



U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

PRESS RELEASE

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Summary: FY 2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations

Full Committee Mark

	Budget Authority Only	Total Resources
FY 2009 Enacted:	\$117.1 billion	
FY 2009 Nonemergency	\$55 billion	\$109.1 billion
FY 2010 Request	\$68.9 billion*	\$123.2 billion
Subcommittee Mark	\$67.7 billion	\$122.0 billion

**The amount listed as the President’s budget request does not include \$39.4 billion in budget authority from the general fund for transportation programs usually funded from the Highway Trust Fund. The administration later said that this proposal was meant only to highlight the need to improve the balances of the Highway Trust Fund. Unless otherwise noted, all fiscal year 2009 figures reflect FY 2009 Omnibus enacted levels, and do not include funds provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) or fiscal year 2009 supplemental bills.*

Washington, DC - Overall, the fiscal year 2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill includes total resources of \$122 billion, including the budget authority and the limitations on obligations. This amount is \$12.9 billion or 12 percent above the equivalent 2009 enacted level, and \$1.2 billion or about one percent below the President’s Request.

The bill helps our communities and transportation system by focusing on five priority areas:

- Investing in transportation infrastructure;
- Providing housing and services to our Nation’s most vulnerable;
- Supporting our communities and addressing the foreclosure crisis;
- Ensuring the safety of our transportation system; and
- Promoting sustainability in our communities.

Investing in transportation infrastructure

Funding for Significant Transportation Projects: \$1.1 billion for grants to support significant transportation projects in a wide variety of modes, including highways and bridges, public transportation, passenger and freight railroads, and port infrastructure. The funding requires the Secretary to allocate no less than \$250 million for projects in rural communities.

Intercity and High Speed Rail Grants: \$1.2 billion for investments in intercity and high speed rail grants. This funding will build on the \$8 billion provided as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Highway Investments: An additional \$1.4 billion in funding is provided for highway investments. This funding is added to the \$41.1 billion provided in the bill for the Federal-Aid Highway program, resulting in a total of \$42.5 billion for highway investments.

Transit Investments: An additional \$480 million above the President's budget request for the transit "New Starts" program. This funding supports projects across the country that provide new or expanded public transportation services.

Airport Investments: \$3.5 billion for capital investments at airports across the country.

Providing housing and services to our Nation's most vulnerable

Section 8 Tenant-based rental assistance: Over \$18.1 billion for housing choice vouchers. This level of funding is \$1.16 billion above the fiscal year 2009 enacted level and \$301 million above the President's request. This funding is critical to ensuring that our Nation's low-income families, especially those hit hard by the recession, can maintain safe affordable housing. It includes:

- \$16.339 billion for the renewal of current housing choice vouchers;
- \$75 million for 10,000 new HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers for homeless veterans; and,
- \$20 million for new family unification vouchers to assist youth aging out of foster care and families separated because of a lack of housing.

Project-based rental assistance: \$8.1 billion for the project-based section 8 program, including over \$7.8 billion for the renewal of all expiring project-based contracts for a full 12 months. This level of funding is \$600 million above the fiscal year 2009 non-emergency enacted level and equal to the President's budget.

Homeless Assistance grants: \$1.875 billion for homeless assistance grants. This level of funding is nearly \$200 million above the fiscal year 2009 enacted level and more than \$80 million above than the President's request. This funding responds to the needs of the increasing number of homeless families.

Housing for the Elderly: \$785 million for housing for our nation's low-income elderly. This level of funding is \$20 million above the fiscal year 2009 enacted level and the President's budget. The funding will be used to increase the supply of affordable housing for the Nation's growing elderly population.

Housing for the Disabled: \$265 million for housing for our Nation's disabled. This level of funding is \$15 million above the fiscal year 2009 enacted level and the budget request. This funding will provide housing options for the disabled to live independently.

Housing opportunities for persons with AIDS (HOPWA): \$320 million to increase housing assistance for persons living with HIV/AIDS. The level of funding is \$10 million above the fiscal year 2009 enacted level and the President's request.

Supporting our communities and addressing the foreclosure crisis

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG): \$3.99 billion is provided for CDBG grant funding for States and communities across the Nation. The allocation is \$350 million above the level of non-emergency funding provided in fiscal year 2009. This funding will assist states and communities that are struggling with the recession with their continued efforts to invest in and support the needs of low-income communities.

HOME Investment Partnership: \$1.825 billion for the HOME Investment Partnership program, which is equal to the level of non-emergency funding provided in fiscal year 2009 and the President's budget. This funding supports the creation and rehabilitation of low-income housing across the country.

Native American housing block grants: \$670 million for Native American housing block grants. This level of funding is \$25 million above both the level of non-emergency funding provided in fiscal year 2009, and the President's budget. This level of funding will support the housing and community development needs of Native Americans.

Capital Grants for the creation of affordable housing: Within the overall amount provided for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, \$45 million is provided for additional capital grants for the NeighborWorks organization to develop and finance affordable housing projects in communities across the country, especially in rural communities.

Housing Counseling: A total of \$165 million for housing counseling efforts. This includes \$100 million for HUD's housing counseling activities including foreclosure prevention activities as well as pre-purchase counseling. In addition, \$65 million is included to continue the National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling program that began in fiscal year 2008.

Ensuring the safety of our transportation system

Pipeline Safety: Funding is provided to increase the number of pipeline inspection and enforcement positions by 18. This level will meet the authorized number of inspectors, which is critical to overseeing over 2 million miles of pipeline that run through communities across the country.

Rail Safety: \$50 million is provided for grants to invest in railroad safety technology, including positive train control. This program will help railroads meet the requirement included in the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 that Class I railroads implement positive train control systems by the end of calendar year 2015.

Aviation Safety: \$2.5 million is provided to increase the air traffic controller workforce by 50 controllers. Air traffic controllers play a central role in ensuring the safety of air transportation. An additional \$18.5 million is provided to increase the number of aviation safety inspectors by 200 inspectors.

Transit Safety: \$150 million is provided for grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for capital investments. The bill includes language requiring WMATA to place the highest priority on projects that will improve the safety of the transit system.

Promoting sustainable communities

Sustainable Communities Initiative: \$150 million within HUD's Community Development Fund to promote integrated housing and transportation planning. Joining HUD in this initiative will be the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency. The funding included in the bill will provide grants for integrated housing and transportation planning efforts on both the regional and local level.

Choice Neighborhoods: \$250 million for HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Initiative. This new initiative will expand the successful HOPE VI program. While continuing to focus on improving public housing, it also will address the needs of other HUD-assisted housing. In addition to improving housing and revitalizing poor communities, it also promotes better access to schools, transportation, jobs and other services.

Transit Energy Efficiency Grants: \$100 million for grants to help transit agencies make capital investments that will reduce the energy consumption or greenhouse gas emissions of their operations.

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