



# **How to Reduce Transportation Energy and Carbon Contributions Just a Little While Trying Very Very Hard**



BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

*Developing and promoting solutions  
that can attract the public support  
and political momentum  
to achieve real progress.*

# Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC)



*BPC Advisory Board: Senators George Mitchell, Howard Baker, Tom Daschle, and Bob Dole*

# National Transportation Policy Project (NTPP)



Dennis Archer  
Former Mayor of  
Detroit



Martin Sabo  
Former  
Congressman from  
Minnesota



Sherwood Boehlert  
Former  
Congressman from  
New York



Slade Gorton  
Former Senator from  
Washington

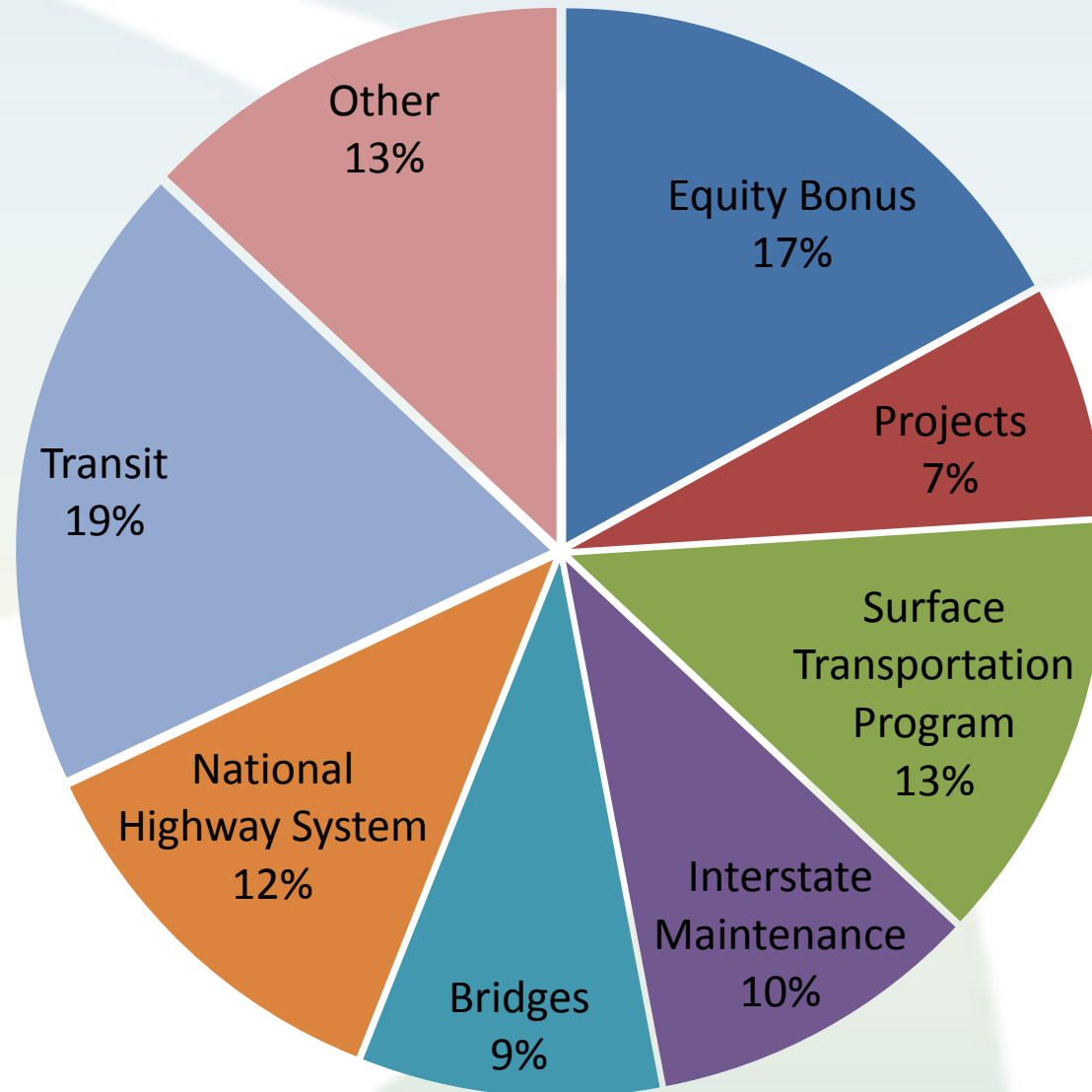
# Presentation Outline

- Existing Federal Transportation Policy
  - Dramatic reform is needed
- The Role of Public Transit
  - What public transit can realistically accomplish
- The NTPP Approach
  - Our vision for the future of transportation policy



