

Infrastructure Safety Think-Tank Tackles Highway Trust Fund Solvency

The Public Institute for Facility Safety (PIFS), the think-tank arm of the Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure, published a paper this week in conjunction with the National Infrastructure Week. The paper aims at developing solutions for funding the Highway Trust Fund.

Quickly approaching the deadline cutting off funding to the nation's highway infrastructure network, policymakers must take action in addressing the funding mechanism for the nation's transportation system.

The report examines several currently proposed solutions and dives into several new and innovative solutions to sustain funding for the nation's infrastructure.

Several key points include:

- Examining how the Highway Trust Fund (HTF), in its current form, is not sustainable and is obligated to spend more than it collects.
- Determining a number of factors that led to the gap between excise tax collections and HTF spending obligations - notably, the increasing disconnect between those who pay and those who benefit.
- Asking policy makers to acknowledge and consider the positive and negative aspects of current solutions as well as recognize new ideas, or combine popular aspects of existing ideas to create new solutions.
- Exploring a new idea, which would improve solvency in the short-term, provide mechanisms for a long-term solution, and protects consumers from facing tax increases and high gas prices, simultaneously.

The report can be found at PIFSafety.org.

For more information on the Alliance for Innovation and Infrastructure, visit AiiWire.org.

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