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End of Week Summary: May 15, 2020

State Update

Special Session

The General Assembly will be in session May 20-22 to handle necessary work related to the Fiscal Year 2021 Illinois budget as well as actions related to COVID response and recovery. At this point, TFIC is not expecting any significant action related to transportation funding and construction. However, the State House Committee will hold a special call this Monday, May 18 at 3:30 pm to discuss any updates related to expected action. All TFIC members are invited to call in Monday using this conference line: 217-903-4695, no passcode.

Federal Update

On Wednesday, the TFIC co-chairs and Federal Affairs Committee chairs spoke with staff

for Congressmen Mike Bost, Rodney Davis and Dan Lipinski to share updates on Illinois' expected transportation revenue shortfalls and to ask about possible federal relief efforts. It was clear from the conversation that federal policymakers are still considering whether to appropriate relief funds to the 50 states' DOTs as part of the next COVID relief measure and that the Illinois' delegation is supportive of relief for DOTs. The staff told TFIC that outreach to U.S. Senate Republicans is important, and suggested that TFIC member groups reach out to sister organizations in other states to encourage them to advocate with their US Senators in support of dedicated transportation relief.

In the News

[Chicago Area Transit Still Waiting on Stimulus Cash](#)

(WTTW)

[CARES doesn't shield transit agencies from outlook hit](#)

(Bondbuyer)

[Proposed Phase 4 COVID relief provides \\$15 billion for transportation](#)

(AASHTO Journal)

[House spending bill would boost transit, Amtrak, highways](#)

(Roll Call)

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