Meeting Agenda

RPO Technical Advisory Committee
August 26th, 2015 –2:30 Blue Ridge (New) Conference Room Land of Sky Regional Council

1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING
   A. Welcome and Introductions     Brownie Newman
   B. Ethics Statement & Agenda Approval/Modifications     Brownie Newman
   C. Agenda Approval/Modifications     Brownie Newman

2. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Minutes from the RPO TAC May 27th, 2015 Meeting     Brownie Newman

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. BUSINESS
   A. Approve LOSRPO SPOT4 DRAFT Project List     Vicki Eastland
   B. City of Brevard Greenway Selected for study of Economic Evaluation     Vicki Eastland

5. REGULAR UPDATES
   A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates     Jay Swain/Ed Green/Designee
   B. Transportation Planning Branch Updates     Brendan Merithew
   C. Legislative Updates     Vicki Eastland
   D. Staff Updates and Housekeeping     Vicki Eastland
   E. Adjourn LOSRPO Meeting     Brownie Newman

Next Meeting: October 21th, 2:30 PM

Upcoming Meetings

6. ADJOURNMENT
Item 1b: Ethics Statement

ETHICS AWARENESS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST REMINDER

(To be read by the Chair or his or her designee at the beginning of each meeting)

In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid conflicts of interest. Does any Board member have any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board today? If so, please identify the conflict and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

Item 2A: Consent Agenda: Minutes from March 18, 2015 Meeting

Land of Sky RPO TAC Meeting Minutes from May 27, 2015

Attendees:

- Vicki Eastland
- Lawrence Ponder
- Ralph Cannady
- Brendan Merithew
- Michael Sorrells
- Cole Hood
- Brownie Newman

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Brownie Newman called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. He read the Ethics Statement, asked if there were any conflicts, and members responded that there were none. He then reviewed the Agenda and no modifications were proposed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Michael Sorrells motioned to approve the minutes from March 18th, 2015, Lawrence Ponder seconded, and as all were in favor, the minutes were then approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The public comment period was opened, and as there were none at this time, nor through Facebook or email, the public comment period was closed.

BUSINESS

RPO PIP Amendments: Vicki Eastland highlighted the RPO PIP amendments, these edits consisted of inserting language for minor formatting or technical correction to the plan not requiring TAC action and the addition of Prioritization
Meeting Agenda

List formerly the Priority Needs List (PNL) on page 6, and on page 14 the addition of processes for public involvement for the approval of the Prioritization Methodology. Brownie Newman asked if there were any questions and none were brought forth.

Michael Sorrells motioned to approve the RPO PIP Amendments; Lawrence Ponder seconded, and as all were in favor, the motion carried.

LOSRPO Prioritization Work Group Members: Vicki Eastland explained the duties and task of the RPO Prioritization Sub-Committee and reviewed the list of names the TCC appointed, Scott Collier, Mark Burrows, Josh Freeman, Kris Boyd and Forrest Gilliam (or his appointee).

Michael Sorrells motioned to approve the Five-Year Planning Calendar, Lawrence Ponder seconded, and as all were in favor, the motioned carried.

SPOT4 updates and schedule: Vicki Eastland reviewed the updates from the SPOT4 work group, explained some of the criteria changes and discussed schedule changes. FYI only no action needed.

LOSRPO SPOT4 Timeline and Meeting Schedule: Vicki Eastland reviewed the timeline and explained that the RPO TAC meeting schedule would have to be arranged so as to make all the NCDOT Key Dates.

Michael Sorrells motioned to adopt the Timeline and meeting schedule, Lawrence Ponder seconded, and as all were in favor, the motioned carried.

