

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

Overview: The Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) mission is to ensure that our Nation has safe, secure, and efficient rail transportation that enhances the quality of life for all. The FY 2006 budget request of \$552 million supports our commitment to continue and improve the Nation's strong railroad safety record. It also provides funding to ensure the continuation of operations in the Northeast Corridor and elsewhere.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

(Dollars In Millions)

	<u>2004 Actual</u>	<u>2005 Enacted</u>	<u>2006 Request</u>
Amtrak/Passenger Rail	1,218	1,207	360
Safety & Operations	130	138	146
Research & Development	34	36	46
Next Generation High-Speed Rail	37	19	0
Alaska Railroad Rehabilitation	25	25	0
Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Program	6	--	--
TOTAL	1,449	1,425	552



FY 2006 Budget

Grants to the National Passenger Rail Corporation/Intercity Passenger Rail: The FY 2006 request of \$360 million would provide funding to STB to allow the agency to oversee the continuation of commuter operations in the Northeast Corridor and elsewhere should Amtrak cease commuter rail operations as the future of intercity passenger rail is determined.

Safety & Operations: Safety remains FRA's most important performance segment. The request for FY 2006 includes \$146 million to support the Department's goal of reducing railroad accidents and incidents, while contributing to the avoidance of serious hazardous materials incidents in rail transportation. The FY 2006 budget reflects an increase of 5.8 percent over the FY 2005 enacted level for this account. The new initiative includes funding for two new safety positions to conduct inspections at facilities where tank cars are built or repaired.

Research & Development: In FY 2006, \$46 million is requested to support research efforts in the areas of rail systems safety, track and structures, train occupant protection, human factors in train operations, rolling stock and components, track and train interaction, train control, grade crossings, hazardous materials, and transportation and research development facilities and test equipment. The request is an increase of more than \$10 million over the FY 2005 enacted amount. The increase will be used to implement a revised plan to install the Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System. The overall funding level enables FRA to continue various research projects in support of the Department's safety mission.

Railroad Rehabilitation Infrastructure Financing (RRIF): Consistent with the Administration's intent to eliminate corporate subsidies, no new credit assistance will be provided under the RRIF program in FY 2006.

