MITA Transportation Funding News Summary November 4, 2015

Deal: \$1.2B Road Funding Plan Heads To Gov. Snyder's Desk After Legislative Approval

<u>Mlive</u>

November 4, 2015

Michigan's Republican-led Legislature has sent a long-term road funding plan to Gov. Snyder. The seven-bill package will pump an additional \$1.2 billion a year into crumbling infrastructure through a combination of higher taxes and spending reprioritization.

House Speaker Says Road Funding Getting In Way Of Other Issues <u>Michigan Public Radio</u>

November 1, 2015

State House Speaker Kevin Cotter said the Legislature needs to "address road funding, get it signed, put it behind us and then focus on energy and Detroit Public Schools."

Finley: Gov. Snyder – Break A Leg, Or Several The Detroit News

October 31, 2015

In this editorial, Nolan Finley writes: "Lawmakers who are blocking a road funding deal their leaders have signed off on should feel some serious misery. There should be a run on plaster casts at the local hospital. Because if a deal is going to get done, Gov. Rick Snyder is going to have to break some legs."

Berman: Show Me A Hero To Save Michigan's Roads

The Detroit News

October 29, 2015

Laura Berman writes about the lack of action on road funding, but draws attention to odd legislation that would protect taxpayers from Good Samaritan lawsuits if they smash someone's car windows after a car accident to heroically save an animal. She writes: "Show me a lawmaker willing to smash through windows to get a roads bill passed. That's my idea of a hero."

Will Snyder Give Us Straight Talk Or Lipstick on Roads? Detroit Free Press

October 29, 2015

This editorial writer says that even if the governor "feels constrained to swallow the irresponsible House plan, the governor owes Michigan motorists an explanation of its shortcomings, and a fair warning about the new shortfalls and hard choices it will foist on his successors."

Snyder Sees 'Strong Momentum" For Road Funding Deal Despite Senate Delay <u>Mlive</u>

October 28, 2015

Snyder said in a statement that his optimism regarding a road funding deal was informed by discussions with Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and House Speaker Kevin Cotter.

Senate Adjourns Without Consensus On A Fix For Roads <u>Detroit Free Press</u>

October 27, 2015

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof said he plans to meet with his leadership team Wednesday morning to see if a compromise can be made on the road funding plan that passed the House last week.

\$1.2B House Road Funding Plan Set For Swift Action In Michigan Senate <u>Mlive</u>

October 27, 2015

The new road funding package, once fully phased in by fiscal year 2022, would dedicate \$1.21 billion in new funding towards roads.

Michigan Chamber CEO: Inaction On Roads Could Cool Business Investments In State

<u>MiBiz</u>

October 25, 2015

Rich Studley, CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said that bad roads could become more than a nuisance for motorists and act as a disincentive for business investments.

In Our Opinion: Road Funding

The Herald-Palladium

October 25, 2015

This editorial states that it is way past time for Lansing to solve the glaring problem with road funding.

House Passes Sweeping Roads Plan Raising Gas Tax, Fees <u>Detroit Free Press</u>

October 21, 2015

The House passed a plan for roads that includes a gas tax hike, an increase in registration fees and a \$600-million shift of money from the state's general fund. The bills now moves to the Senate for consideration.

Senate Calls For Fast Action On Deal To Fix State Roads

Detroit Free Press

October 20, 2015

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive, challenged the House to put a proposed road funding deal up for a vote.