DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The President's FY15 request for the Department of Transportation is $90.9 billion. It includes the President's plan for a four-year $302 billion surface transportation reauthorization proposal. The proposal seeks a $90 billion increase in expenditures on highways and mass transit. To bolster the Highway Trust Fund, the proposal calls for an infusion of $150 billion in new revenue generated through "one-time transition revenue" (business tax reform).

Transportation Planning, Research, and Development

The Budget cancels the budget authority for Transportation Planning, Research, and Development for financing research and studies concerned with planning, analysis, and information development. It does, however, request $320 million for the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program to provide funds for use by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) for multimodal transportation planning and programming in metropolitan areas.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

The Budget requests $15.41 billion in FAA budget authority. This is a decrease of $350 million from the FY14 enacted level. This overall reduction is attributable to the proposal to lower the funding level for the Grants-in-Aid for Airports program. This proposal would focus Federal grants to support smaller commercial and general aviation airports that do not have access to additional revenue or other outside sources of capital and give larger airports more flexibility to raise capital. Included in this amount is a request for $774 million, a decrease of $54 million from FY14 enacted levels, for the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen). NextGen is the multi-year effort currently underway to improve the efficiency, safety, capacity, and environmental performance of the aviation system. These funds would continue to support the transformation from a ground-based radar surveillance system to a more accurate satellite-based surveillance system; the development of 21st Century data communications capability between air traffic control and aircraft to improve efficiency; and the improvement of aviation weather information.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

The Budget requests $48.562 billion in FHWA budget authority, an increase from the FY 2014 estimate of $40.942 billion. The Research, Technology, and Education (RT&E) Program ($451 million) provides for a comprehensive, nationally-coordinated research, technology, and education program that
A will advance the Department of Transportation's organizational goals, while accelerating innovation delivery and technology implementation. The proposal carries forward the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) restructured FHWA research, development, and technology activities. Though MAP-21 provided two years of stable funding for transportation projects, it will expire on October 1, 2014. To allow States to initiate sound multi-year investments, the 2015 Budget proposes a four-year, $302 billion surface transportation reauthorization package to support critical infrastructure projects.

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)

The Budget requests $4.995 billion in net total budget authority for the FRA, including discretionary funds of $220 million. The Budget does not request any funds for the Capital Assistance for High Speed Rail Corridors and Intercity Passenger Rail Service account; the Administration is proposing funding for these programs within multi-year surface transportation reauthorization. The FY15 Budget requests $5 billion as the first year of a proposed four-year $19 billion rail reauthorization included in the Administration's $302 billion surface transportation legislative proposal.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

The Budget proposes total budget authority for FTA at $17.649 billion, including $150 million in discretionary funding, which is an increase from the FY14 enacted level of $10.842 billion in total budget authority. The FTA provides grant funding to State, local and Tribal governments, public and private transit operators, and other recipients to support public transit infrastructure and operations. The FY15 Budget requests $17.6 billion for grants to construct new public transit systems, purchase and maintain transit vehicles and equipment, oversee transit safety, support regional transportation planning efforts, and improve the technology and service methods used in the delivery of public transportation services.

Pipeline Safety and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PSHMSA)

The Budget proposes $260.5 million in total PSHMSA budget authority, an increase from the FY 2014 enacted level of $210 million. Of this amount, $160 million would be used to promote pipeline safety, $52 million for hazardous materials safety, $28 million for Emergency Preparedness Grants, and $21 million for operational expenses.