



# COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Contact: Kirstin Brost, Full Committee, 202-225-2771  
Hunter Ridgway, Chairman Olver, 202-225-5335

## FY 2008 OMNIBUS SUMMARY: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

### Bill Total

<b>2007 Enacted:</b>	<b>\$46.7 billion</b>
<b>President's Request:</b>	<b>\$48.0 billion</b>
<b>Omnibus:</b>	<b>\$48.9 billion</b> – Base Bill
	<b>\$195 million</b> – Emergency Funds: I-35 Bridge in Minnesota

### KEY INVESTMENTS

**TRANSPORTATION:** \$65.5 billion, including \$54.5 billion in mandatory budget authority and \$11 billion in discretionary budget authority, \$313 million below 2007 and \$1.1 million below the President's request.

### TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

**Highway Infrastructure:** \$40.2 billion in mandatory budget authority, \$1.1 billion above 2007 and \$631 million above the President's request, to improve and maintain our nation's aging highway infrastructure. The President's budget was below the level guaranteed in SAFETEA-LU, the highway authorization bill (passed by the Republican Congress, signed into law by President Bush).

**Investment in Aging Bridges:** \$1 billion is provided, above the guarantees, to address aging bridges throughout the nation following the I-35 bridge collapse. When added to the base highway program, this \$41.2 billion investment in highway infrastructure will create an additional 100,000 new jobs across all sectors of the economy.

**Minnesota Bridge Reconstruction:** \$195 million for the repair and reconstruction of the I-35W bridge in Minnesota that collapsed on August 1, 2007.

**Amtrak:** \$1.3 billion, \$31 million over 2007 and rejecting the President's \$394 million cut, which would have guaranteed Amtrak's bankruptcy. This will continue current services and improve railway infrastructure. Last year, Amtrak posted a record ridership of 24.3 million passengers.

- Includes \$30 million for new grants.
- Prohibits Amtrak from moving any of its jobs overseas.

**Federal Transit Administration:** \$9.4 billion, \$348 million above 2007, including \$169 million above the President's request for Capital Investment Grants for commuter rail or other light rail systems to increase public use of mass transit, alleviate traffic congestion, reduce gas consumption, and save commuters money while reducing pollution.

**Airport Modernization, Safety and Efficiency Grants:** \$3.5 billion, rejecting the President's \$765 million cut to grants to ease congestion improve safety and reduce noise.

## **TRANSPORTATION SAFETY**

**Federal Aviation Administration Safety** (including inspectors and critical safety staff): \$1.1 billion, \$73 million above 2007 and \$24 million above the President's request, including \$16 million to continue funding 57 inspectors and certification staff initially hired in 2007 and \$8 million to hire additional critical safety staff for things like inspecting airplane manufacturers and carriers to ensure that they meet high safety standards.

**Air Traffic Control Modernization:** \$2.5 billion, \$52 million above the President's request to speed deployment of the next generation of air traffic control equipment.

**Highway Safety:** \$599.3 million, \$11.5 million above 2007 and matching the President's request, to encourage safety belt use, prevent drinking and driving, improve child safety, and other initiatives.

**National Transportation Safety Board Safety Investigators:** \$84.5 million, \$5.2 million above 2007 and \$1.5 million above the President's request, to provide additional investigators to respond to and investigate transportation crashes.

**Pipeline Safety:** \$79.8 million, \$4.9 million above 2007 and \$5.2 million above the President's request, to provide additional investigators and needed R&D to protect against hazardous material spills.

**HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:** \$37.6 billion, \$1.4 billion above 2007 and \$2 billion more than the President's request.

**Section 8 Tenant Based Vouchers:** \$16.4 billion, \$499 million above 2007 and \$433 million above the President's request, to renew approximately 1.9 million vouchers currently in use. The President's request would force between 40,000 and 80,000 families and individuals to lose their housing vouchers.

**Section 8 Project Based Vouchers:** \$6.4 billion, \$405 million above 2007 and \$568 million above the President's request, to provide affordable housing to 1.3 million low-income families and individuals.

**Public Housing Operating Fund:** \$4.2 billion, \$336 million above 2007 and \$200 million above the President's request, for administration of public housing, including routine maintenance, anti-crime activities and energy costs. This is still \$800 million below the amount HUD and Public Housing Authorities have determined is necessary for 2008.

**Community Development Block Grants:** \$3.6 billion, \$117 million below 2007, but rejecting the President's plan to cut the program by \$822 million, to fund community and economic development projects in 1,180 localities.

**Foreclosure Mitigation Assistance:** \$180 million for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation to address the subprime mortgage crisis. Counseling intermediaries will assist thousands of borrowers with mortgage modification and restructuring to help preserve their homes.

**Housing for Special Populations:** 14,300 new vouchers will be provided to vulnerable populations, including 7,500 for Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (\$75 million), 4,000 for non-elderly, disabled individuals and families (\$30 million), and 2,800 for the Family Unification Program so that children will not be separated from parents (\$20 million).

**Housing for the Elderly:** \$735 million, rejecting the President's proposed 28% cut, for the acquisition, rehabilitation or construction of housing for low-income elderly people. Ten eligible seniors are on the waiting list for every one unit of housing available.

**HOPE VI:** \$100 million, \$1 million above 2007, rejecting the President's proposal to eliminate the program and rescind last year's funds for competitive grants to revitalize neighborhoods by replacing outdated public housing with new mixed-income housing.

**Housing for the Disabled:** \$237 million, rejecting the President's proposal to cut the program by \$112 million, maintaining last year's level for grants to finance housing for disabled people.

**Brownfields Redevelopment:** \$10 million, the same as 2007, rejecting the President's plan to eliminate efforts for evaluation and cleanup of former commercial and industrial sites.

**Lead Hazard Reduction:** \$145 million, \$29 million over the President's budget request, to protect children against hazards such as lead paint and mold.

## **RURAL COMMUNITIES**

**Essential Air Service:** \$125 million, rejecting the President's \$60 million cut, to continue essential air service to small and/or rural communities. The President's proposal would have resulted in the elimination of air service to nearly a third of the communities that currently receive service.

**Small Community Air Service Development Program:** \$10 million, rejecting the President's plan to eliminate the DOT grant program to help small communities attract commercial air service.

**Rural Housing and Economic Development:** \$17 million, roughly the same as 2007 and rejecting the President's plan to eliminate the program, to revitalize economically depressed rural communities.

Compare to the [House passed bill](#).