress toward goals or risk losing funding
- Competitive grants and set-asides for “loans”
- Steamlines NEPA process
The American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act

- Approved by House T&I, Ways and Means, and Natural Resources Committees
- 5-year bill near current funding levels ($2 billion/year less than MAP-21) – need $45 billion for full funding
- Many provisions similar to MAP-21
• Steps needed to enact a bill
  ✓ House must debate and pass their bill
  ✓ House and Senate must agree on and pass a final bill

• Can this happen by March 31, 2012???

• House proposes 90-day extension; Senate wants no more than 45 days

• 2-week Easter Recess coming
House Budget Committee
“blueprint” includes 36% reduction in spending authority
(“We’re just out of money”)
2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program
2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program Map
Temporary 0.5% Sales Tax (Issue #1)

- November 6, 2012 election ballot
- Temporary Increase
- $230m annually ($160m/$35m/$35m)
- State Aid Street Fund for City Streets
Temporary 0.5% Sales Tax (Issue #1)

- Bond debt retired over 10 years
- $1.3 Billion in general obligation bonds
- Tax expires when the bonds are retired
- Four-lane highways
- $1.8 Billion total program
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening I-540 between Fayetteville and Bentonville;
- Completion of the initial two lanes of the ultimate four lanes of the Bella Vista Bypass (Future I-49);
- Beginning the four-lane construction of the U.S. Highway 412 Bypass (Springdale) from I-540 westward to XNA Connector;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening I-40 to six lanes between Conway and North Little Rock;
- Completion of widening U.S. Highway 67 to six lanes from Jacksonville to Cabot;
- Improvements to I-30 connecting Little Rock and North Little Rock, including widening Arkansas River bridge;
**Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax**

- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 64 to four lanes between Conway and Beebe;
- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 70 to four lanes between I-30 and Hot Springs;
- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 167 to four lanes between I-530 and El Dorado;
- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 412 to four lanes between Paragould and Walnut Ridge;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 425 to four lanes from Hamburg to the Louisiana state line;
- Completion of widening Highway 18 to four lanes between Jonesboro and Blytheville;
- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 65 to four lanes from Clinton northward;
- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 65 to four lanes from Bellefonte southward;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 49 to four lanes from Brinkley southward toward Helena-West Helena;
- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 270 to four lanes from Hot Springs westward;
- Beginning the widening of U. S. Highway 82 to four lanes between Magnolia and El Dorado.
## Preliminary Polling Data

### Temporary ½-cent Sales Tax

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### Severance Tax Rate to Flat Seven Percent

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