

FLORIDIANS FOR BETTER



TRANSPORTATION

STATE TRANSPORTATION – INFO BRIEF

During the 2003 Florida Legislative Session, \$200 million was diverted from the Transportation Trust Fund. This action not only broke faith with the motoring public – *who paid this \$200 million in the first place* – but it directly contradicted information released by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) earlier this year.

In February, FDOT produced a study indicating that \$5.50 is generated for every \$1.00 invested in the Department's Five-Year Work Program. Then on March 4th, the Department made public a draft report showing that an additional \$2.7 billion was needed each of the next 17 years – just to maintain current transportation conditions.

Taking \$200 million from the Transportation Trust Fund was not only the wrong thing to do from a principled standpoint, it also made little economic sense. In the 2004, we need to **PROTECT** the State Transportation Trust Fund, and **USE** the funds for TRANSPORTATION. Here's why:

- What was true in 2000 when Mobility 2000 was enacted is still true today... **TRANSPORTATION MAKE\$ DOLLARS AND SENSE FOR FLORIDA.**
- Florida is poised to take advantage of the emerging markets of Central and South American in the 21st Century. But a good location without good access is a prescription for failure.
- Transportation investments lead to prosperity, while the continued failure to wisely spend Florida's transportation user fees will lead to economic decline.
- Transportation investments don't contribute to any of the state's budgetary woes ... but they are needed to enhance the quality of every Floridian's life.

Remember, ***TRANSPORTATION MAKE\$ FLORIDA WORK!***

Douglas J. Callaway, President – FBT
136 S. Bronough Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301 - (850) 521-1256
dcallaway@bettertransportation.org
www.bettertransportation.org