

**MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 20-23, 2026**

**ONTARIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION**

ISSUE: The reauthorization of the federal surface transportation programs presents a critical opportunity to strengthen the United States’ multimodal transportation system. While surface transportation legislation traditionally focuses on highways, transit, and rail, airports play an essential role within the national transportation network.

ACTION: The Monday Morning Group urges Congress and federal officials to support policies and funding that fully integrate airports into federal surface transportation programs.

Specifically, Congress should:

- **Enhance TIFIA Financing for Airports:** Expand statutory eligibility for airport projects and extend program authority to support large scale terminal, cargo, and multimodal improvements.
- **Improve Ground Access to Airports:** Create a dedicated funding stream within surface transportation programs for highway, transit, and multimodal projects that improve passenger and cargo access to airports.
- **Protect Airport Proprietor Rights:** Affirm local authority to set reasonable operational terms and fees for ground transportation providers to ensure safe, efficient airport operations.

BACKGROUND: Airports are central to the nation’s economic competitiveness, supporting 12.8 million jobs, generating \$619 billion in annual payroll, and producing \$1.8 trillion in annual economic output. With nearly one billion enplanements in 2025 and projections rising to 1.4 billion by 2040 and 1.7 billion by 2050, demand for modern, resilient airport facilities continues to grow. Ontario International Airport (ONT) is a vital gateway for commerce and mobility in Inland Southern California, relying on efficient highways, transit systems, and freight corridors to move passengers, employees, and cargo.

Surface transportation legislation sets federal funding levels and policy direction for programs administered by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration. The most recent reauthorization, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), provided over \$500 billion in transportation programs and more than \$550 billion in additional multimodal infrastructure investments.

Ensuring that airport access and connectivity are incorporated into surface transportation policy will strengthen national mobility, support economic growth, and enhance the resilience of the U.S. transportation system.