**REGULAR UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Cole Hood provided Division 13 updates and Ralph Cannady provided Division 14 updates.
- Brendan Merithew presented TPB updates.
- Legislative updates: a handout was provided.
- CPTHSTP update is ongoing; all the stakeholder meetings have been held now holding public input meetings in each county.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned.
**Meeting Agenda**

**LOSRPO Business:**

**Item 4a:** Adopt Land of Sky RPO DRAFT SPOT 4.0 Project List

Attached at end of Agenda

**Important Upcoming Dates for SPOT 4.0**

**2015**
- **September 1st**
  -- Existing project modifications; anticipated intersections, and anticipated interchanges are due
- **October 1st**
  -- Project deletions due
- **October 31st**
  -- New project Submissions; final date of submissions **TBD by NCDOT**

**2016**
- **End of March 2016**
  Draft Statewide Mobility Projects Released
- **April 1st**
  -- Deadline for Approval of Local Input Assignment Methodologies (Note: this is the deadline for NCDOT Approval, not RPO approval. The RPO must approve the methodology before this date.)
- **April 1st**
  -- Regional Impact Local Point window opens for 2 months
- **End of July**
  -- Draft List of Regional Impact Projects released
- **August 1st**
  -- Division Needs Local Input Point window opens for 2 months
- **October**
  -- Final SPOT 4.0 Scores Released
- **December**
  -- 2017---2027 STIP Released

**Staff recommended action:**
Review and discuss projects as needed, recommend needed changes. Adopt to allow staff to submit Modifications and anticipated intersection and interchange projects by the September 1st, 2015 deadline.
Item 4b: **City of Brevard Greenway Selected for Study of Economic Evaluation**

This research project on the economic contribution of shared use paths (SUP) is being conducted by Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) sponsored by NCDOT.

**Objectives of Research Project**
- Design a methodology that can be consistently used and replicated to evaluate the economic contribution of a given SUP
- Apply the methodology by conducting case studies

It is expected that outcomes and products from this research can:
- Help NCDOT to establish standard methods for regularly conducting economic analyses of trails across the state
- Educate decision-makers and partners in the economic benefits of SUPs and engage them in dialogue about continued investment in non-motorized transportation facilities
- Aid in potentially using the findings to establish economic metrics or objectives when forecasting benefits and prioritizing future transportation projects

The Brevard Greenway Data Collection Schedule: The research team anticipates collecting and analyzing data at three intervals between now and February 2018. Key benchmark target months of the project include:
- Year 1 data collection – October 2015
- Year 1 draft interim findings brief – June 2016
- Year 2 data collection – May 2016
- Year 2 draft interim findings brief – January 2017
- Year 3 data collection – May 2017
- Year 3 draft interim findings brief – January 2018
- Project Summary Report (brochure-style) and Full Report – February 2018

Statewide 4 trails have been selected for the study: Brevard Greenway, American Tobacco Trail (Durham), Little Sugar Creek Greenway (Charlotte), and Duck Trail (Duck).
Meeting Agenda

Criteria:

- **Have a state or regional significance.** (Defined as trails of approximately five 5 miles of ADA-accessible surface, such as asphalt, and those which have greater ability to draw in visitors)
- **Have good opportunities to capture economic revenue.** (i.e. has commercial land uses adjacent or nearby)
- **Will not be impacted by new trail construction, significant maintenance, or be subject to detouring the trail due to intersecting road projects within the project period.**
- **Be relatively ‘established’.** New paths that have been constructed within the last five years may not be as well established within the community to reap all the economic benefits that may occur from future development on and near the trail. Paths where much of the land use adjacent to and around the trail is already developed, or where no significant new development is expected within the project timeframe, will be prioritized.
- **Have the ability to demonstrate a transportation function.** Loop paths that clearly do not serve a transportation function will not be considered. Paved trails will be prioritized, given that NCDOT will only assist in funding future trails that are paved. Hard-packed crush gravel paths, or paths of other surface material that are ADA-accessible may be considered.
- **Have a good geographic dispersion across the state:** Have a good mix between urban (defined as being within an MPO) and rural (defined as being within an RPO) paths.

