

Board of Directors

Meeting date: October 21, 2026

Agenda Item #: 11

Discussion of the Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Comment Letter

Agenda item type: Action item

Summary

Proposed DRCOG comment letter on the draft Build America 250 Act, the initial Congressional effort towards surface transportation reauthorization.

Background

The current surface transportation authorization, known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), was set to expire on October 1, 2026. The Senate extended the provisions of the BIL – but not all of its funding (advance appropriations were excluded) via Continuing Resolution (CR) until December 11, 2026.

In the meantime, Congress has begun working on reauthorization. The major effort to date has been the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's release of the draft [Build America 250 Act](#). Though it has not yet been approved by the full House, nor has any Senate Committee yet released draft bill text, the Act is a major first step as it includes 1,000+ pages of detailed text that could serve as a template or vehicle for further legislative efforts.

Given the Act's importance in the reauthorization legislative process, DRCOG staff prepared the attached comment letter (Attachment 1) intended for the Senate as it begins its work on reauthorization. To develop the letter, staff analyzed the Act's major provisions against DRCOG's [2026 Policy Statement on Federal Legislative Issues](#) (Attachment 2). Based on that analysis, the proposed letter discusses the Act's provisions that DRCOG supports along with those of concern.

At the October Board meeting, DRCOG staff will provide an overview of the Build America 250 Act and DRCOG's proposed comment letter.

Action by others

None.

Previous discussion/action

None.

Recommendation

Move to approve the attached DRCOG comment letter on the draft Build America 250 Act.

Attachment(s)

1. DRCOG comment letter on Build America 250 Act.
2. Build America 250 Act policy analysis.

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Douglas W. Rex, Executive Director, at 303-480-6701; or Jacob Riger, Transportation Planning and Operations Director, at 303-480-6751 or jriger@drcog.org.

