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| **U.S. Senate Budget Resolution Includes Qualified Tax Credit Bond Proposal For Transportation**  Earlier this week, U.S. Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), in her capacity as Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on the Budget, released the outline of a  Federal Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Resolution. The resolution includes a proposal for an infusion of federal funding for transportation projects, citing the fact that the “World Economic Forum now rates the quality of U.S. roads 20th in the world, just ahead of Taiwan and Cyprus.” Specifically, the budget resolution offered by Chairwoman Murray includes a proposal to permit the use of qualified tax credit bonds for transportation projects, which is similar to our agency’s Board-approved America Fast Forward Transportation Bond initiative. According to a document released by Senator Murray’s office in concert with the budget resolution, “Traditionally, the federal government used tax-exempt bonds to support infrastructure investments by state and local governments. However, according to the Congressional Budget Office, tax-credit bonds offer a more cost-effective way for the federal government to support state and local investments.” Our agency looks forward to working with Chairwoman Murray and her Ranking colleague on the Senate Committee on the Budget, U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL), to advance our America Fast Forward Transportation Bond proposal during the first session of the 113th Congress. Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130315_Murray_2014_Budget.pdf) to view the transportation portion of the Budget Resolution released by Chairwoman Murray this week.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130315_Murray_2014_Budget.pdf> |
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