Is the Sky Falling: An Update on the Transportation Debate in Congress

New Partners for Smart Growth
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Laura R. Cohen, J.D., LEED AP Director, Western Region
Key Federal Programs for Bikeable, Walkable Communities

- Transportation Enhancements
- Safe Routes to School
- Recreational Trails Program
Optional Bike/Ped Funding
Not Successful

Federal Transportation Funds
for bike/ped/trail facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (in millions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973-79</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980-84</td>
<td>$6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985-89</td>
<td>$13</td>
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<td>1990-91</td>
<td>$16</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>$94</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>$211</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>$222</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>$252</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>$260</td>
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</tbody>
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SAFETEA-LU
Fair Share?

Bike/Ped Funding - 4.5 B

Other - 281.9 B

Percentage of total < 2%
Bicycling & walking rates increasing: 40% increase in bicycling nationally 2000-2009

Sidewalks and paths reduce injuries and fatalities

Kids who walk/bike to school are less obese, more likely to meet physical activity guidelines

SR2S programs reduce school busing costs, ease traffic congestion at schools, lower medical costs
Senate Bill: MAP-21

- Combines 3 core programs under “Additional Activities”
- Adds expensive new eligibilities to compete for less money
- Provides opt-out to transfer funds elsewhere
House Bill: American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act

- Eliminates dedicated funding for TE & removes some categories, including rail-trail
- Eliminates SR2S
- Rec Trails program intact
- Eliminates $ for State DOT bike/ped coordinators
Get Involved – Improve the Bill

Petri-Johnson Amendment:

- Restores SR2S and TE funding to 2012 levels
- Restores TE category for rail-trails
- Restores funding for 2 State coordinators

More info on our home page: www.railstotrails.org/
Beyond Urban Centers

- New report on active transportation in rural America
- Share of work trips by bike in small towns is nearly double that of urban centers
- Includes dynamic, interactive online tool

railstotrails.org/beyondurbancenters
Contact Us

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy – Western Region Office

Laura R. Cohen, J.D., LEED AP
laura@railstotrails.org
415-814-1100

www.railstotrails.org/2010