BUILDING A FUTURE WITH FEDERAL ADVOCACY

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Election Uncertainty
Election Status

- **U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
  - Currently: 235 R…..193 D…..7 Vacancies
  - D’s need to “flip” 23 R seats to take control
  - Good chance that House will flip (5 in 6)

- **U.S. SENATE**
  - Currently: 51 Rs…..49 Ds
  - Up For Election: 26 D seats and 7 R seats
  - Modest chance Senate will flip (1 in 6)
FEDERAL ADVOCACY: WHAT IS IT?
Federal Advocacy

- Members and Committee Staff
  - House Transportation Committee
  - Senate E&PW Committee
  - Senate Commerce Committee
  - House Appropriations Committee
  - Senate Appropriations Committee
  - House and Senate Leadership

- Members and Washington Staff
  - States and Districts along the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor from Mexico to Canada
    - 18 Senate offices
  - P-to-P Caucus
Ports-to-Plains Top Priorities

- Future Interstate designation of the portion of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor from Lubbock, TX, to Laredo, TX.

- Continued upgrading of the entire Ports-to-Plains Alliance Corridor to four-lane, divided highway
Busy 116th Congress

- Major Highway Reauthorization Bill
  - Multi-year
  - Set funding levels and policy for highway programs

- Major Infrastructure Bill

- FY 2020 and FY 2021 Transportation Appropriations Bills

- Omnibus Catch-All Bills
Major Highway Reauthorization Bill--FUNDING
Major Highway Reauthorization Bill--POLICY

- Major Policy
  - Increased funding and the user fees to pay for it
  - Importance of multi-state highway corridors and rural freight
  - Public-private partnerships don’t work on rural highways
  - Streamlining

- National Academy of Sciences Interstate Highway System Study

- Congressionally-directed spending (earmarks)

- Vehicle for future Interstate designation
Major Infrastructure Initiative

- If Democrats win one or both houses of Congress
  - Still “iffy”

- Need for grants (PPPs don’t work)

- Need for rural component

- Possible vehicle for future Interstate designation
Miscellaneous

- House and Senate Transportation Appropriations Bills
  - Discretionary funding
  - Congressionally-directed spending (earmarks)
  - Vehicle for future Interstate designation

- Omnibus catch-all bills
  - Vehicle for future Interstate designation