Staff recommended action:
FYI only

5. **REGULAR UPDATES**

A. NCDOT Division 13 and 14 updates
   NCDOT Staff
B. Transportation Planning Branch Updates
   Brendan Merithew
C. Subcommittee/Workgroup Reports,
   Vicki Eastland
   Staff Updates and Housekeeping
   Staff
D. Legislative Updates (attached to Agenda)
   Vicki Eastland

**Announcements, News, Special Updates**

Construction reports available from the LOS RPO Website: [http://www.landofskyrpo.org/resources_and_links](http://www.landofskyrpo.org/resources_and_links)

**Division 13 updates**

**Division 14 updates**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPOTID</th>
<th>Project Category</th>
<th>Improvement Type</th>
<th>Specific Improvement</th>
<th>Specific Improvement Number</th>
<th>TIP #</th>
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<th>SPOT 4 Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H090854</td>
<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Modernization</td>
<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>SR 1395</td>
<td>Cove Creek Mountain Road</td>
<td>Boyd Mountain Road</td>
<td>Great Smoky Mountains National Park</td>
<td>Boyd Mountain Road to Great Smoky Mountains National Park - Upgrade and Pave</td>
<td>Haywood</td>
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<td>H090857</td>
<td>Regional Impact</td>
<td>Modernization</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>NC 209</td>
<td>SR 1501 (Silvers Cove Road)</td>
<td>Madison County Line</td>
<td>Highway 209 - Silvers Cove Road (SR 1501) to Madison County Line - Upgrade, Widen, and Guardrails</td>
<td>Haywood</td>
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<td>H141279</td>
<td>Regional Impact</td>
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<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
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<td>US 276</td>
<td>Jonathon Creek Road</td>
<td>US 19 I 40</td>
<td>Install paved shoulders on the median and outside shoulders with rumble strips. Construct or upgrade left turn lanes at various crossovers.</td>
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<td>NC209</td>
<td>SR 1501 (Silvers Cove Road)</td>
<td>SR 1334 (Max Patch Road)</td>
<td>Highway 209 - Silvers Cove Road (SR 1501) to SR 1334 (Max Patch Road) (at Ferguson's Store) - Upgrade, Widen, and Guardrails</td>
<td>Haywood</td>
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<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
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<td>NC210</td>
<td>SR 1334 (Max Patch Road)</td>
<td>Highway 209 - SR 1334 (Max Patch Road) to Madison County Line - Upgrade, Widen, and Guardrails</td>
<td>Haywood</td>
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<td>Construct Roadway on New Location</td>
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<td>R-5117</td>
<td>New Route</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>Spring Creek Community</td>
<td>Construct Facility on New Location</td>
<td>Madison</td>
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<td>?</td>
<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Bike and Ped</td>
<td>Construct Pedestrian improvements to Curb/gutter, sidewalk and mid block crossing</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>US 25/70 BUS (South Main Street Marshall)</td>
<td>In Front of Town owned Depot</td>
<td>Construct Pedestrian improvements to include Curb and gutter, Sidewalk and mid block crossing in front of Depot</td>
<td>Madison</td>
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<td>New</td>
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<td>Capacity</td>
<td>Construct Roadway on New Location</td>
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<td>R-2594</td>
<td>NC 215</td>
<td>Balsam Grove Sunburst, FH 32</td>
<td>US 64 at Cherryfield</td>
<td>SR 1326 (Macedonia Church Road) South of Balsam Grove</td>
<td>Construct Two Lanes on New Location</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Database</td>
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<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>Construct Roadway on New Location</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>R-5743</td>
<td>US 64/276</td>
<td>US 64</td>
<td>New Route - West Loop Minor Thoroughfare</td>
<td>US 64</td>
<td>New Route - US 64/276 to Nicholson Creek Road/US 64 - West Loop Minor Thoroughfare</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>H129070-D</td>
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<td>Modernization</td>
<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>R-2409D</td>
<td>US 64</td>
<td>Indian Creek Road (East end of R-2409C)</td>
<td>East of the east intersection with Flat Creek Valley Road (SR 1147)</td>
<td>Widen, Realign and Climbing Lanes</td>
<td>Widen, Realign, and Climbing Lanes</td>
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<td>US 178</td>
<td>SR 1156</td>
<td>South Carolina State Line</td>
