

# TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2018

## Omnibus Agreement Summary

The following are highlights of the FY2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill:

The final agreement provides \$70.3 billion in discretionary spending, which is a \$12.6 billion increase above FY2017 and \$22.5 billion above the budget request. Of the \$12.6 billion increase, nearly \$10 billion supports our nation's transportation and housing infrastructure.

### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The agreement includes \$27.3 billion in FY2018 discretionary appropriations for the Department of Transportation (DOT) and \$58.9 billion in mandatory appropriations. Within this amount, funding is prioritized on programs to make the transportation systems safe, efficient, and reliable.

**Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)** – \$47.5 billion for the Federal-aid Highways Program, of which \$45 billion is from the Highway Trust Fund, consistent with the authorized level in the FAST Act, and \$2.5 billion in additional funding from the general fund. The bill continues a provision to allow old, unused earmarks to be repurposed for transportation projects that can be built today.

**TIGER Grants** – \$1.5 billion, a \$1 billion increase from the FY2017 enacted level, for TIGER grants, which are also known as National Infrastructure Investments.

**Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** – \$18 billion in total budgetary resources for the FAA, \$1.6 billion above the FY2017 enacted level and \$1.9 billion above the request. This will provide full funding for all air traffic control personnel, including controllers, engineers, maintenance technicians, safety inspectors, and operational support personnel. The bill includes an increase to the Contract Towers program ensuring all existing towers within the program will be fully funded. The bill also provides more than \$1.2 billion in the FAA Next Generation Air Transportation Systems (NextGen) to help ease future congestion and reduce delays for travelers. Additional flexibilities are provided to the FAA in order to prevent delays to the modernization of the air traffic control system. The agreement includes more than \$100 million to further support the integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

**Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)** – \$3.1 billion, \$1.3 billion above the FY2017 enacted level. The bill includes \$863 million in rail grants to support the implementation of Positive Train Control (PTC), make rail infrastructure improvements, and restore or enhance passenger rail service. Amtrak is provided \$650 million for the Northeast Corridor and \$1.3 billion to support the National Network. In addition, \$25 million is provided to support Rail Rehabilitation & Improvement Finance (RRIF) loans. The bill also provides \$262 million to support rail safety and research programs, including inspectors and safety personnel to help ensure the safety of passengers and local communities.

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA)** – \$13.5 billion in total budgetary resources for the FTA, including \$10.6 billion for transit formula grants, of which \$9.7 is from the Highway Trust Fund and \$834 million is from the general fund. The bill provides a total of \$2.6 billion for Capital Investment Grants (“New Starts”), to fully funding all current grant agreement, and fund all new projects expected to be ready for grant agreements. The bill also provides \$150 million for WMATA.

**National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau** – \$3 million for the National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau, which was created by the FAST Act to promote efficiency by creating a “one-stop shop,” consolidating the administration of several DOT programs (TIFIA, RRIF, PAB, and INFRA grants).

**U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD)** – \$979.6 million, \$457 million above the FY2017 enacted level, for MARAD to increase the productivity, efficiency and safety of the nation’s ports and intermodal water and land transportation. The Maritime Security Program is funded at the authorized level of \$300 million. The agreement includes \$332 million for State Maritime Academies, including \$300 million to construct a new SMA training ship, which is essential for continuing a strong merchant marine workforce. The agreement also provides \$7 million for the Marine Highway program to help mitigate landside congestion, \$20 million for the Assistance to Small Shipyards Program, and \$116 million for decommissioning of the Nuclear Ship Savannah.

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)** – \$844.8 million for the FMCSA, of which \$87 million is for border enforcement facilities and \$100 million is for a highly automated vehicle research and development program.

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)** – \$947.2 million in total budgetary resources for the NHTSA, \$36 million above FY 2017 enacted levels.

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)** – \$272.3 million for the PHMSA, which includes funding to ensure the safe operations of underground natural gas storage facilities.

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

The agreement includes a total of \$42.7 billion for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Within this amount, funding is prioritized to preserve critical rental assistance for vulnerable low-income families, including seniors, disabled, homeless, and veteran headed households. These funds also support locally-driven economic development and the construction of new affordable housing.

**Section 8 Rental Assistance** – \$33.5 billion for tenant-and-project-based Section 8 rental assistance, which is critical to maintain existing rental assistance for the nearly 3.5 million households who would otherwise be at risk of homelessness.

**Public Housing** – \$7.5 billion for public housing programs. These programs meet the housing needs of 1.1 million families and individuals, of which 52 percent are elderly and or

disabled. The agreement also increases to 455,000 the number of public housing units that can participate in the Rental Assistance Demonstration.

**Preserving Housing for the Elderly and Disabled** – \$907.6 million to continue existing housing projects in the Section 202 and Section 811 programs, which provide housing targeted to elderly and disabled households. The agreement includes \$105 million for the development of new elderly housing, and \$82.6 million for new disabled housing.

**Housing and Community Development Needs of Native Americans** – \$821 million for housing and community development programs for Native American tribes. The agreement includes \$7 million for training and technical assistance to improve program delivery for Native American families.

**Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)** – \$3.3 billion for the CDBG formula program. CDBG provides grants to state and local governments to support efforts to create locally-driven solutions to community and economic development challenges. Instead of a top-down approach, where the federal government tells grantees how to use these funds, CDBG's broad framework can be adapted to local needs and solutions for developing viable urban and rural communities, expanding economic opportunities, and improving quality of life for persons of low- and moderate-income.

**Combatting Homelessness** – \$2.5 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants, which includes \$80 million for grants to end youth homelessness in urban and rural areas. The bill also includes an additional \$20 million for Family Unification vouchers targeted to youth exiting foster care and at risk of homelessness and \$40 million for new VASH vouchers for homeless veterans. VASH vouchers have been critical to reducing veterans' homelessness by 46 percent since 2010.

**Lead Paint Hazards** – \$230 million for the Lead Hazard Reduction program, which funds the remediation of lead paint in homes with young children.

**HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)** – \$1.4 billion for the HOME program to create affordable housing for low-income households.

**Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)** – \$375 million for the HOPWA program. This funding level ensures that grantees do not lose funding as a result of the recent formula change which better reflects the HIV/AIDS epidemic today.

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