

FOIA MARKER

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Folder Title:
Department of Transportation Activities

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PRIORITIES

-- Two key indicators: airlines and maritime reform

Auto. industry.

- il and Mag-Lev
D working w/ National Labs?

-- Clean Air Act and State of California
-- Coast Guard and RSPA

V. Safety - Relation to Health Care Reform

HOT ISSUES

1. Reconciliation Bill and "Transportation Tax"
2. Bilateral Aviation Agreements: UK, Japan, France, Canada, Saudi Arabia
3. GM Trucks
4. Airline Commission Report (in August)
5. Mississippi River
6. High-Speed Rail
7. Chinese Immigrants and Drug Interdiction
8. Drug Testing Regulation - FAA
9. NAFTA
10. National Security Issues

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Established by the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 to assure the coordinated, effective administration of transportation programs of the Federal Government and to develop national transportation policies and programs.

I. MAJOR AREAS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A. United States Coast Guard

- o Maritime safety--search and rescue, maritime aids to navigation, marine inspection and mariner licensing, and maintenance and operation of bridges.
- o Environmental protection--oil spill clean-up, and vessel and waterfront facility inspections.
- o Law enforcement--drug interdiction, immigration, fisheries enforcement, and environmental protection.
- o National security--defense readiness for maritime defense zone and polar icebreaking.

B. Federal Aviation Administration

- o Safety regulation--encompassing manufacture, operation and maintenance of aircraft, rating and certification of airmen, and certification of airports.
- o Airspace and air traffic management--operating and maintaining the air traffic system.
- o Air navigation facilities--operation and quality assurance of Federal visual and electronics aids to air navigation.
- o Airport programs--administering a grant program for development of public use airports, and establishing standards for airport design and safety.
- o Aircraft registration--maintaining a system for aircraft registration including documentation of aircraft engines, propellers and spare parts.

C. Federal Highway Administration

- o Federal-aid highway program--funding for construction of highways on the Federal-aid highway system, congestion mitigation and air quality improvement, and special purpose demonstration projects.
- o Motor carrier safety--establishing standards for motor carrier "over-the-road" operations, conducting on-site reviews of motor carriers, and assisting States in the enforcement of International Registration and Fuel Taxes.
- o Technical assistance--design and construction of highway facilities to service National Forests and Parks, and assessing disaster caused damage to roads and bridges.

D. Federal Railroad Administration

- o Railroad safety--inspecting operating practices, locomotives and rolling stock, and promoting safety-related research and development.
- o Railroad development--administering Federal assistance and grant programs for national, regional and local rail services.

*Highway Paul &
Nagler
Wetmore*

E. Federal Transit Administration

- o Financial assistance--administers several programs which provide for the development of improved mass transportation facilities, encourage the planning of areawide mass transportation systems, and funding of capital projects in urbanized areas.

F. Maritime Administration

- o Financing U.S. maritime industry--provides funds to offset operating costs differentials, guarantees full payment on private bonds to finance vessel construction, and provides for deferral of income taxes on funds used for construction.
- o National Defense Reserve Fleet--maintains inactive commercial vessels for use in a national emergency.

- o Maritime training--runs the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and financially supports six State maritime academies.

G. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

- o Rulemaking--establishes Federal standards for motor vehicle safety, automotive fuel economy, theft and bumpers, and administers consumer information programs on vehicles and equipment.
- o Highway safety--administers State and community safety grants to reduce drunk/drugged driving and to increase compliance with traffic laws, and grants for safety belt and motor vehicle helmet use.

H. St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation

- o Operate and maintain the St. Lawrence Seaway in cooperation with Canada.

II. OTHER

A. Intermodalism

- o Coordinates Federal intermodal transportation policy and provides for improved productivity from the Nation's transportation resources.

B. Commercial Space Transportation

- o Develops and manages a regulatory program and licensing process for commercial launch vehicles and associated services.

C. Research and Special Programs

- o Hazardous materials transportation--develops and enforces standards for the manufacture of packagings, preparation of shipments and operations of carriers for hazardous materials.
- o Pipeline safety--develops and enforces pipeline safety regulations, conducts inspections of interstate pipelines, and trains State inspectors for assuming authority over intrastate pipelines.
- o Emergency transportation--serves as the crisis manager for preparedness and response to transportation emergencies worldwide.