

Transportation Investment\$ in Florida

Presentation by FBT President Doug Callaway before the
Senate Community Affairs Committee
110 Senate Office Building - Tuesday, December 14, 2004

Opening Remarks – Thanks & Appreciation

- Florida's economy is really "transportation-based!"
(...versus *Tourist-based* or *Agricultural-based*)

Staggering Transportation Needs –

- From 2005-2014, we need an additional \$22.7 BILLION ... just to "maintain" today's transportation conditions!
- According to FDOT,
 - Lane miles are increasing at 0.9% annually,
 - Population is increasing at 2.1% annually,
 - VMT is increasing at 3.9% annually, and
 - Delay (*on FHHS*) is increasing at 4.2% annually.

Benefits of Transportation –

- Every dollar invested yields \$5.50 economic benefit

Costs of Congestion –

According to the 2003 Urban Mobility Report, published by the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University:

- Florida had the most congested cities in the top 58 urban areas (8).
- **Orlando drivers waste more time in traffic than N.Y. City drivers!**
- The eight Florida areas with the worst traffic congestion are:

- Miami-Hialeah
- Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood-Pompano Beach
- Orlando
- Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater
- West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach
- Fort Myers-Cape Coral
- Jacksonville, and
- Pensacola

Congestion "robs us" of our most precious possession -- our TIME. Once wasted sitting in traffic instead of being spent with family, friends or coworkers, it's gone forever!

A Proposed Solution –

"Investment\$ in Motion" is a proposal that would provide over \$17 billion more for transportation in Florida over the next ten years -- without raising the state gas tax!

FBT believes that inaction is NOT an option and that we CAN solve this problem in ways that are consistent with traditional conservative values and principles.

The Investment\$ in Motion plan would create multiple "winners" for Florida by generating the following over the next ten years:

- \$127 million more for the General Revenue Fund,
- \$3 billion more for Local Governments to use in meeting transportation needs,
- \$14.3 billion more for the State Transportation Trust Fund,
- \$383 million more for the Tourism Promotional Trust Fund, and
- \$141 million more for the Florida International Trade and Promotion Trust Fund.

Clearly, the nearly \$18 billion that Investment\$ in Motion would provide is a lot of money. But, the Investment\$ in Motion plan is actually LESS than what's needed to keep our state's transportation conditions from getting WORSE each year!

Investment\$ in Motion is a serious proposal that we hope will jump-start a much-needed dialogue about this important and timely issue.

Simply put, transportation is essential to virtually everything we do in Florida. That's why FBT asks the two following questions of Florida's state leaders:

- 1.) If not the "Investment\$ in Motion" plan ... then what?
- 2.) If not now ... when?

Closing – Thank you.