

# Fair Share for Local Roads



## Local Roads are the Backbone of America's Economy

*Delivering the Daily Connectivity the Public Deserves*

Local roads are the backbone of America's economy, connecting workers to jobs, farmers to markets, and families to opportunity. **Local governments and regions plan for, own, and maintain most of the nation's roads, bridges, and transit systems, yet receive only a fraction of federal highway formula funds.** These networks carry much of the nation's traffic and freight but see little of the investment through fuel taxes and user fees these areas generate.

Strengthening local control ensures taxpayer dollars are spent efficiently and invested where they deliver the greatest return, attuned to the public and its demand. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) raised the local share of federal funding to 25%, but as programs face consolidation, communities risk losing the resources that keep their roads open, safe, and economically strong.

## A Matter of Fairness

Every state relies on its cities, towns, and counties to drive economic growth and keep America moving. **Taxpayers deserve a fair return on what they contribute** through fuel taxes, registration fees, and property taxes that support transportation at every level. This is not about new spending, but about accountability and ensuring that federal dollars are invested where Americans live, drive, and depend on strong local infrastructure.

**34%**

of all VMT nationwide occur on locally-owned roads

**16%**

of state spending reaches locally-owned roads

**49%**

of locally-owned principal arterials are in poor condition

**7%**

of state-owned roads are rated in poor condition

**Congress should preserve and strengthen the local and regional share of federal highway funds, maintaining at least the IIJA standard of ~25% of total funding.**