



End of Week Summary

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# End of Week Summary: January 12

## Federal Update

### Trump Infrastructure Plan

TFIC members in DC this week heard indications that the President still plans to unveil an outline for an infrastructure funding package soon. Also this week, the administration said the plan will include reducing the regulatory process projects go through ([more](#)) and President Trump privately floated "a massive increase" in the gas tax ([more](#)). His gas tax proposal was shot down by some Congressional Republican leaders, but Congressman Shuster, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman made no public comments.

Congressman Shuster has in the past said he would not raise the gas tax.

### **Problem Solvers Caucus Infrastructure Proposal**

The Congressional Problem Solvers Caucus released a series of suggestions for an infrastructure funding package. Their suggestions included adjusting the motor fuel tax to inflation, but they did not endorse a specific revenue stream. The Congressional Problem Solvers Caucus is a bipartisan group, with Illinois Congressmen Lipinski, Kinzinger, and Schneider being members. Congressman Lipinski was at the announcement event. His tweet from the event is [here](#). More information about the proposal is [here](#).

### **US Chamber Proposal**

The US Chamber told news media this week that it plans to unveil its own proposal next week for funding an infrastructure plan. US Chamber President and CEO Thomas Donahue was optimistic this week about the chances for an infrastructure deal. [More](#)

### **Positive Train Control**

Congressional Democrats introduced a bill that would require railroads to implement Positive Train Control (PTC) technology by the end of 2018. It would also provide \$2.5 billion in grants for commuter and intercity rail to use to help cover the cost of implementing PTC. [More](#)

### **Social Media**

TFIC's Facebook page now has over 200 likes, with engagement (likes, shares, clicking on links) and reach (number of people who see our posts) both up again this

week. The most popular post this week was video of Jim Reilly's speech to the City Club of Chicago from 2016.

On Twitter, TFIC's impressions (number of people who see our tweets), followers, and mentions all went up again this week. Our most popular tweet highlighted the Problem Solvers Caucus' announcement of infrastructure funding principles.

Want to find us? We are on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

### **News**

[What Would it Take to Fix America's Crumbling Infrastructure?](#)

PBS

[Can Bridges Handle Weight of Platooning Trucks?](#)

Transport Topics

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