

CRISIS

危

A time of danger;

机

A time of opportunity;

"Life is tough.  
Life is tougher if you're stupid."  
-John Wayne

## A Time of Opportunity

January 2009

The Chinese symbol for the word "crisis" is made up of two characters representing "**danger**" and "**opportunity**."

So literally a time of crisis – like the economic recession we're in now – is both a dangerous one, but also filled with opportunity.

That's why FBT, as a business and transportation association, is:

- a strong advocate for PROTECTING existing transportation revenues – so vital for helping improve our ailing economy – and
- a proponent of finding additional NEW dollars to do transportation projects today at a fraction of their original price.

Two or three years ago, Florida DOT was only getting one or two bids for many projects, and often they were at significantly higher dollar amounts than planned. Now, DOT is getting numerous bids for most projects and at far less than the cost projected.

Clearly, the OPPORTUNITY before Florida is simply this:

1. *Fully Fund and* increase transportation funding,
2. *Take full advantage* of this once-in-a-lifetime chance to *stretch* our transportation dollars farther,
3. *Put people back to work* in the process, and
4. *Generate the new revenues* needed to fund other vital areas of state government.

To paraphrase John Wayne, life in Florida right now is tough enough without making it tougher through ill-conceived, though perhaps well-intended actions.

**Floridians for Better Transportation (FBT)**

[www.bettertransportation.org](http://www.bettertransportation.org)