<td>SR 1156 (Main Street) in Rosman</td>
<td>South Carolina State Line</td>
<td>Widen, Realign, and Climbing Lanes</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
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<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>SR 1546</td>
<td>Neely Road</td>
<td>SR 1504</td>
<td>(Old US 64)</td>
<td>SR 1544(French Road St)</td>
<td>Upgrade Roadway. Proposed Typical is 20’ Paved Roadway with 6’ Grass Shoulders. Current Typical Is Two Lane 18’ Paved Roadway with 4’ Grass Shoulders</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
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<td>Modernization</td>
<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>SR 1116</td>
<td>North Country Club Road</td>
<td>Brevard City Limit</td>
<td>US 64</td>
<td>Upgrade Roadway. Proposed Typical Is 26’ Paved Roadway with Curb and Gutter, Sidewalks, and in Compliance with Complete Streets Policy. Current Typical Is Two Lane 20’ Paved Roadway with Curb and Gutter</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
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<td>H140969</td>
<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Widen Existing Roadway</td>
<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>SR 1156</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>SR 1388</td>
<td>(Old Rosman Highway)</td>
<td>US 176(Pickens Highway)</td>
<td>Widen road to include auxiliary lanes where needed, curb &amp; gutter, sidewalks and bike lanes</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Database</td>
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<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>Construct Roadway on New Location</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>New Route - West Loop Minor Thoroughfare</td>
<td>US 64/276</td>
<td>US 64 (North of Allison Road)</td>
<td>New Route - US 64/276 to Nicholson Creek Road/US 64 - West Loop Minor Thoroughfare (Adjust northern termini to NORTH OF ALLISON ROAD)</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Modification</td>
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<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Intersection Improvements</td>
<td>Realign Multiple Intersections</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Old US 64/ Old Hendersonville HWY</td>
<td>Wilson Rd</td>
<td>Ecusta Rd</td>
<td>Realign Intersections at Wilson Rd/Old US 64/Ecuta Rd</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>NEW HWY</td>
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<td>?</td>
<td>Regional Impact</td>
<td>Upgrade at Grade Improvement</td>
<td>Safety Improvements</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>US 64/NC 280</td>
<td>Asheville Hwy</td>
<td>US 64/US 276/NC 280</td>
<td>Safety Improvements, including Bike and Pedestrian Crossing accommodations</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>NEW HWY</td>
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<td>?</td>
<td>Regional Impact</td>
<td>Access Management</td>
<td>Modernize Roadway</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>NC 280</td>
<td>Asheville Hwy</td>
<td>Deavor Road</td>
<td>Huddin Gap Road</td>
<td>Install Median in existing 4 lane roadway and general access management to increase safety.</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>NEW HWY</td>
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<td>?</td>
<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Bike/Ped</td>
<td>Construct 5’ Sidewalk</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>SR 1350</td>
<td>Probart Street</td>
<td>US 64/276 N, Caldwell ST</td>
<td>Music Camp Rd</td>
<td>Construct 5’ Sidewalk along one side of roadway</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>NEW B/P</td>
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<tr>
<td>? YET TBD IF IN SPOT4</td>
<td>Division Needs</td>
<td>Bike/Ped</td>
<td>Construct Multi-use trail/greenway/or on-road bike lane</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>US 276</td>
<td>Greenville Hwy</td>
<td>SR 1540 (Wilson Road)</td>
<td>Barclay Road</td>
<td>Construct multi-use trail / greenway / sidepath or on-road bike lane on local roadway (Blue Ridge Bike Plan Transylvania Co Priority Corridor #1)</td>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>NEW B/P</td>
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<td>Legislation</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>NCGA History</td>
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<td><strong>Gas Tax</strong></td>
