

**RESET** is a targeted, nonpartisan effort led by the **Committee of 100 (C100)**, the **Council for A Better Louisiana (CABL)**, and the **Public Affairs Research Council (PAR)** focused on four state policy issues: education, state finance, criminal justice, and transportation infrastructure.

**2021 REGULAR SESSION POLICY PRIORITY:**

# Increasing Transportation Investment

Significantly increase Louisiana's annual investment in infrastructure, including roads, bridges, ports, and waterways – enhancing public safety, relieving traffic congestion, and supporting commerce and economic development.

01

## **INVEST IN OUR STATE AND ECONOMY**

Louisiana should make investments that are substantial enough to make a difference in the state's \$14.2 billion backlog of safety, maintenance, and capacity-building projects, as well as the \$15 billion of identified needs, including Priority A and B megaprojects. The investment should enhance the state's economic recovery and long-term competitiveness.

02

## **ENSURE FEDERAL MATCHING FUNDS**

Louisiana must put up resources as a match to receive its share of federal funding for infrastructure projects. A patchwork of special dollars and funding shifts has averted a serious failure in recent years, but the current regular revenue system is insufficient for the future.

03

## **PURSUE ALTERNATIVES WHERE POSSIBLE**

While massive tolling systems and public-private partnerships have helped spur infrastructure in other states, these options have not been as readily applicable to Louisiana. Wherever workable, the state should pursue these opportunities, as well as hybrid and electric car fees and other funding alternatives, to supplement fuel tax revenue.

04

## **CONTINUE EFFICIENCY MEASURES AT THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

According to the state constitution, any new fuel taxes must be placed in a special fund to ensure expenditure on roads, bridges, and other infrastructure, and not on the regular operations of the state transportation department. We must continue to improve efficiencies at the department and apply new resources to real infrastructure.