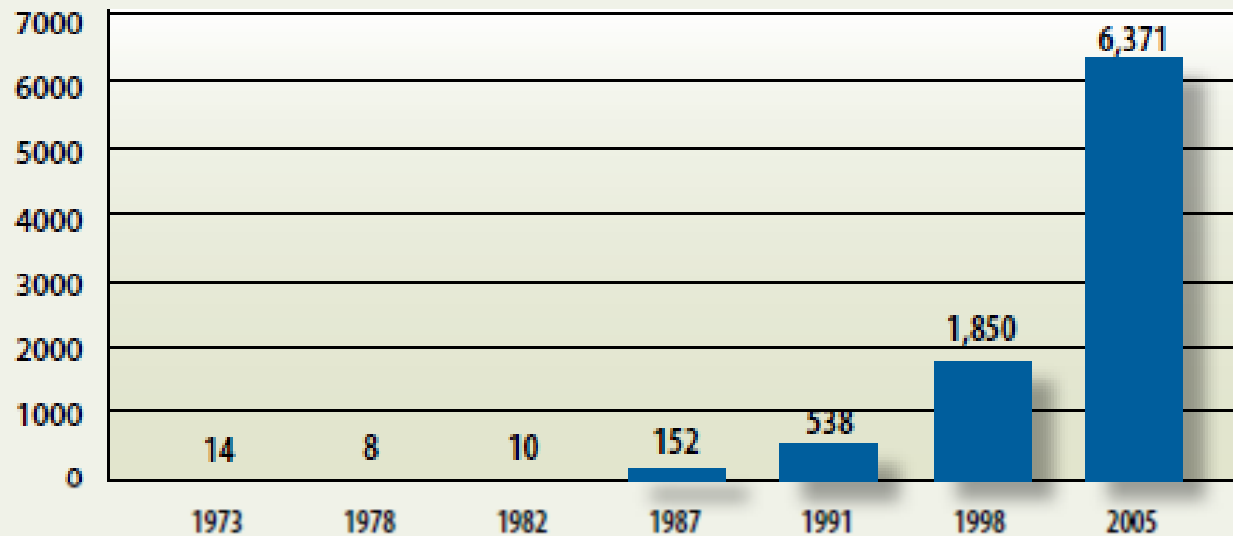
# Existing Federal Transportation Policy

