



Sec. 6021 Future Interstate Study

Panel on Passenger Travel

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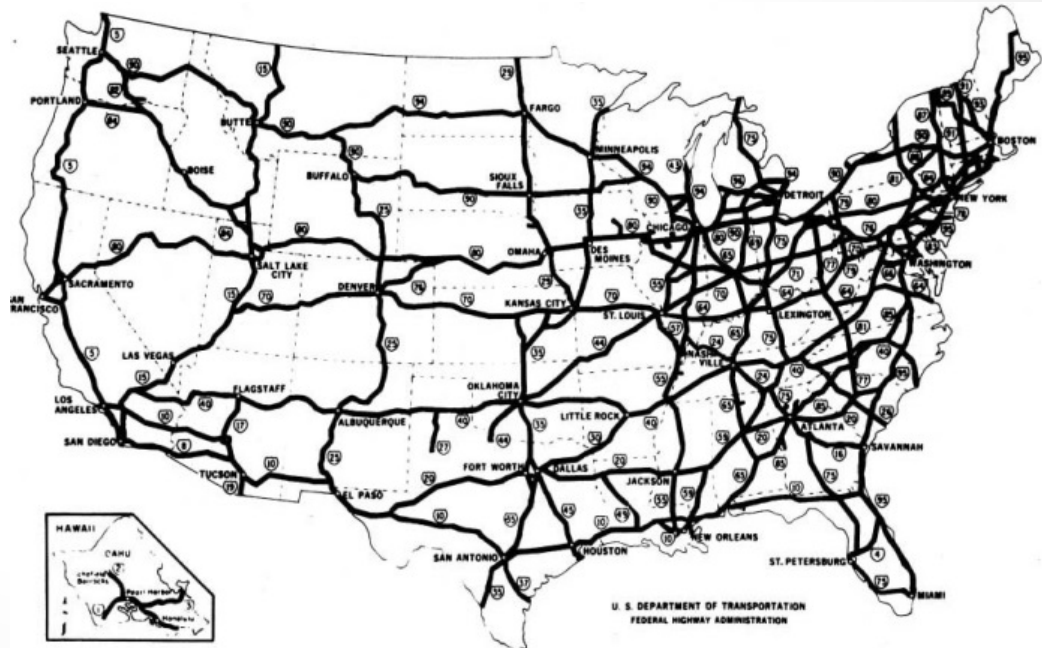
Background

- **The Highway Users is a non-profit coalition founded in 1932 to represent the interests of motorists and other road users, and the trucking, bus, RV, and motorcycling industries.**
- **Our 300 member associations, businesses, and motoring clubs represent millions of drivers and business that rely on safe, reliable, and efficient roads.**
- **Safety, mobility, and connectivity are our highest priorities.**

Federal Govt. Value Proposition



- Interstates are THE national circulatory system
 - Scarce federal funding must be prioritized:
 - *Focus first on “National needs”*
 - *Focus second on “Regional needs”*
 - State and Local Governments must be incentivized to prioritize national needs
 - Reinvigorate the notion that we’re all in this together



Goal for the Future Interstate Highway System



- Safe, secure, efficient, and reliable mobility for future generations

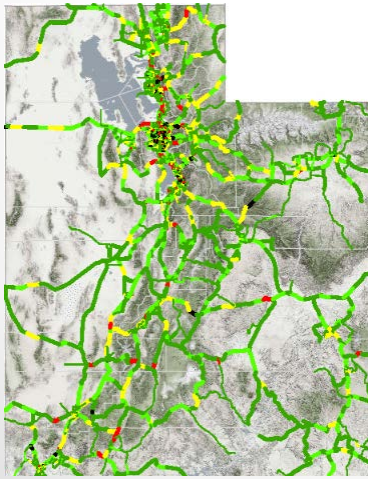




Safety



- **The Vision: Zero Deaths on Future Interstates**
 - 5-star cars on 5-star roads
 - Using the U.S. Road Assessment Program to Evaluate the Interstates & Budget Safety Improvements
 - Set a goal: 100% of Rural Interstates and 95% of Urban Interstates at 5 star standards
 - All safety features must be “machine readable”.



