

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient
Transportation Equity Act: Legacy for Users



SAFETEA-LU

Key Provisions for Metropolitan, Bicycle, & Pedestrian Planning

Washington Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian
Subcommittee

September 26, 2005

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What is SAFETEA-LU?

- A Federal law that:
 - Authorizes surface transportation programs for fiscal years 2005 to 2009 (including transit, highway, safety, and research programs)
 - Sets policies and regulations for planning, building and funding surface transportation
 - Establishes planning requirements for the TPB as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Builds upon previous "reauthorizations" -- ISTEA and TEA-21

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Overview

- \$286.4 billion for highways and transit for FY 2005 to 2009
- About a 22% increase over TEA-21
- Includes over 6,000 earmarked projects



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Implementation



U.S. Department of
Transportation

- New policy guidance and regulations needed to implement SAFETEA-LU
- Regulations and guidance will take time to finalize
- SAFETEA-LU metropolitan planning changes must be reflected in TPB Plan and TIP after July 1, 2007

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Metropolitan Planning Provisions in SAFETEA-LU

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Metropolitan Planning Funding

- Increase in funding for metropolitan planning
 - 1.25% of highway programs compared to 1.0% in TEA-21
 - FTA planning money increased about 30%



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Metropolitan Planning Eight Planning Factors for Projects and Strategies

New Factors or Emphasis:

- Safety
- Security
- Environment
 - Consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns



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Factors similar to TEA-21:

- Economic vitality
- Accessibility and mobility
- Integration and connectivity of people, freight, and modes
- Management and operations
- Preservation of the existing system
- Environment
 - Energy conservation
 - Improve quality of life

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Metropolitan Planning The Plan and Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- The Plan and TIP are required every 4 years, instead of 3 and 2 respectively
- The plan must include a discussion of types of potential environmental mitigation activities



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Metropolitan Planning Consultation During Plan Development



- MPOs will be required to consult with agencies responsible for:
 - land use management
 - natural resources
 - environmental protection
 - conservation and historic preservation

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Metropolitan Planning Public Participation

- Participation Plan is required
- Public involvement *methods* stressed
 - Hold public meetings at convenient and accessible location and times
 - Employ visualization techniques to describe plans
 - Make public information available electronically (Website)
- Bicyclists, pedestrians and people with disabilities shall be provided opportunity to comment on the plan



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Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions in SAFETEA-LU

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Safe Routes to School

Goals:

- Enable and encourage children to walk and bike to school
- Improve safety
- Reduce traffic & air pollution near schools



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Eligible Activities

- Infrastructure
 - Bike parking, crosswalks, sidewalks, traffic calming, on and off-street bicycle facilities, etc.
 - On any public road or trail in the vicinity of a school
- Non-Infrastructure
 - Public Awareness and Outreach to encourage walking and bicycling to school, traffic education and enforcement near schools, student sessions, training, SRTS program managers, State Coordinator
 - Not less than 10% or more than 30% of SRTS funds must be set aside for non-infrastructure

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Funding

- Funds administered by State DOT's
- 100% federal share
- Each State to receive funds in proportion to K-8 school enrollment, but not less than \$1 million
- Budget
 - \$54 million in 2005
 - \$100 million in 2006
 - \$125 million in 2007
 - \$150 million in 2008
 - \$183 million in 2009

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Highway Safety Improvement Program

- Successor to old Surface Transportation Program set-aside for Safety
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects are eligible
- 90% federal funds

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For More Information

- TPB Website
www.mwcog.org/transportation
- FHWA and FTA
 - www.fhwa.dot.gov
 - www.fta.dot.gov
- AMPO www.ampo.org
- AASHTO www.aashto.org
- League of American Bicyclists
www.bikeleague.org

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