



LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE



Federal Transportation Update

November 18, 2015



Latest Update

- House passed the Surface Transportation Reauthorization & Reform (STRR) Act on November 5th by a vote of 363 to 64 and immediately moved to go to conference with the Senate on their version, the DRIVE Act.
- Conference Committee has its initial public meeting this morning but the progress necessitates an extension of current law until **December 4th** to allow enough time for the conference committee to complete its work.
- December 4th extension provides insufficient authorization to support additional project lettings.

STRR vs. DRIVE Funding



- DRIVE Act increases formula funding for Georgia above inflation while STRR Act only adjusts for inflation:

	Current FFY15	FFY16	FFY17	FFY18	FFY19	FFY20	FFY21
DRIVE	\$1.25B	\$1.31B	\$1.34B	\$1.39B	\$1.43B	\$1.47B	\$1.50B
STRR	\$1.25B	\$1.27B	\$1.29B	\$1.32B	\$1.34B	\$1.37B	\$1.40B
DRIVE/STRR Difference		<\$30M>	<\$50M>	<\$70M>	<\$90M>	<\$100M>	<\$100M>

- DRIVE Act identified general fund offsets to maintain the Highway Trust Fund at authorized levels through FFY18—reducing federal reserve dividend payments, sales from Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and other fee adjustments.
- STRR Act included a provision to liquidate and transfer funds from the Federal Reserve Surplus Fund Account which MAY provide sufficient additional funds to provide for the entire six years of its authorization.

STRR vs. DRIVE Program/Policy



Program Structure

- **DRIVE:** Retains the existing formula programs under MAP-21 but provides additional restrictions to the use of funds.
- **STRR:** Consolidates the Transportation Alternatives Program into the Surface Transportation Program as a set-aside program while preserving a greater degree of flexibility for the states.

Freight & Major Projects Assistance

- **DRIVE:** Creates a new formula freight program and assistance for major projects grant program.
- **STRR:** Creates a competitive grant program for freight projects.

Other Provisions

- **DRIVE/STRR:** Contain positive and negative provisions dealing with environmental review.
- **STRR:** Reduces state **flexibility** in FFY19 by rescinding unobligated contract authority (GA share estimated at \$193M).⁴



QUESTIONS?

