

PB Washington Update - June 29, 2012 - Interim Update

Today was a very busy and historic day on Capitol Hill for transportation issues. At 1:10 PM EDT the House voted 261 to 163 to pass its version of the FY'13 THUD (DOT) annual appropriations bill. The Senate still must pass its version of the funding bill and is expected to do so later in July..

Then at 1:23 PM EDT, the full House passed HR 4348 (MAP-21), the two-year highway and transit authorization bill, by a vote of 373 to 52. All Democrats voted for the bill with 52 Republicans voting against the bill. This is the long-awaited successor to SAFETEA-LU. The bill was passed as part of a package that also included bills on student loan rates and flood insurance.

The Senate is now debating the MAP-21 conference report/bill and is expected to vote on final passage later this afternoon. The bill is expected to pass although 60 votes are required for passage.

The final bill will then be transmitted to the White House where President Obama is expected to sign it before COB June 30. The House and Senate will be on recess next week.

More details about the specifics of both the appropriations bill and MAP-21 will be distributed early next week.