<td><strong>Part I</strong> would update from December 31, 2013, to January 1, 2015, the reference to the Internal Revenue Code. <strong>Part II</strong> sets the motor fuel tax rate at 36.0 cents per gallon from April 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. The rate reduces to 35.0 cents per gallon from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016 and reduces to 34.0 cents per gallon from July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. Beginning January 1, 2017, a new motor fuel tax formula will be used to calculate the tax rate. The formula includes two components: a base tax rate, which is the rate in effect prior to the adjustment; and a variable rate calculated as a percentage adjustment from: The percentage change in population, multiplied by 75%, and the annual percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, Energy multiplied by 25%.</td>
<td><strong>Ratified</strong></td>
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<td>SB 617</td>
<td>BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION SUPERMAJORITY APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF LANES ON STATE ROAD LOCATED WITHIN A 18 MUNICIPALITY, page 3</td>
<td><strong>Senate: Re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources. If fav, re-ref to Finance</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 654</td>
<td>A transportation corridor official map may be adopted or amended by any of the following: (1) The governing board of any local government for any thoroughfare included as part of a comprehensive plan for streets and highways adopted pursuant to G.S. 136-66.2 or for any proposed public transportation corridor included in the adopted long-range transportation plan. (2) The Board of Transportation, or the governing board of any county, for any portion of the existing or proposed State highway system or for any public transportation corridor, to include rail, that is in the Transportation Improvement Program.</td>
<td><strong>Ratified</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SB 396</td>
<td>AN ACT TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF STUDIES CONDUCTED BY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS AND RURAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS</td>
<td><strong>Senate: Re-ref Com On Transportation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 232</td>
<td>AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO STUDY THE 3 BICYCLE SAFETY LAWS IN THIS STATE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS 4 TO HOW THE LAWS MAY BE REVISED TO BETTER ENSURE THE SAFETY OF 5 BICYCLISTS AND MOTORISTS ON THE RROADWAYS.</td>
<td><strong>Ratified</strong></td>
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</table>
**Federal Funding** set to expire on July 31, 2015. A continuing resolution (CR) is proposed until December 16, 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB 672</td>
<td>Division Engineers would be removed from applying local points on STI projects at the Division and Regional Tier. In addition it would remove ferry replacement from the STI process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 74</td>
<td>Study MPO/RPO Oversight.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 940/SB 713</td>
<td>Governor’s Proposed Budget, which includes the $1.5 billion transportation bond.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 183</td>
<td>Repeals the Transportation Corridor Official Map Act. This is the Act that allowed NCDOT to designate and preserve future corridors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 927</td>
<td>AN ACT TO MODIFY THE COMPUTATION OF THE MOTOR FUEL EXCISE TAX RATE; TO ELIMINATE THE DISCOUNT FOR TIMELY PAYMENT OF MOTOR FUELS TAXES BY LICENSED DISTRIBUTORS, IMPORTERS, AND SUPPLIERS; TO MODIFY THE HIGHWAY USE TAX RATE; TO PHASE OUT THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE HIGHWAY FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND; TO MODIFY THE AMOUNT OF FEES CHARGED BY THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES; TO ESTABLISH A SUPPLEMENTAL TAX ON THE GROSS PREMIUMS FROM MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE CONTRACTS; TO TRANSFER CERTAIN FUNDS FROM THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND TO THE HIGHWAY FUND; TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ESTABLISH THE &quot;DOT REPORT&quot; PROGRAM; TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES; AND TO MAKE VARIOUS CONFORMING CHANGES.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB 44/SB 53</td>
<td>NUMBER OF LANES CANNOT BE REDUCED ON STATE ROADS LOCATED WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY AND HAVING AN AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC VOLUME OF 20,000 VEHICLES PER DAY OR MORE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**House:** Re-ref Com On Appropriations  
**Senate:** No Action  

**House:** Passed  
**Senate:** Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate  

**House:** Ref to the Com on Appropriations  
**Senate:** Ref to the Com on Appropriations  

**House:** Passed  
**Senate:** Re-ref Com On Transportation  

**House:** Ref to the Com on Appropriations  
**Senate:** No Action  

**House/Senate:** Conferees for H44: Local Government Regulatory Reform 2015.