

April 28, 2011 – Report to the Mid-America Freight Coalition

BACK STORY

- Agriculture accounts for 31% of all ton-miles of transportation in US (2007)
- 46% of IL crops exported
- Wealth of water resources
- Major federal transportation
 programs pending





ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU®

- 400,000+ members
- Leadership—operating farmers
- Our transportation policies
 - Mature & strong on waterways
 - Less well-developed on surface transportation issues





PRELIMINARY

- Need better understanding of surface transportation issues, impacts and solutions
- Issue bigger than IFB
 - trends—beyond agriculture
 - scope—beyond state boundaries
- Not limited to a coalition



TRANSPORTATION VISION



Illinois Farm Bureau will play a leading role by:

Advancing the development and implementation of solutions for agricultural transportation needs and issues, and by promoting and facilitating discussion, planning and coordinated advocacy among the Midwest's freight transportation interests.

WHY HOLD A SUMMIT?

- Work toward our vision
- Build rapport across industry types
- Identify major problems and alternative solutions & industry acceptance
- Better round-out our own policies on transportation





INVITEES





MAT SUMMIT

GROUNDWORK

Visioning Committee

- Made up of diversity of interests
- Heard from industry experts
- Identified major issues
- Developed draft concepts
- Led discussion with larger group
- Drew from earlier studies

Report of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission

December 2007









Transportation: Invest in our Future Surface Transportation Policy Recommendations

March 2007

AASHTO

Study of Rural Transportation Issues

April 2010

USDA & US DOT









Transportation's Role in Reducing U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

March 2010

US DOT





- Draft recommendations presented to full summit
- Additions / Deletions / Amendments
- Asked to rate level of agreement

RATING

- Strongly agree +2
- Agree +1
- Neutral

-2

- Disagree -1
- Strongly disagree





WEIGHTED INDEX





REPORT

Segmented into: •VISION •FINANCE •EDUCATION

(Selected items only)

VISION

TRANSPORTATION PLAN



95

The nation needs an overarching plan covering all transportation options.

Difficult—still segmented by mode

CONSOLIDATE PROGRAMS



Consolidate the (108) federal program categories to fewer, broader categories.

Administration's proposal rolls 50 into 5



PUBLIC / PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS



Look to public/private options to help leverage public funds and private investment.

New catch phrase in infrastructure funding



EXPORT PRIORITY



The Administration has set a goal of doubling exports by 2015. If we're to do that, adding freight capacity is a priority.

Freight to increase by 75% by 2035



IMPORT / EXPORT



Import / export capacity should be considered as a system.

Ports and surface routes to ports



STREAMLINE PROJECT DELIVERY



Streamline the project delivery process to avoid:

- Lost opportunity
- Inflation of construction costs
- Delayed benefits

Highways 13 yr. – Transit 10 yr. – EIS 54 to 80 mo.



EDUCATION

COMMITMENT TO ACTION



Ensure that policymakers understand that if they commit to action, it will:

- Curtail infrastructure deterioration
- Save lives
- Provide congestion relief
- Keep America competitive
- Avoid construction cost increases due to delays
- Make transportation policy a job creator

TRANSPORTATION REFLECTS ECONOMY



Ensure policymakers and the public understand that transportation needs and costs reflect a vibrant economy and a high quality of life.



INTERCONNECTIVITY



Ensure policymakers and the public understand the importance of interconnectivity between modes.



FINANCE

NO DIVERSIONS



93

Ensure that the Highway Trust Fund receives the full amount of the taxes levied for highway use.

Currently supplemented from GRF

(TO SHOW THE INDEX WORKS)



MFT INCREASE

Phasing in an increase of the Federal MFT over the next 5 years, after which it should be indexed to inflation.

How to pay will stymie package agreement



(TO SHOW THE INDEX WORKS)

MILEAGE-BASED FEE



Consider a mileage-based fee.

Public concern over tracking whereabouts



NAVIGATION PROJECTS



75

Prioritize the completion of navigation projects across the entire system.

- Prioritize sequencing
- Improve Corps project management
- Include funding mechanism

Capital Development Plan

MFT RELIANCE



Recognize need for long-range options









Keep the federal Highway Trust Fund solvent.

Imperative for nation's economy



TAX CREDITS



Support investment tax credits for private sector investment in expansion of off-highway freight transportation infrastructure.

Endorses PPP and Off-Highway movements



SUMMIT SUMMARY



Strong agreement on overarching philosophies

Specifics raise differences

Difficult to overcome mode-centric programming

Funding – Funding - Funding



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AG ISSUES

LLINOIS



WATERWAYS

New 1200' locks Lock maintenance Asian Carp Levee certification



HIGHWAYS

80,000# trucks Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Funding



RAILWAYS

CREATE High Speed Rail Crossings



Illinois Farm Bureau®

Kevin Rund