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Americans for Transportation Mobility Statement on Transportation and Infrastructure Spending Challenges

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The Americans for Transportation Mobility (ATM) Coalition today issued the following statement:

“The House FY 2015 budget resolution highlights the stark reality of the federal Highway Trust Fund and the transportation and infrastructure funding challenge before Congress and the administration.

“In short, without congressional action to identify revenues for the Highway Trust Fund, highway, transit, and highway safety programs could be zeroed out in FY 2015 to align spending with projected resources.

“If this occurs, it would jeopardize hundreds of thousands of jobs and perpetuate the uncertainty stemming from a trust fund that cannot support the next reauthorization—or even the entirety of FY 2014 spending. Already, project sponsors are limited in their ability to adequately plan. Contract lettings are slowing. Companies are unable to make informed capital investment and hiring decisions. Investors in publicly and privately held companies see a black cloud over construction and related sectors. Workers will be sidelined without paychecks.

“Addressing the nation’s surface transportation challenges will require both private and public resources. At the federal level, the government needs to do all it can to remove barriers to and provide incentives for private investment in financeable transportation projects. However, without transportation-related revenues—in particular user fees—there is no Highway Trust Fund, through which funds flow largely by formula to all 50 states for the fundamental reconstruction and expansion of roads, bridges, and transit systems.

“Congress and the administration must solve the Highway Trust Fund revenue problem this summer in order to maintain or increase investment and move from perpetual uncertainty back to multi-year bills with firewalls and funding guarantees.”

The Americans for Transportation Mobility Coalition is a nationwide group representing business, labor, highway, and public transportation interests and concerned citizens that advocate for improved and increased investment in the nation's aging and overburdened highway and public transportation system.