



International Right of Way Association Weekly Update

Monday, November 4, 2019

The White House

- The President stated that he would not commit to anything when it comes to government funding and that whether the government shuts down or not depends on the negotiations. https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-leaves-door-open-to-shutting-down-government-before-thanksgiving/2019/11/03/c16ec718-fe7e-11e9-8501-2a7123a38c58_story.html
- On the campaign trail, the polarizing nature of the Democratic primary is worrying Speaker Pelosi who thinks it will hurt Democrat chances in swing states. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-11-02/nancy-pelosi-is-worried-2020-candidates-are-on-wrong-track>

Congress

- The Senate is in session and the House is in recess this week.
- The Senate passed its first tranche of fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills on Thursday, including funding for federal transportation programs. <https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/468318-senate-passes-first-spending-package-as-shutdown-looms>

Analysis

- The 2020 race and the high-stakes impeachment proceedings are causing DC to be even more polarized than it has been recently. This will play out over the coming weeks as Congress and the President work out a government funding deal. And while Speaker Pelosi and Leader McConnell are consummate deal-makers, the thought of any substantive legislation aside from must-pass items advancing in this political climate seems less and less likely.