

October 1, 2003

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Tom Schwetz

Subject: Item 4e(1)(b): Congress Passes 5-month Extension of TEA-21

TEA-21 expired on September 30th. On Wednesday, September 24th, the House of representatives adopted legislation to lengthen existing highway and transit funding for five months(H.R. 3087). On Friday, September 26th, the Senate moved to adopt the House extension. There was little debate on the extension and no amendments. This extension buys congress additional time to work out funding differences that have bogged down negotiations on a six-year reauthorization bill.

The five-month extension will provide more than \$14 billion for highways and \$3 billion for transit programs. The extension will also provide continued funding for highway safety programs using current law program structures. It will tie funding levels to the FY '04 budget resolution and keep in place all policies authorized in TEA-21.

Action Requested: Information only.