



December 9, 2015

[PNWA Website](#) - [About PNWA](#) - [Action Agenda](#) - [PNWA Events](#) - [News](#) - [Contact Us](#)**In This Issue:**[Congress passes five-year transportation bill](#)**Congress passes five-year transportation bill**

On December 4th, the first long-term transportation bill in over a decade was signed into law by President Obama. Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, or the FAST Act, received great bipartisan support in Congress and provides \$305 billion in transportation funding over the next five years.

Included in the bill is \$4.5 billion in grant funding over five years for road, rail, and multimodal freight projects as part of the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects program. This program will help to boost freight mobility projects, and has \$500 million set aside for multimodal projects and \$450 million set aside for smaller projects that range from \$5 to \$100 million. The National Highway Freight Program received \$6.3 billion in funding of first and last mile connections for freight movement. Ports and local governments are able to apply and compete for grants from both programs. Senator Cantwell's office highlighted the successful inclusion of her freight program proposals in the final bill, and included a statement from PNWA, accessible [here](#).

PNWA's membership has been very supportive of long-term surface transportation reauthorization. We thank our Northwest Congressional delegation and their staff for ensuring our region's ports and industries were well represented as this bill was developed.