# Spending Under Current Program

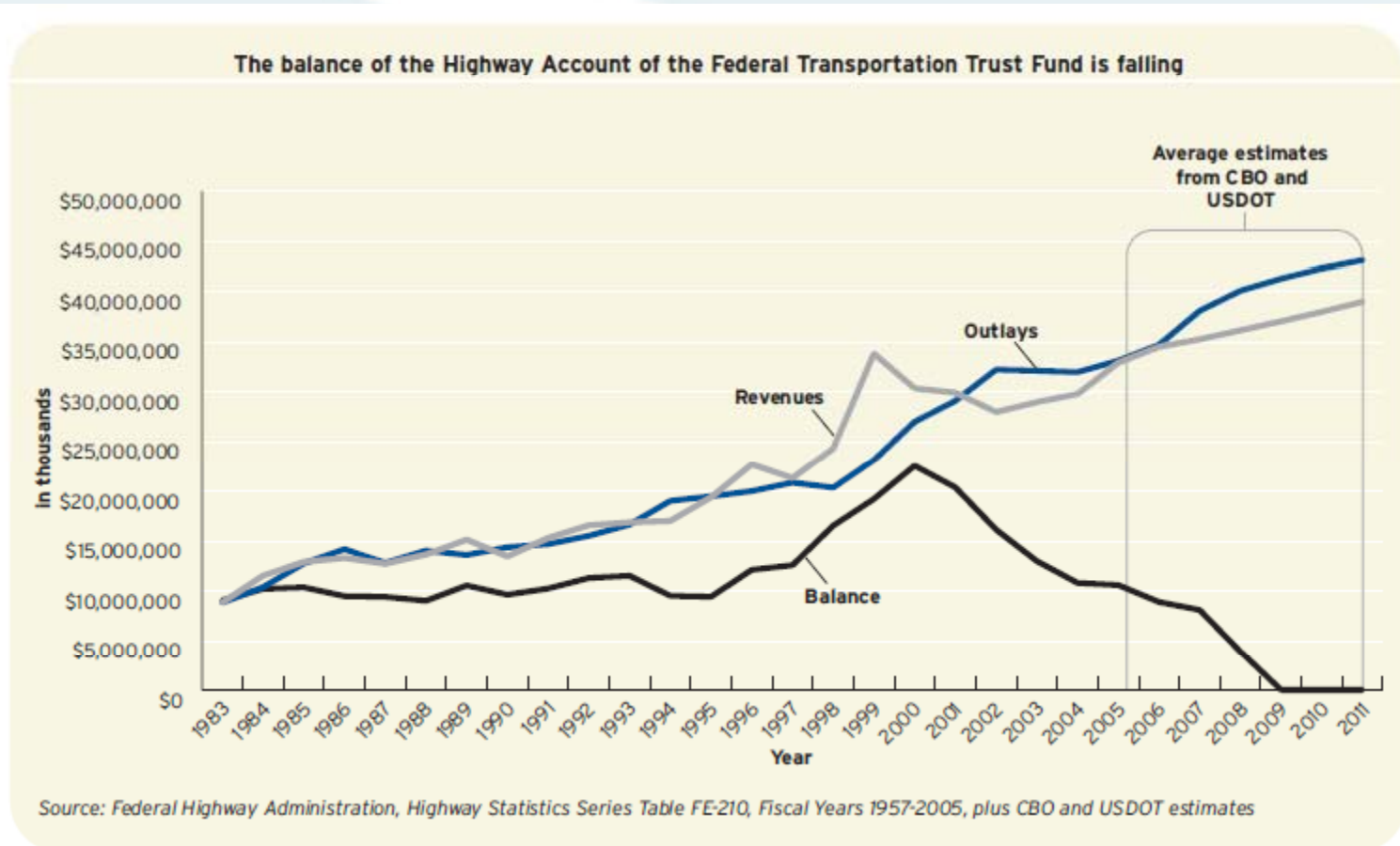


# Growth in “Pork”

**Figure 3: High-Priority Projects in Transportation Reauthorization Bills, 1973-Present**



# Funding and User Fees



Courtesy of Brookings Institution



# Current Federal Funding Structure

**Formula Programs**  
80% of All Funds

**Discretionary Programs**  
20% of All Funds

**108 Total Programs**

## CORE HIGHWAY PROGRAMS

- Surface Transportation Program
- Interstate Maintenance
- National Highway System
- Bridge Rehabilitation
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality
- Highway Safety Improvement Program
- Equity Bonus

## SAMPLE PROGRAMS

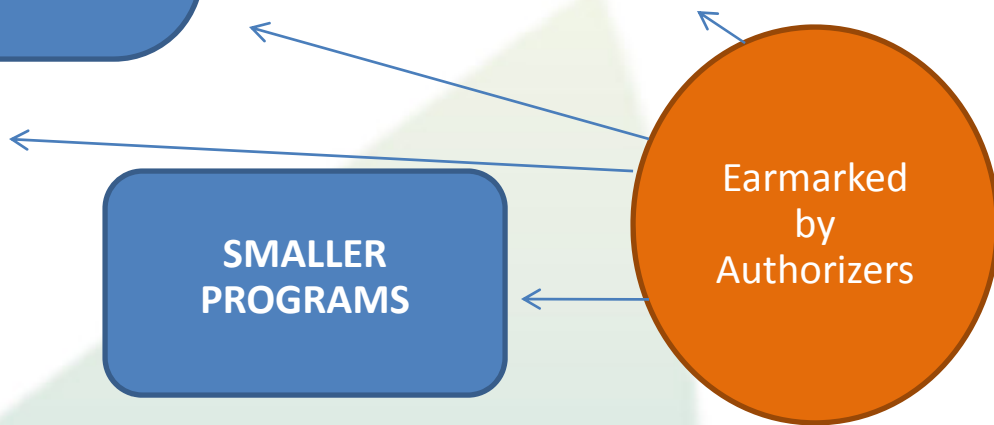
- High Priority Projects
- Transportation Improvements
- Projects of National and Regional Significance
- New Starts/Small Starts
- Clean Fuels Grant Program
- Research

