

Federal Outlook
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Context: Follow the Money

- The Highway Trust Fund: projected to run out of funds in late July or early August 2014
- MAP-21 expires on September 30, 2014
- Note: PRIAA expired on October 30, 2013
- 2014: an election year

Authorizing Legislation

1. Administration: GROW AMERICA-Rail title
 - Multi-year
 - Dedicated funding and contract authority
 - Emphasis on safety and planning
 - Fosters links to economic development and intermodalism
 - Program structure that enables state and regional intercity passenger corridors and networks
 - TIGER doubled

Authorizing Legislation

2. House

- “Technical Corrections” to PRIIA
- No additional funds
- RRIF enhanced

Authorizing Legislation

3. Senate

– S 2322: (highways)

- New companion program to TIGER
- Grade crossing program preserved

Appropriations: THUD FY 2015

- Murray/Ryan Budget
- Administration Budget/GROW AMERICA
- House
- Senate

FFY 2015 THUD central rail provisions

	FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014	House FY 15 (HR 4745)	Senate FY 15 (\$2438)
Amtrak Operating	\$340 m.	\$340 m.	\$350 m.
Amtrak Capital & debt	\$1.050 m.	\$850 m.	\$1.040
TIGER	\$600 m.	\$100 m.**	\$550 m.
High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail	\$0 (except re- purposed; see below)	\$0?	\$0
Re-purpose Maglev funds (section 192)	\$41.8 m.*	x	x

- * Not less than \$20 million for planning
- ** Intercity Passenger Rail NOT eligible

Section 192 of the 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act reallocates unobligated magnetic levitation deployment funds from section 1307

- Sec. 192. The unobligated balances of funds made available for section 1307(d)(1) of Public Law 109-59, as amended (23 U.S.C. 322 note; 119 Stat. 1217; 122 Stat. 1577), shall be made available to the Secretary of Transportation to make grants for projects as defined in section 24401(2)(A) of title 49, United States Code and to carry out sections 20158 and 26101(b) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall make available no less than \$20,000,000 for corridor planning improvement grants as described in section 26101(b) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That such corridor planning improvement grants shall be available for passenger rail corridors that have not completed a tier 1 environmental impact statement within the last 10 years: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain a portion of the funds made available for planning activities to facilitate the preparation of a service development plan and related environmental impact statement for rail corridors located in multiple States.

MIPRC asked for the following within the THUD FY 2015 appropriations:

1. \$225 million for the high-performance passenger rail program (PRIIA Sections 301, 302 and 501);
2. \$600 million for the TIGER program (ARRA Title XXII);
3. \$1 million to continue the efforts of the Next Generation Equipment Committee (PRIIA Section 305);
4. \$425 million to assist in implementation of Positive Train Control (PRIIA Section 105);
5. \$300 million for a state corridor program (PRIIA Section 209);
6. \$25 million for the Rail Line Relocation & Improvement (RLR) Capital Grant Program (SAFETEA-LU Section 9002); and
7. \$10 million for the National Cooperative Rail Research Program (NCRRP).

(see letter in packet for explanation of each item)

Mr. Oberstar



- Rep. Jim Oberstar
- Former U.S. Rep. Jim Oberstar, who represented northeastern Minnesota in Congress for 36 years, died in his sleep early May 3. He was 79.
- Intercity passenger rail in the Midwest (indeed the Nation) had no greater champion.

Designating US DOT Building

- **H.R.4644**
Latest Title: To designate the buildings occupied by the Department of Transportation located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast, in the District of Columbia as the "**James L. Oberstar United States Department of Transportation Building Complex**".
Sponsor: [Rep Lipinski, Daniel](#) [IL-3] (introduced 5/9/2014) [Cosponsors](#) (43)
Latest Major Action: 5/9/2014 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
- **S.2376:** A bill to designate the buildings occupied by the Department of Transportation located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast, and 1201 4th Street, Southeast, in the District of Columbia as the "**James L. Oberstar United States Department of Transportation Building Complex**".
Sponsor: [Sen Klobuchar, Amy](#) [MN] (introduced 5/21/2014) [Cosponsors](#) (1)
Committees: Senate Environment and Public Works
Latest Major Action: 5/21/2014 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.
- **Motion:** MIPRC resolution of support for HR 4644/S2376; send the resolution to the Midwest delegations in both the House and Senate?

Thank you!

Questions?