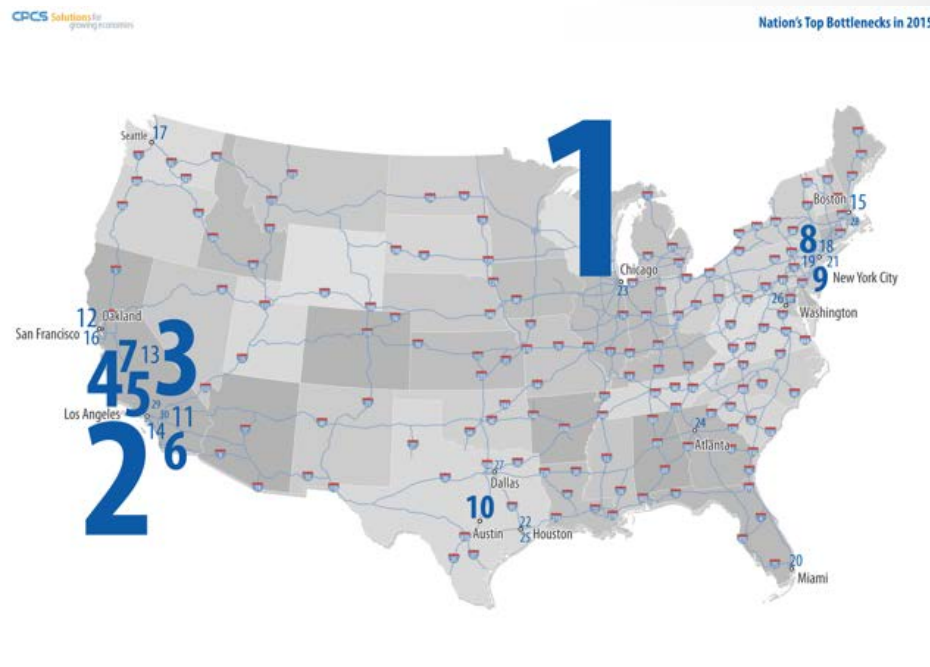
Security

- Redundancy
- Which segments are critical to national security?
 - What are the redundant routes in the event of a failure?
 - Where are the gaps?
- Resiliency
 - Critical bridges, tunnels, and other structures



Efficiency & Reliability

- **Elimination of America's Worst Bottlenecks**
 - Chicago has #1 bottleneck
 - Safety, Environmental, Time benefits
- **Operational Improvements for the 21st Century**
 - Preservation of redundant V2X tech options
 - *DSRC*
 - *5G*
 - *Clear bright lane markings, signage and delineation*
 - *Capacity Management thru metering, access control*



Fixing America's 30 Worst Bottlenecks would...

- Save \$39 billion due to lost time,
- Save 830 million gallons of fuel,
- Reduce over 17 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂), and
- Prevent 211,000 vehicle crashes

... over the next 20 years.

Economic Growth

- Interstate Highways Critical for both trucking & tourism traffic
 - Trucking & tourism are among the top economic drivers for new segments
 - *I-11 – Phoenix, AZ to Las Vegas, NV*
 - *I-73/74/75 – from Michigan to South Carolina*
 - *I-69 – from Indiana to Texas*
 - *I-49 – from Louisiana to Winnipeg*
 - *Incentivize the Upgrade NHS routes to Interstate Standards*



Getting it Done

- **Money in the “Infrastructure Bill”**

- **Increase User Fees**

- *Transition toward a 3-cent / mile VMT fee with a “Virtual Mileage-Based Fee”*
 - *How Virtual Fee Paid at the Terminal Rack by current payers (terminal owners)*
 - *Base total collections on how much Americans drive, not how many gallons we consume*

- **Establish a major core federal program for future Interstates**

- **Incentivize States to focus on Interstate 4R + New Construction with higher federal match**

- **Regulatory Reform**

- **Establish national goals applicable to all federal agencies**

- **Pilot test speedier reviews by waiving regulations**

- **Enforce deadlines and timelines**

- **Add flexibility to laws that create unreasonable delays and burdens.**



Think Twice before Tolling the Interstates



- **Interstates Were Wisely Conceived as a Toll-Free System**

- Benefits of a federally funded, toll-free system have been enormous
- Spread reasonable costs across a large tax base of users

- **Prior to the Interstates**

- Incomplete national system, divergent quality from State-to-State

- **Tolling Existing Interstates Highly Unpopular**

- Pilot program to toll existing general purpose lanes failed spectacularly. Zero takers!

- **Where Tolling May Garner Public/Voter Support**

- New Interstates
- Conversion of Underutilized HOV lanes to HOT
- New Express Toll Lanes
- If the perception is that “someone else” will pay for local needs. (Not OK!)

- **How the Tolling Conversation Has Changed**

- Concept #1: Toll to pay off project-specific bonds for new road or bridge
- Concept #2: See how much money we can get from captive users (Not OK!)
- Concept #3: Provide a value-added, congestion-free alternative at market rate pricing.

- **Public Policy Goal should be to provide maximize net value to the users, not to maximize net revenue to the toll road operator.**





Conclusion

- **Interstate is our backbone; our circulatory system and we need major surgery!**
- **The Interstates are a system that serves all of America – no political/class divide.**
- **American car travel is growing much faster than predicted in the 2016 C&P report. This is good news for the economy and personal prosperity (not so good for safety).**
- **Let's Build a Future Interstate that is conceived from beginning to end with "Zero Deaths" & "Maximum Efficiency" in mind.**