



End of Week Summary: November 30, 2018

State Update

It appears that there will be no action on transportation funding issues during the lame duck session, scheduled for January 7 and 8. Instead, we will be focused on a spring 2019 effort to address inadequate investment in the state's transportation infrastructure. Toward that end, TFIC staff and leaders continue to have conversations and to provide background information to policymakers and their staffs. While Governor-elect Pritzker has not yet announced a transportation transition team, it is likely that the team will be announced soon. Staff will continue to update TFIC members as developments warrant.

Thank you to those who have helped us identify local Letter-to-the-Editor signatories. We will be working with these individuals who will begin placing letters about the importance of transportation investment in December in papers throughout the state. Look for future announcements of additional opportunities to get your members involved.

Federal Update

The Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee talked about his interest in keeping federal infrastructure dollars flowing through formula and appeared

open to exploring a transition to a VMT type tax for infrastructure. Upcoming Senate Commerce Committee Chairman Roger Wicker (R-MS) said that if the President publicly announced his support for a gas tax increase he would consider it seriously. In the House, the expected Ways and Means Chairman said he intends to make finding a long term funding solution for surface transportation a priority of his committee. However, he also intends to hold hearings on reworking the tax reform law passed in 2017 and to subpoena the President's tax returns. Whether those actions will get in the way of bipartisan agreement on infrastructure is a key question for 2019. [Politico](#) and [Associated Press](#) for more

Calendar

Monday, December 10. 3:30pm. State House Committee by conference call and at Filson/Gordon offices in Springfield.

December Federal Affairs meeting cancelled

News

[Gas Tax Hike Needed to Fund Capital Bill, Says City Transportation Commissioner](#)

Chicago Sun Times

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Our mailing address is:

Transportation for Illinois Coalition

312 S. Fourth Street, Suite 200

Springfield, IL 62701

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