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# TRANSPORTATION POLICY BASICS



***DERON LOVAAS***  
***URBAN SOLUTIONS PROGRAM***  
***E2 WEBINAR***  
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# JUST THE FACTS

## TRAVEL DEMAND CHANGING

Exciting times for transportation, huge opportunity

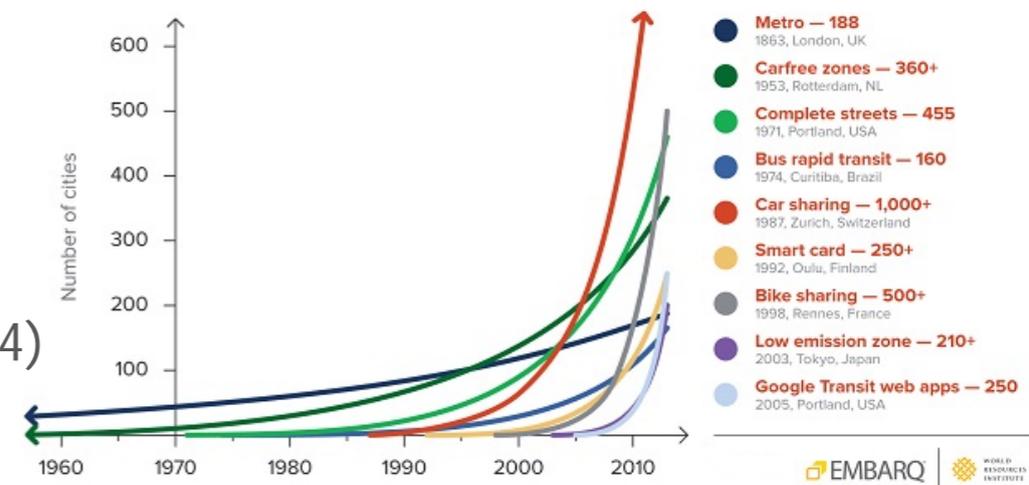
### Travel Demand

- 10.8 billion transit trips in 2014, highest in 58 years
- Driving growth slowed down to zero in 2000s (except 2014)
- Sustainable mobility offerings scaling up fast globally

### Urban Development

- Millennials and Boomers driving renewed interest in and growth of urban-style development
- Most population growth taking place in metro areas, with one in three living in the 10 largest

### Sustainable mobility trends scale up



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# INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT: A HARD SELL

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[John Oliver hilariously showcases this issue](#)

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# THE FOXX AGENDA

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## GROW AMERICA ACT 2.0

Directionally, Great Policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### Investment

- Commits \$478 billion over 6 years to infrastructure investments, pay-for is tall order

### Options

- Proportionally and absolutely large investment in public transportation (\$115 b), and intercity passenger rail (\$28.6 b), and finally changes HTF to TTF with dedicated funding for rail

### Innovation

- Continuation of TIGER program (launched in 2009's ARRA), new higher-level FAST (Fixing and Accelerating Surface Transportation) program modeled after Race to the Top, includes provisions to improve performance of metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs)



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# HEDGEHOGS IN CONGRESS

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## TRANSPORTATION LEADERS

Jurisdiction more divided in Senate than House, Chairs have an average LCV rating of <10%

### Senate

- EPW Chair: Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Ranking: Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
- Banking Chair: Richard Shelby (R-AL), Ranking: Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
- Commerce Chair: John Thune (R-SD), Ranking: Bill Nelson (D-FL)
- Finance Chair: Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Ranking: Ron Wyden

### House

- T & I Chair: Bill Shuster (R-PA), Ranking: Peter DeFazio (D-OR)
- W & M Chair: Paul Ryan (R-WI), Ranking: Sander Levin (D-MI)
- Science Chair: Lamar Smith (R-TX), Ranking: Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)



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# NEED GOOD DEFENSE + OFFENSE

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## ROADBLOCKS

Paying for the bill, avoiding harmful reductions in accountability and regulation

### Paying for the bill

- Gas tax usual revenue tool, but it hasn't budged since 1993 and willingness to boost it is exceptional (e.g., Rep. Blumenauer, Sen. Carper)
- Other revenue tools problematic: Corporate tax reform, repatriation difficult to move
- House likely to try bizarre "drill and drive" policy linkage again
- Financing IS NOT funding

### Steamrolling on streamlining?

- Partly due to cowardice on funding, drumbeat has started on need to cut red tape allegedly holding back transportation investments
- Last bill drummers got their wishes fulfilled with almost 30 pages of such provisions
- **Current law's overhaul should be implemented before changing law again**