

# Friday Facts

"The Voice of the Transportation Industry"



## Legislative Update

### Springfield: IRTBA Meets with Gov. Quinn to talk Capital and Budget

**Governor Pat Quinn** has maintained his threat to withhold his signature from the capital plan until the legislature passes a balanced budget, which would include an income tax increase to plug a multi-billion dollar deficit. The Governor also expressed concern that with the lack of a balanced budget, it would be more difficult to sell the bonds necessary to fund the capital plan. **IRTBA Chairman Tod Faerber** and **President Mike Sturino** met with the Governor yesterday to encourage a resolution of the budget and capital bill impasse. Governor Quinn hinted earlier this week that because the legislature allocated \$400 million in matching funds for federal high speed rail programming, he will consider signing off on the State capital bill sooner rather than later. Stay tuned. **Budget Battles:** Due to the failure to pass a state income tax increase, the legislature had considerably less funding to work with and passed a "bare bones" budget. Governor Quinn is not satisfied with the budget and warned that deep budget cuts particularly in the social service areas will result. Social and other state programs face budget cuts near 50%. Underfunded state pensions were not addressed in the budget passed by the legislature. **Tax Proposals:** The Senate passed a 67% state income tax increase in the closing days of the legislative session. The Senate measure would have raised the personal income tax rate to 5% from the present 3%, with some form of property tax relief. This proposal also contained a similar increase for corporate taxes. The Senate vote was largely along party lines with all GOP members voting no. This bill was not called in the House of Representatives. The House considered the proposal advanced by Governor Quinn that would increase personal income taxes from 3% to 4.5% and corporate taxes from 4.8% to 7.2%. The Governor's proposal fell several votes short in the House as 25 Democrats joined all 48 GOP members in voting against the tax increase. The failure to pass a budget by June 1 means more Republican votes will be needed for the final budget to pass.

### Washington: TIGER Program

TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) is a new ARRA program that provides up to \$1.5 billion through September 30, 2011. TIGER allows the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to make grants to state and local governments on a competitive basis for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region. Projects eligible for funding provided under this program include highway or bridge projects, public transportation projects, passenger and freight rail transportation projects, and port infrastructure investments. TIGER Discretionary Grants may be no less than \$20 million and no greater than \$300 million. However, the Department has discretion under the Recovery Act to waive the \$20 million minimum grant size requirement for significant projects in smaller cities, regions or states. Up to \$200 million of the \$1.5 billion available for TIGER Discretionary Grants may be used to pay the subsidy and administrative costs of the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program if it would further the purposes of the TIGER Discretionary Grants program. Given the average subsidy cost of the existing TIFIA portfolio, \$200 million in TIGER TIFIA Payments could support approximately \$2 billion in Federal credit assistance. Applicants seeking TIGER TIFIA Payments should apply in accordance with all of the criteria and guidance specified for TIGER Discretionary Grant applicants and will be evaluated concurrently with all other applications. [Click here](#) to review the Federal Register notice for this program. The deadline for submitting applications is September 15, 2009.

June 5, 2009  
Number 2009-23

## Congratulations 2009 Inaugural Class of the Emerging Leadership Program!



*Participants attended the  
Washington Fly-In May 19-20<sup>th</sup>.*

**Sean Bulmann**, Gallagher Asphalt  
**Jay Chiglo**, HDR Engineering  
**Eileen Chin**, R. M. Chin & Assoc.  
**Lou Haussmann**, Baxter & Woodman  
**Tom Hein**, Entran, LLC  
**Ryan Holbrook**, Divane Bros. Electric  
**Derek Johnson**, HNTB Corporation  
**Matt LeTourneau**, Jacobs Engineering  
**Mike Mack**, Burns & McDonnell  
**Matt Marketti**, P. T. Ferro Construction  
**Mike Paine**, Dunnet Bay Construction  
**Kevin Piefer**, Curran Contracting Co.  
**Eric Ruth**, Alliance Contractors, Inc.  
**Doug Sandner**, Aldridge Electric Inc.  
**Doug Schultz**, Herlihy Mid-Continent  
**Joe Siddens**, The Will Group  
**Nick Taylor**, Dominic Fiordiroso  
Construction  
**Brian Umbright**, Bowman Barrett  
**Peter Urban**, Kristine Fallon Associates,  
**Mike Wilczak**, RoadSafe Traffic Svstems