

Indiana MPO Conference

September 29, 2020

Erich Zimmermann

Deputy Director/Transportation Director, NARC



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

- 1. Transportation Reauthorization**
 - a. Extension**
 - b. Highway Trust Fund**
- 2. Continuing Resolution**
- 3. COVID-19 Response and Recovery**
- 4. Presidential and Congressional Elections**
- 5. Census**



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

1. Transportation Reauthorization

- **Senate EPW: ATIA (July 2019)**
 - **5-year, \$287B (highway title only)**
 - **Bi-partisan**
 - **Commerce, Banking missing; no leadership help**
- **House T&I: Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act (July 2020)**
 - **5-year, \$494B**
 - **Partisan basis**
 - **Passed House as part of broader infrastructure bill**

@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

Timing is extremely important

Bill	Signed into Law
• ISTEA	• December 1991
• TEA-21	• June 1998
• SAFETEA-LU	• August 2005
• MAP-21 (two-year bill)	• July 2012
• FAST Act	• December 2015



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

1. Transportation Reauthorization

House	Senate
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fundamental reconsideration of the relationship between transportation and society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significant steps (esp. for the Senate), but less comprehensive
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate/GHG, housing, resilience, transit, safety, bike/ped, accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate (to some extent), resilience, safety, wildlife crossings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significant focus on local funding/projects (including increased suballocation of STBGP, TAP changes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More state focus, small nods to local control, no increase in STBGP suballocation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adds core programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leaves the structure generally the same
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Less formula funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on increasing formula funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significant new requirements for MPOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Few changes to planning requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unfunded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unfunded

1. Transportation Reauthorization

- **Extension**
 - **Five-year FAST Act expires on Sept. 30**
 - **CR contains a 1-year “clean” extension**
 - **Small change in funding levels**
- **Highway Trust Fund**
 - **\$10.4B transfer to highway account**
 - **\$3.2B transfer to transit account**
 - **\$153.5B since 2008**

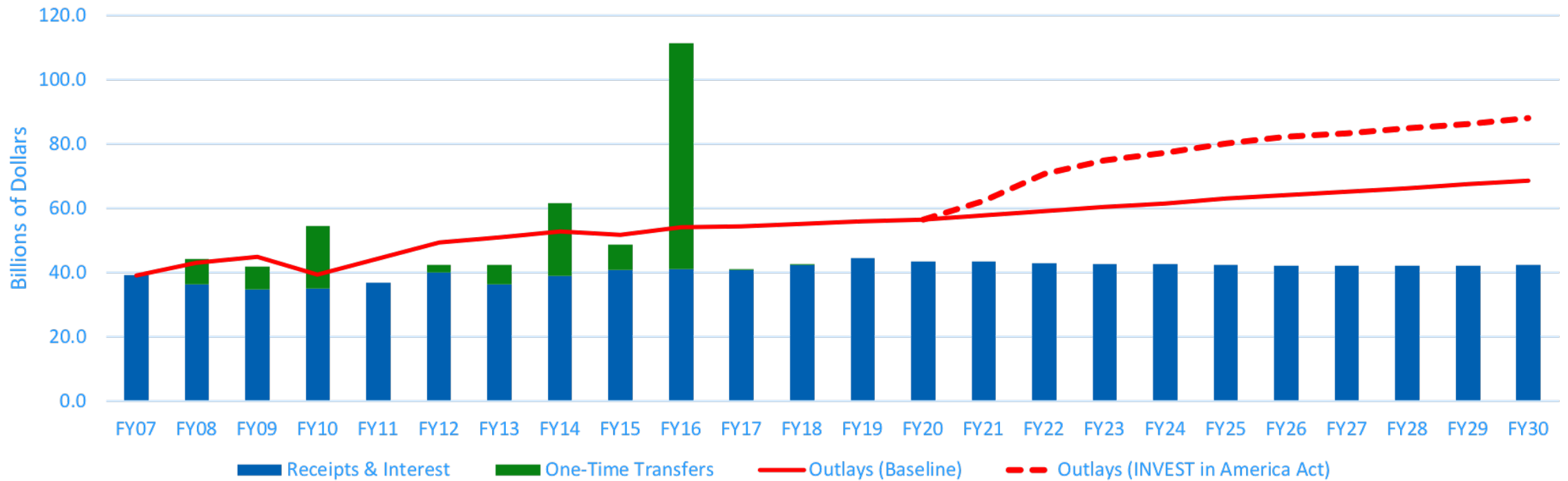


@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

Highway Trust Fund

Highway Trust Fund - FY 2007-2019 (Actual), FY 2020-2030 (2 Scenarios)



Source: Eno Center for Transportation

 @NARCRegions #RegionsLead

2. Continuing Resolution

- Funds ALL aspects of the federal gov.
- Passed House on Sept. 22
- Senate action uncertain
- Needs to happen by Sept. 30 (for transp. and general funding purposes)



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

3. COVID-19 Response and Recovery

- **Last comprehensive response legislation more than 6 months ago (CARES Act)**
- **House passed a massive \$3.3T bill (HEROES Act)**
- **Senate a much smaller one**
- **Agreement has been elusive**



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

3. COVID-19 Response and Recovery

- Just yesterday: Dems introduced pared down \$2.2T package
 - \$436B for local governments
 - \$32B for transit
 - \$2.4B for Amtrak
 - \$28.3B for airlines, \$13.5B for airports
 - \$0 for State DOTs (so no local funds)



4. Presidential and Congressional Elections

- **Second Trump Term?**
- **First Biden Term?**
 - **Infrastructure package?**
 - **COVID pkg?**
 - **Stimulus?**
- **Dems retain House**
 - **Chairman DeFazio, RM Graves**
- **GOP retains Senate?**
- **Dems win Senate?**
 - **Either way, new EPW Chair**



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

5. Census

- **Will the count end Sept. or Oct.?**
 - **New date: October 5?**
- **Apportionment counts?**
- **Differential Privacy?**
- **MPO boundaries**



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

- **Reauthorization process will have to be restarted**
 - **But a one-year extension is a decent outcome**
- **Elections will be a key turning point**
 - **But some change is coming regardless**
- **Identifying funding is a HUGE challenge**
 - **But a tax, tax extenders, stimulus bill might be the right vehicle**
- **The work never ends**
 - **No 'but' on this one!**



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead

Erich Zimmermann
erich@narc.org



@NARCRegions

#RegionsLead