

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUNDING UNDER MAP-21

NACo asks Congress to increase funding for the Surface Transportation Program and increase the suballocation for local areas to support locally-owned road and bridge projects.

Background:

MAP-21 made changes to Federal-aid highway funding that significantly impacted the funding available to local governments for road and bridge projects.



Under MAP-21, funding for the nation's bridges and Federal-aid highways were consolidated and are now primarily funded through two core programs, the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) and the Surface Transportation Program (STP).

Surface Transportation Program

The STP program provides flexible funding that may be used by states and localities for projects to preserve or improve conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway and bridge projects on <u>any</u> public road, as well as facilities for nonmotorized transportation, transit capital projects and public bus terminals and facilities.

Under MAP-21, 50 percent of a state's STP funds are to be distributed to local areas based on population (suballocated), with the remainder to be used in any area of the state. Prior to MAP-21, 62.5 percent of a state's STP funds were suballocated to local areas.

National Highway Performance Program

The NHPP Program provides funding to support the condition and performance of the "National Highway System" (NHS). Prior to MAP-21, projects on the NHS received funding from the Interstate Maintenance program and the National Highway System program. Projects on the NHS are also eligible for STP dollars.

Federal-aid Highway Miles

There are 1 million miles of Federal-aid highways in the United States. Under MAP-21, 220,000 or 22% of those miles are designated as the NHS. **Local governments own**



52% of the Federal-aid highway miles that are not a part of the NHS.

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Bridge Funding Changes Under MAP-21

Prior to MAP-21, all bridges were eligible for funding under the Highway Bridge Program. MAP-21 eliminated the Highway Bridge Program, shifting a majority of the program's funding under the NHPP program and putting funding for off-system bridges under the STP program. **Since only 23% of the nation's bridges are a part of the NHS, the remaining 77% are only eligible for the STP program and have to compete with other eligible projects for very limited funding.**

Highway Funding Under MAP-21

While the NHPP program only supports projects on 23% of the nation's bridges and 22% of the Federalaid highway miles, it receives two-thirds of the combined funding available for the NHPP and STP programs, and more than half of the total Federal highway funding under MAP-21. **Meanwhile, 78% of all Federal-aid highway miles and 77% of the nation's bridges are not eligible for the NHPP program and primarily rely on STP dollars.**

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MAP-21 significantly increased (by 74%) the funding available only to projects that are a part of the NHS, partially by shifting the majority of the old Highway Bridge Program to the NHPP program.

	SAFETEA-LU (FY 2011)	MAP-21 (FY 2014)	% Change
Highway Bridge Program (excluding off-system bridge set-aside)	\$5,012,212,512		
Surface Transportation Program (excluding set-asides)	\$8,281,841,603	\$9,048,542,623	+9%
Off-System Bridge Set-Aside	\$884,508,092	\$776,523,176	-12%
Total	\$14,178,562,207	\$9,825,065,799	-31%

Meanwhile, the funding available for bridges and Federal-aid highway projects that are not a part of the NHS, and therefore rely on STP dollars, decreased by about 30% under MAP-21. This funding is responsible for supporting 77% of the nation's bridges and 78% of the Federal-aid highway miles. The decrease in available funding for bridges and highways that are not a part of the NHS has a significant impact on local governments since they own 52% of the highway miles that are not eligible for NHPP funding and 50% of the nation's bridges. In addition, local governments only receive suballocated funds through the STP program, which accounts for a third of the total funding available for the NHPP and STP programs.

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