



## *Meeting North Carolina's Transportation Funding Needs*

### **Short Term**

**Pass a \$1 Billion Bond:** Jumpstart transportation and transit improvements and repair through legislative authority for a bond. Any infrastructure bond NC takes on must include funding for roads, bridges and transit.

**Stop Diversion and Preserve Existing Funding:** Immediately end the \$80 million diversion from the Highway Trust Fund. Maintain current funding levels – including the gas tax – to prevent further increases in the funding gap.

### **Intermediate**

**Permit Local Option Funding Solutions, Including Tolling of Urban Loops:** Empower citizens to use local resources to meet their unique local transportation needs. Speed completion of urban loops and free up resources for other local and regional transportation improvements. Tolling of urban loops should be included as a local option funding source – so long as revenues are kept locally.

**Align NC's Highway Use Tax with Those of Surrounding States:** Other states impose a vehicle use tax of approximately 5 percent - NC levies only 3 percent. While most have lower vehicle fuel taxes, they make up for the difference in higher highway use and property taxes. Aligning use taxes with surrounding states can generate needed funds through direct user fees.

### **Long Term**

**Reform Transportation Financing System:** North Carolina must develop a sustainable system for meeting its growing mobility demands. Considerations should be given to alternatives to the gas tax such as a fee based on vehicle miles traveled. North Carolinians are traveling more miles and our roadways are suffering more wear and tear, yet less is being put towards maintenance and new projects. Given the rising fuel economy and hybrids, we should create an equitable financing system that adequately addresses the needs of our future.