



International Right of Way Association Weekly Update

Monday, June 24, 2019

The White House

- Trump Administration - Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao will outline her plans to advance infrastructure improvements throughout the nation in the context of the Department's preferred infrastructure package.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/examining-infrastructure-tickets-63350618405>.
- 2020 Presidential Election – Twenty of the candidates vying for the Democratic Party nomination for President of the United States will participate in debates this Wednesday and Thursday (ten each night) that will take place in Miami, FL and be nationally televised at 9pm Eastern / 6pm Pacific.

Congress

- Both Chambers are in session this week.
- The U.S. Senate will begin consideration of a \$4.6 billion supplemental spending measure, S. 1900, to address the humanitarian crisis at the southern border. The Senate's Appropriations Committee advanced it by a 30-1 vote last Wednesday.
- The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Subcommittee on Transportation and Safety will hold a hearing on technological innovations in transportation on Tuesday, where it will examine the adoption of technology by transportation stakeholders and the effects of technology on the surface transportation network. Witnesses will discuss new technologies in the transportation sector, associated impacts, and the benefits and challenges to deploying such technologies.
<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=57A33FDF-7BF6-463A-823A-A768B184DF73>.
- U.S. House on Friday released its \$4.5 billion version of border crisis supplemental spending. It also plans to take up HR 3055, its second major appropriations package covering spending for multiple departments and agencies including the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Interior and Transportation.
- The House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways and Transit on Tuesday will hold a roundtable titled, "Examining the Role of Mobility on Demand ("MOD") in Surface Transportation Policy," to learn about new opportunities for and challenges faced by transit agencies, cities, and mobility providers related to MOD.
<https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/the-subcommittee-on-highways-and-transit-roundtable-on--examining-the-role-of-mobility-on-demand-mod-in-surface-transportation-policy>.

Analysis

- Both the Senate and House will attempt to wrap up supplemental border spending before the Independence Day recess next week.
- The Senate will likely find more bipartisan support for its version of the border spending measure than the House.
- Both chambers may complete work and send a bill to the President by the weekend, which will likely contain restrictions preventing the President from cutting aid to the Central American nations involved in the crisis, and from spending any of the money on the border wall.
- We will monitor the debates this week for discussions of interest to International Right of Way Association members and report on that next week.