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| |  | | --- | | **Thursday, June 27, 2013 130627-01**  **In this Issue:**  **U.S. Senate Confirms Charlotte, NC Mayor Anthony Foxx as new Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation**  **U.S. House and Senate Appropriations Committees Approve Fiscal Year 2014 Transportation Funding Bills** | | |
| **U.S. Senate Confirms Charlotte, NC Mayor Anthony Foxx as new Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation**  The U.S. Senate has just voted unanimously to confirm Anthony Foxx, mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina, to be the 17th United States Secretary of Transportation. Metro staff have already begun outreach to the newly confirmed Secretary and we look forward to working with Secretary Foxx to advance Metro’s projects and programs. We would also like to thank Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood for all of his efforts in supporting Metro’s federal transportation program during his tenure.  **U.S. House and Senate Appropriations Committees Approve Fiscal Year 2014 Transportation Funding Bills**  This morning the U.S. House Appropriations Committee approved by a 28-20 vote their $44 billion Fiscal Year 2014 Transportation Appropriations spending bill. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved by a vote of 21-8 their $54 billion Fiscal Year 2014 Transportation Appropriations bill. Each bill establishes total budget authority for the Departments of Transportation, and, Housing and Urban Development. The Senate bill appropriates $10 billion more than the House Appropriations bill. Both House and Senate bills include $8.6 billion for Formula and Bus Grants programs and $40.2 billion for the Federal-Aid Highways program. The Senate bill provides $1.9 billion for the Capital Investment Grant program which includes funding for our two New Starts projects upon approval of the Full Fund Grant Agreements. The House bill provides $1.8 billion for the Capital Investment Grant program. A Conference Committee will now be brought together to address both bills. Metro federal advocates and staff will continue to in support of the Senate funding for the Capital Investment Grant program. I will continue to keep you apprised as these bills move through this next phase in the legislative process. |
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