

Ranking Member John Thune
Questions for the Record
Nomination of Carlos Monje
to be Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Policy
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
Hearing on December 3, 2014

- 1) The Administration has proposed a transition to a “Transportation Trust Fund,” rather than the current Highway Trust Fund. In an era of limited funding, how do you propose to manage the competing funding demands of different modes without placing or shifting the burden for funding one mode onto another?

Answer: The GROW AMERICA Act is a \$302 billion, four-year transportation reauthorization proposal that provides increased and stable funding for our Nation’s highways, bridges, transit and rail systems. Much like the highway trust fund today, which contains separate accounts for highways and transit, the transportation trust fund proposed in the GROW AMERICA Act would have separate accounts that provide funding for highways, transit, and rail, as well as a new multimodal account. State and local governments have made it clear that the budgetary certainty provided by long-term trust fund authorization is an absolutely critical element to being able to plan and make the transformational investments necessary to grow our economy.

The Administration’s proposal is funded by supplementing current revenues with \$150 billion in one-time transition revenue from pro-growth business tax reform. This will prevent Trust Fund insolvency for four years and avoid placing the burden of funding one mode onto another while increasing investments to meet national economic goals.