



## A Message from the FBT President



### Happy New Year!

We at Floridians for Better Transportation (FBT) are off to a great beginning for our year-long recognition/celebration of 30 years of “moving Florida forward”! Our “Reboot” has been completed, and if you haven’t seen our new website, then check it out now at [www.bettertransportation.org](http://www.bettertransportation.org)! This marks the first of the bi-weekly e-newsletters you will be receiving from FBT. Your time is extremely valuable, and we will honor that with fast-facts and relevant news to keep you apprised of transportation industry issues, legislative briefings and upcoming events. If you have a transportation event of statewide interest that you would like to have included in a future update, please send it to me at [spatrenos@bettertransportation.org](mailto:spatrenos@bettertransportation.org).

*Sally*

Sally S. Patrenos  
President

## Newsorthy

### GETTING TO KNOW YOUR LEGISLATORS

While it is important to know *all* legislators, these are the ones who will be shaping any potential legislative additions/changes to our Florida Statutes relating to transportation and mobility choices. If you don't know them already, now is a great time to get acquainted!

[House Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee Members](#)

[Senate Transportation Committee Members](#)

[House Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee](#)

[Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development](#)

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### Mixed Signals on Infrastructure Plan

President Trump expressed misgivings about his administration’s infrastructure plan Friday at Camp David, telling Republican leaders that building projects through public-private partnerships is unlikely to work — and that it may be better for the



government to pursue a different path.

[Full Article](#)

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## 2018 Legislative Session: Cracking Down on Texting & Driving

Support is growing to make Florida the 46th state in which texting while driving is a primary offense, meaning that police could stop and ticket motorists for that reason alone.

[Full Article](#)



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## Civil Engineers Support New Senate Bridge Bill

Just-introduced legislation from U.S. Senate Democrats that would pour \$75 billion over a decade into a new competitive grant program for repairing the nation's structurally shoddy bridges has received overwhelming support even before being assigned a bill number.

[Full Article](#)

# Upcoming Events

## January 8th

Annual Associated Industries of Florida Reception to honor the Legislature  
5:30 to 8 PM (invitation only)

## January 9th

2018 Legislative Session opens

## January 30th

Florida Trucking Day at the Capitol in Tallahassee; includes the Board of Directors Meeting (3:00 PM) and Legislative Reception (5:30 PM). For more information, call (850) 222-9900.

## February 8-9

Florida Construction Conference; Hyatt Regency International Drive, Orlando; For information, contact FTBA at (850) 942-1404.

**February 14th**

Florida Public Transportation Association/CTD Legislative Awareness Day at the Capitol; For information, call (850) 878-0855.

**July 16-18**

2018 Transportation Summer Camp, The Renaissance Vinoy, St. Petersburg; Registration opens soon and sponsorships are available! For information, call Sally Patrenos at (850) 933-1386. Or for further details, visit our [website](#).

## **January's Spotlight Sponsors**

The logo for HNTB, featuring the letters 'HNTB' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A small orange square is positioned to the left of the letter 'H'.The logo for the Florida Ports Council. It features the word 'FLORIDA' in a grey, spaced-out, sans-serif font at the top. Below it is a blue compass rose with a white center. To the right of the compass rose is the word 'PORTS' in a large, blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the word 'COUNCIL' is written in a grey, spaced-out, sans-serif font. Horizontal lines separate 'FLORIDA' from the compass rose, and 'PORTS' from 'COUNCIL'.

Floridians for Better Transportation | [www.bettertransportation.org](http://www.bettertransportation.org)

