



# The Ferguson Group LLC



## **THE FEDERAL TRANSITION AND YOU: TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION, POLICIES AND FUNDING**

**December 3, 2008**



# Introduction

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- Welcome
- **Please call our conference line for the audio portion of the presentation at 1-800-377-8846 and enter passcode 2690 1245#**
- The Obama Transition and Its Impacts on Transportation Issues
- Likely Transportation Legislation in 2009
- General Background on SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization
- Highway Issues
- Transit Issues
- Next Steps for Your Community

# Today's Presenters

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In his 8 years at The Ferguson Group, Bill Hanka, a partner, has worked to find transportation solutions for his local government clients on a wide range of issues including light rail, toll roads, streetcars, bus rapid transit, ferries, and airports.

Bill joined TFG in 2000, bringing 10 years of experience working in the House, Senate and at the White House.



Leslie Mozingo, partner, has 20 years experience in the government arena and has become highly respected for her ability to devise and implement innovative strategies for appropriations and authorizations for transportation and economic development projects. Never afraid of a challenge, Leslie continuously looks for new ways to secure funds in untraditional accounts.



Melissa Hyman works with both public and private sector clients to research, develop, and implement their legislative strategies. She has helped clients obtain millions of dollars in authorizing and appropriations funding. Before joining TFG in 2004, Melissa served as a legislative assistant to U.S. Representative Joseph Hoeffel, where she coordinated the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee work for the Congressman.

# Background on The Ferguson Group

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- **Founded in 1982 by William Ferguson, Jr.**
- **Bipartisan government relations consulting firm**
- **Among the top 20 non-law lobbying firms in DC**
- **Represent 150 clients in 27 states**
- **Largest federal representative of local governments in Washington, DC**



# The Obama Transition and Its Impact on Transportation Issues

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- **Transition Team of Experienced Transportation Experts, including:**
  - Jack Basso – Former DOT Budget Chief
  - Mort Downey – Former DOT Deputy Secretary
  - Victor Mendez – AZ DOT Director
  - Michael Huerta – Former DOT CoS
- **Create National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank**
- **Green Issues/More Livable and Sustainable Communities (example: California's SB 375 legislation)**
- **Possible Candidates for New DOT Secretary**



# Likely Transportation Legislation in 2009

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- **FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations**
- **Economic Stimulus Legislation**
- **FAA Reauthorization**
- **FY2010 Transportation/HUD Appropriations**
- **SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization**

# General Background on SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization

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- The “Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users” (SAFETEA-LU) was signed into law on August 10, 2005
- Prior bill (TEA-21) expired on September 30, 2003, and Congress had to pass twelve extensions
- Authorized all surface transportation programs for FY2004-2009 and expires September 30, 2009
- Authorized a total of \$286.5 billion for surface programs, including \$227.4 billion for highways (22 % increase) and \$52.6 billion for transit (46% increase)
- New items: Projects of Regional and National Significance account, increased tolling authority, PAB’s, Small Starts carve-out

# Highway Issues in the Obama Administration

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- Highway Trust Fund Solvency
- Green Infrastructure and Green Jobs
- Urban Non-Modal Grants
- \$60 Billion in smart growth funds for Congestion Relief and Infrastructure Rehabilitation via a new National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank
- Require Energy Conservation be part of Transportation Planning for Expenditure of Federal Funds
- Fewer Earmarks (TEA-21 HPPs: 1,850/SAFETEA-LU HPPs: 5,091)



# Transit Issues in the Obama Administration

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- Encourage high density transit-oriented development
- Devote more resources to transit projects
- Streamline New Starts process
- Ensure federal commitment is at least 80 percent



# Next Steps for Your Community

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- Compile a prioritized list of ready-to-go projects (90-120 days) and submit to State DOT and Congressional Delegation
- Review current list of transportation projects and reevaluate priority and inclusion of green infrastructure projects
- Prepare separate list of transportation projects for appropriations and authorization bills in 2009

# Q&A

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- Type questions your questions in the text box on right of your screen



## More Federal Transition & Policy Guidance for Localities

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- **Upcoming events**
  - **Public Safety, Homeland Security, and Emergency Preparedness & Response** (December 16, 3 PM Eastern)
  - **Energy, Environment, Water & Climate Change** (January 7, 3 PM Eastern)
  - TFG Transition Papers – more to come
  - Key federal funding deadlines for localities: January – March 2009



**Thank you for participating**

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