



## Transportation Funding

### **Policy Position Statement:**

The Florida League of Cities SUPPORTS legislation that will allow cities to have greater local decision-making and flexibility on transportation funding to ensure we meet our ever-changing transportation demands.

### **Background:**

Transportation infrastructure is paramount to the prosperity of all cities. It greatly affects quality of life by influencing people's decisions about where to live, work and spend their free time. For more than 60 years, the federal government has helped states pay for highway repair and construction through the Highway Trust Fund, which relies primarily on federal gas tax revenue. But in recent years, inflation and the growth in the number of both electric and more fuel-efficient gas-powered vehicles means that drivers are buying less gasoline and paying less gas tax.

With over 126 million visitors each year and more than 900 people moving to Florida each day, the state's transportation infrastructure is rapidly declining. Our roads and bridges are getting older and falling into disrepair, costing more to maintain and improve. Some of these increased costs are directly attributable to technological advancements that are necessary to implement a "smart transportation infrastructure" where train stations, bus stops, airports, and car- and bike-sharing stations become integrated parts of one big, open high-speed connected communications network.

Transportation projects are often the catalyst for economic development and the result of growth within a community. Florida's municipalities need a transportation program that adequately funds our state's transportation needs, takes a smart approach to all forms of transportation and provides local governments with the certainty they need for planning and funding transportation projects.

**Contact:** Jeff Branch, Senior Legislative Advocate – 850.701.3655 – [jbranch@flcities.com](mailto:jbranch@flcities.com)