

2025 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AND REGULATORY PRIORITIES

Transportation as a Catalyst for Economic Vitality, Thriving Communities, and Innovation

The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) advocates for a transportation system that is safe, efficient, and accessible for all residents. In 2025, we focus on championing policies that recognize transportation as a critical driver of job creation, small business growth, and community wealth building. With the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) authorizations set to expire at the end of Fiscal Year 2026, the pending Surface Transportation Reauthorization presents a pivotal opportunity to shape the next five to six years of federal investment, innovation, and collaborative planning.

Pending Surface Transportation Reauthorization

- Sustainable, Long-Term Funding: Champion solutions to replace declining gas tax revenue.
 Investigate innovative approaches like Value Capture Mechanisms, Congestion Pricing, Dynamic Tolling and Public-Private Partnerships to understand effectiveness and impact on all users.
- Workforce Development & Local Hiring: Strengthen investments in apprenticeship programs, job training, and local hiring policies to address labor shortages and upskill underrepresented communities.
- Streamlined Project Delivery: Support bipartisan efforts to reduce permitting delays and accelerate timelines without compromising public engagement or safety.

Transportation Investments for Economic Transformation

- Document and uplift how infrastructure investments are revitalizing neighborhoods while supporting existing residents.
- Promote transit-oriented development, small business corridors, and commercial ownership in infrastructure opportunity zones.
- Advance policies that align land use, housing, transportation, and broadband access to uplift entire communities
- Prioritize transportation investments that promote economic mobility and local ownership
- Support corridor reinvestment initiatives and technical assistance to anchor institutions, community developers, and entrepreneurs.

Public-Private Partnerships

- Expand use of Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) and innovative collaborations that bring together federal, state, and local actors with the private sector to solve transportation challenges.
- Unbundle mega-transportation projects to give small businesses prime contracting opportunities that fit within their gross annual revenues.
- Promote insurance indemnification or creative solutions to meeting bonding requirements for small businesses
- Encourage local hiring provisions tied to infrastructure grants and contracts.
- Increase funding for workforce boards and community-based training partnerships focused on transportation careers.