

# Transportation Research Funding

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Division of Research and Development



# Sources of Research Funds

- SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users)
  - State Planning and Research Part II
    - State research program (80/20 matching)
    - Cooperative Research Programs (managed by Transportation Research Board) – (100% Federal fund)
    - Pooled Fund Studies (100% Federal fund)



# Sources of Research Funds

- SAFETEA-LU
  - FHWA Research Programs (\$200M/year, 100% federal fund)
    - Earmarked for designated programs
    - Innovative Bridge Research and Development
    - Highway for Life
    - Other programs

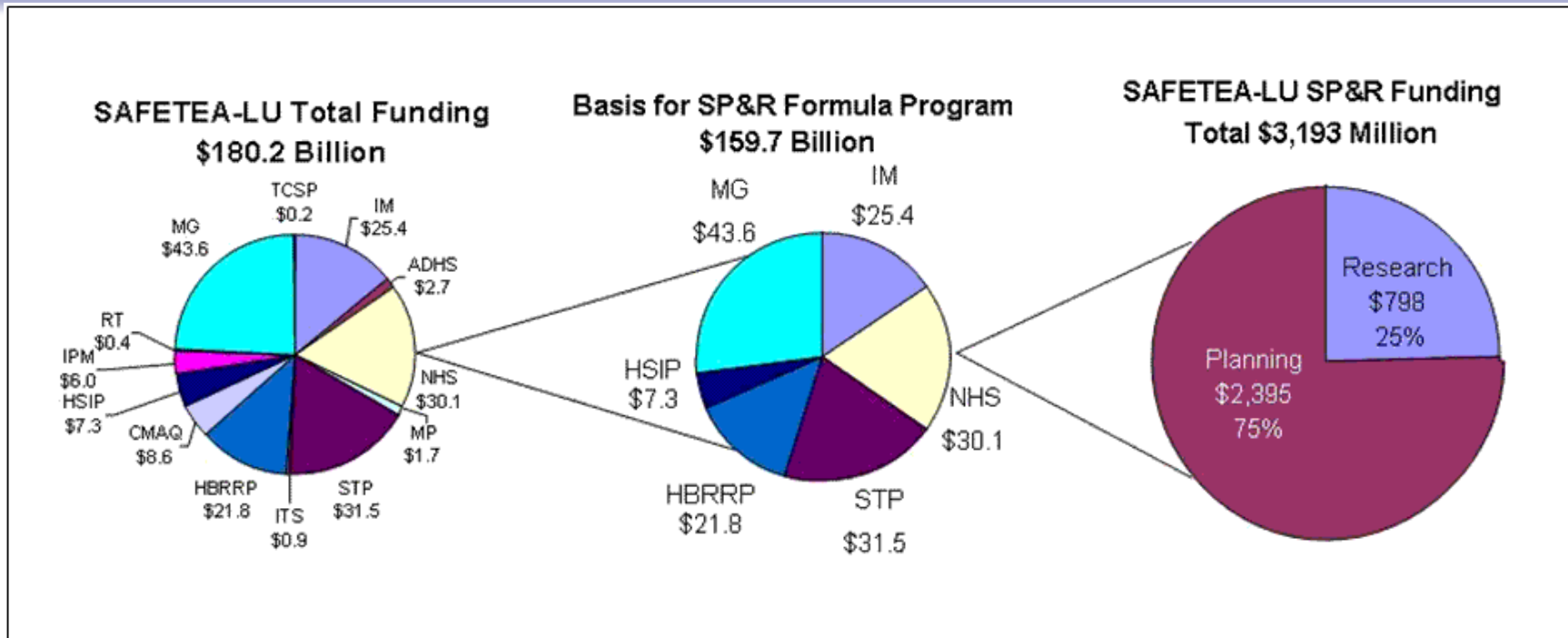


# Sources of Research Funds

- SAFETEA-LU
  - University Transportation Centers (matching)
  - FHWA Training and Education programs (100% federal fund)
  - Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Research and Development (100% federal fund)
  - Data and Knowledge-Related Activities (100% federal fund)



# Origin of the SPR Funds



- Interstate Management (IM),
- National Highway System (NHS),
- Surface Transportation Program (STP),
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ),
- Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRRP), and
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)



# Matching Fund for SPR

## Federal Gas Tax



18.4 ¢

**PURCHASING POWER**  
(1993 Dollars)

**1993**



12 ¢

**PURCHASING POWER**  
(1993 Dollars)

**TODAY**

## Indiana Gas Tax



18 ¢

**PURCHASING POWER**  
(2003 Dollars)

**2003**



14.5 ¢

**PURCHASING POWER**  
(2003 Dollars)

**TODAY**

80/20 matching



# Proposal in Congress

- AASHTO SCOR
  - Modest increase in size and number of high priority national Research and Technology programs
  - Fix unintended consequences of SAFETEA-LU's oversubscription of Title 23
  - Support management practices that ensure high quality results



# Proposal in Congress

- State Planning and Research (SPR) Part II Fund – Research and Technology Portion
  - Maintain current 2% formula drawdown
  - Maintain 25% minimum for research
  - Allows States to address their critical transportation needs which are unique and constantly changing





# Proposal in Congress

- FHWA Core Research and Technology
  - Provide flexible funding for FHWA R&T Program
    - Funding should be sufficient, un-earmarked & non-designated
    - Funding should cover full range of R&T activities
  - Fund other Congressionally designated national programs separately
  - Support a Robust International Outreach Program
  - Make the match for Advanced Research Discretionary



# Proposal in Congress

- Cooperative Programs
  - TCRP
    - \$13.5 mil/yr FY 2010 – 2015
  - NCFRP
    - \$12 mil/yr FY 2010 – 2015
    - Review to ensure sufficient representation from state DOTs and all freight modes.
  - HMCRRP
    - \$5 mil/yr FY 2010 – 2015



# Proposal in Congress

- Establish the National Pavement Performance Database (NPPD)
  - Complete data collection
  - Provide database security & maintenance
  - User support
  - Monitor test sections
  - Refine database
  - Analyze data
  - Develop products
  - \$10M/year



# Proposal in Congress

- Research Deployment Program
  - Administered by FHWA
  - Facilitate the deployment of successful research products
  - Guided by stakeholders (ultimate users)
  - \$5M/year



# Proposal in Congress

- University Transportation Centers
  - Maintain current funding at \$70 mil/year
  - Reduce required match from 50% to 20%
  - Allow match from other federal-aid programs in addition to SPR and LTAP, including non-DOT federal funds
  - Competitively select all UTCs
  - Conduct independent evaluation of UTC program effectiveness



# Proposal in Congress

- Training and Education (LTAP/TTAP)
  - Increase funding from \$11 million to \$20 million annually
  - Reduce required match from 50% to 25%



# SCOR Recommendations

- Maintain SPR program with 25% for R&T
- Provide FHWA with sufficient and flexible funding to deliver its core program
- Fund strategic national R&T programs over and above FHWA's core R&T program
- Support of training, data & knowledge-related activities is important
- Cap UTC funding, decrease required match, increase competition and independently evaluate the program

