



TOLLING. MOVING SMARTER.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE, TUNNEL AND TURNPIKE ASSOCIATION

## TOLLING IN BRIEF

Tolling is a smart way to fund and finance the highways, bridges and tunnels that get drivers where they need to go. Convenient, predictable mobility for every American depends on adequate funding for highway infrastructure, and tolling is an essential part of the toolbox of transportation funding options.

### THE GAS TAX ISN'T ENOUGH TO FUND TRANSPORTATION

The 18.4 cents per gallon federal gas tax was last raised in 1993. Since then, it has lost more than 40 percent of its purchasing power. That means the gas tax would have to be raised to 30 cents per gallon to give it the purchasing power it had 20 years ago. Since 2008, Congress has shifted more than \$143 billion from the General Fund to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent. **It's clear: The federal gas tax alone isn't enough to support road infrastructure, and governments need a wider mix of funding options. Tolling is one viable option.**

**Governments need more funding options to keep America moving forward.**

### HIGH TECH TOLLING MEANS NO STOPPING AND WAITING

In the old days, you paid a toll by stopping at a toll booth and handing your money to a toll collector or dropping your coins in a basket. Paying a toll meant stopping and waiting. Not anymore. **Today, most toll roads, bridges and tunnels collect tolls electronically.** As your vehicle passes under a tolling gantry, you pay your toll at highway speeds, using a transponder connected to your account. A November 2012 Reason Foundation study showed that the cost to collect a toll in a mature, all-electronic tolling system is about the same as the cost of collecting the gas tax.

**A modern highway network is a necessary investment in a competitive global economy.**



## FAST FACTS ON THE U.S. TOLLING INDUSTRY

- There are **6,208 miles** of U.S. toll roads. (IBTTA, TollMiner, 2018)
- **35** U.S. states and territories have at least one toll road. (IBTTA, TollMiner, 2018)
- Americans made **5.7 billion** tolled trips in 2011.
- The top 40 U.S. toll operators made **\$14 billion** in capital investments in their facilities over the three years ending in 2011.<sup>1</sup>
- **72%** of Americans believe tolls could help reduce congestion. (HNTB America THINKS Survey, 2016)



The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) is the worldwide association for the owners and operators of toll facilities and the businesses that serve them. Founded in 1932, IBTTA has members in 26 countries on six continents. Through advocacy, thought leadership and education, members are implementing state-of-the-art, innovative user-based transportation financing solutions to address the critical infrastructure challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Follow us on **Twitter @IBTTA** and join the conversation at **#TollRoads**. For more information, visit: **www.IBTTA.org**



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## STATES NEED FLEXIBILITY TO CHOOSE APPROPRIATE FUNDING OPTIONS

America's transportation system is incredibly diverse, from rural highways in sparsely populated states, to commuter roads in large metropolitan areas, to freight corridors between major population centers. No single funding or financing solution is right for every new or existing highway. But tolling may be the preferred option for many projects. **The federal government can't afford to pay for many of the transportation investments the country needs. So state and local governments should have the flexibility to choose the funding tools that work best for them.**

## THE TOLLING INDUSTRY IS HERE TO HELP

The 115<sup>th</sup> Congress faces major decisions on transportation funding. Americans want solutions to the transportation funding crisis, and state and local governments are looking for the flexibility to address it. The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) is ready to work on solutions to *Move America Forward*.

**"There's not a major bridge project in the country that doesn't involve the use of tolls and other creative financing mechanisms."**

*– Kentucky Gov. Steven Beshear, New York Times, February, 2013*

<sup>1</sup> IBTTA 2011 Capital Investment Survey.