## CORE TRANSIT PROGRAMS

- Urbanized Area Formula
- Fixed Guideway Modernization
- Bus Grants

**SMALLER PROGRAMS**

**Earmarked  
by  
Authorizers**





# The role of public transit



**the ONION**

# **Report: 98 Percent Of U.S. Commuters Favor Public Transportation For Others**

# Basic Transit Data

- Nationally, 5% of workers commute by transit
- Less than 0.5% total growth in share since 2004
- About 40% of this is in New York (next most is Los Angeles with 7%)
- 53% of transit trips and 39% of transit passenger miles are by bus
- 1.8 billion gallons of gasoline and 16.2 MMT of Carbon are saved

# Public Transit GHG Reductions by 2050

## Expanded Current Practice

- Increase service to get 3% annual ridership growth
- Net cost: \$119.5 billion
- Net reduction: 281 MMT

## Maximum Effort

- Increase service to get 4.67% annual ridership growth
- Net cost: \$585.7 billion
- Net reduction: 575 MMT

# Bundled Transit and Maximum Parallel Strategies

## Aggressive Deployment

- Net cost: -\$2,235 billion
- Net reduction: 7.6 billion MMT

## Maximum Deployment

- Net cost: -\$5,105 billion
- Net reduction: 10.8 billion MMT



# The NTPP Approach

# Proposed Federal Goals

- Economic Growth
- National Connectivity
- Metropolitan Accessibility
- Energy Security and Environmental Protection
- Safety



# Proposed National Performance Measures

## Economic Growth

- Metropolitan Accessibility***
- Access to jobs and labor
  - Access to non-work activities

- National Connectivity***
- Network utility
  - Corridor congestion

## Energy & Environmental Protection

- Petroleum consumption

- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Safety

- Fatalities and injuries per capita

- Fatalities and injuries per Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

# Proposed New Federal Funding Structure

**Formula Preservation Programs**  
**75% of All Funds**

**Competitive Capacity Expansion Programs**  
**25% of All Funds**

**Sustaining National Connectivity (35%)**  
Preserving national connections

**Sustaining Core Assets (30%)**  
Preserving metropolitan infrastructure

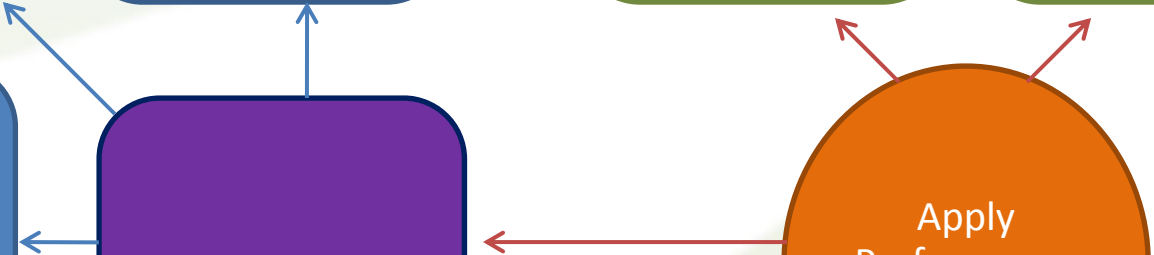
**Improving Federal Connections (12.5%)**  
Expansion of national network

**Improving Core Transportation (12.5%)**  
Expansion of metropolitan capacity

**Essential Access Program (2%)**  
Maintaining access for all Americans

**Performance Bonus (8%)**

**Apply Performance Measures**



# Upcoming Work

- Continue to push for performance transition
- Transportation and jobs
- Wise investments with constrained resources
- Addressing the funding issue

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