

Highway Finance  
Presentation  
before the  
Texas Transportation Forum

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# National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission

- 12 Members
- Highways, transit, intercity freight rail, intercity passenger rail
- Short, medium and long-term perspectives
- Commission's charge: needs, federal role, and financing
- Schedule: December 31, 2007

# Status of Commission's Work

- Hearings completed
- Analyses ongoing
- Started our deliberations
- Meetings in July and August
- Draft report by end on September

## Quote

“You’ve got to be very careful if you don’t know where you are going because you might not get there.”

--Yogi Berra

# National Transportation Crisis

- Crisis in system performance
- Crisis in funding
- Crisis in policy

# Other National Priorities

- Need to reduce dependence on foreign oil
- Need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

# The Commission's Challenge

- If we are going to ask the American people to pay, we need to establish a covenant with them.
- We need to tell them what they will get for their investment, and then we need to deliver.
- That is why a vision is so important.

# Evaluation Criteria

- Adequacy
- Equity
- Efficiency
- Simplicity
- Public Understanding/Support
- User Charge Rationale



# Highway Finance Options

- Fuel Taxes
- Tolling
- Pricing
- Public Private Partnerships

# Quote

“When all else fails, do the right thing.”

--Bud Shuster