



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

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April 26, 2019

SUMMARY OF SUBJECT MATTER

TO: Members, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
FROM: Staff, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
RE: Full Committee Hearing on “Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Members’ Day”

PURPOSE

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I Committee) will meet on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in 2167 Rayburn House Office Building to receive testimony related to “Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Members’ Day.” Pursuant to H. Res. 6 Sec. 103(j), the purpose of this hearing is to provide Members of Congress an opportunity to testify before the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on the Member’s policy priorities within the Committee’s jurisdiction.

BACKGROUND

T&I Committee Jurisdiction

The T&I Committee has broad jurisdiction over all modes of transportation and numerous types of infrastructure programs and funding, which is overseen as delineated below by six subcommittees.

Subcommittee on Aviation:

The Subcommittee on Aviation has jurisdiction over all aspects of civil aviation, including safety, infrastructure, labor, economic regulation, and international issues. Within this scope of responsibilities, the Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), a modal administration within the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). This jurisdiction covers all programs within the FAA as well as aviation programs of the DOT with respect to economic regulation of air carriers and passenger airline service. In addition, the Subcommittee has jurisdiction over commercial space transportation, the National Mediation Board (NMB), and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation:

The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation has jurisdiction over the U.S. Coast Guard, including its duties, organization, functions, and powers. Within the Committee's broader maritime transportation jurisdiction, the Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the regulation of commercial vessels and merchant seamen; domestic laws and international conventions related to the safe operation of vessels and safety of life at sea; and the regulation of ocean shipping, domestic cabotage requirements (Jones Act), and the merchant marine, except as it relates to national defense.

Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management:

The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management is responsible for the authorization and oversight of federal real estate programs, including construction, repair, alteration, maintenance, and enhancement of such real property; the authorization and oversight of programs promoting economic development in communities suffering economic distress; the authorization and oversight of programs addressing the federal management of emergencies and disasters; and a variety of measures affecting homeland security, including the all-hazards nature of the federal response to disasters and the Federal Protective Service.

The asset management activities of the Subcommittee's jurisdiction include: improved grounds of the United States, generally, and measures relating to the Public Buildings Service (PBS) of the General Services Administration (GSA)—the civilian landlord of the federal government—including the planning, site and design, construction, acquisition, and renovation of public buildings, courthouses, and border facilities, and the leasing of space for federal employees; the buildings, physical plant, and infrastructure of the Capitol Complex and use of the Capitol Grounds; the facilities of the White House complex; the facilities of the Smithsonian Institution, including all new and proposed facilities; facilities of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts; Union Station Redevelopment Corporation; Judiciary Centers; measures relating to the location, use, accessibility, energy conservation, security, health and safety, and transfer or exchange of federal buildings; and the naming of federal buildings and courthouses.

The economic development activities of the Subcommittee include jurisdiction over the Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the Department of Commerce, the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the Denali Commission, the Delta Regional Authority (DRA), the Northern Great Plains Regional Authority, the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission, the Southwest Border Regional Commission, and the Northern Border Regional Commission.

The Subcommittee's jurisdiction of federal management of emergencies and natural disasters includes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) oversight and activities relating to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery, as well as programs relating to first responders.

Subcommittee on Highways and Transit:

The Subcommittee on Highways and Transit is responsible for the development of Federal surface transportation policy and the authorization of programs for the construction and improvement of highway and transit facilities, highway and transit safety, commercial motor vehicle

and driver safety, and research and innovation programs. Related to these responsibilities, the Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the following modal administrations and offices within the U.S. Department of Transportation: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Federal Transit Administration (FTA); Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA); National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) (partial); Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology; National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau; and Office of the Secretary of Transportation.

Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials:

The Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials exercises jurisdiction over the programs and activities of two U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) modal administrations, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee includes all federal laws and programs regulating railroad transportation, including railroad safety, rail infrastructure programs, economic regulation, railroad labor laws, and the non-revenue aspects of the federal railroad retirement and railroad unemployment systems. The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee also includes all federal laws and programs regulating the safety of gas and liquid pipelines and the safety of transporting material and freight that has been classified as hazardous, regardless of the mode of transportation.

Agencies and other establishments outside the DOT whose rail-related activities fall within the Subcommittee jurisdiction include: Surface Transportation Board (STB); Amtrak; Amtrak Inspector General; Northeast Corridor Commission (NEC Commission); Railroad Retirement Board (RRB); Railroad Retirement Board Inspector General (RRB IG); National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust; and National Mediation Board (NMB).

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment:

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment consists generally of matters relating to water resources development, conservation and management, water pollution control and water infrastructure, and hazardous waste cleanup.

Issues under the Subcommittee include: water resources programs (projects and regulations) – Army Corps of Engineers (Corps); Clean Water Act, water infrastructure and watershed protection programs – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Clean Water Act, regulatory authorities – EPA and Corps; Superfund and Brownfields revitalization – EPA; ocean dumping – EPA and Corps; oil pollution – EPA and Coast Guard; Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA); Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation – U.S. Department of Transportation; National Resources Conservation Service's Small Watershed Program – U.S. Department of Agriculture; Deepwater ports – EPA, Coast Guard, Corps; invasive/aquatic nuisance species/harmful algal blooms – EPA, Coast Guard, Corps, and other agencies; coastal pollution and coastal zone management – EPA and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); natural resource damages – NOAA, Department of the Interior, and other agencies; Groundwater protection – primarily EPA and Corps; water resources policy – multiple agencies; toxic substances and public health – Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR); and boundary water issues between the United States and Mexico – the International Boundary Water Commission at the U.S. Department of State.