



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! 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.

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)



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'.

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