

Randy Ort

Assistant Chief - Administration



**State Chamber of Commerce
Leadership Class**

Wednesday, February 24, 2016



Arkansas Highway Commission



Organization





AHTD Quick Facts



3rd Largest State Agency
(3,634 Employees)

Maintains
16,418 miles of Highway
7,335 Bridges

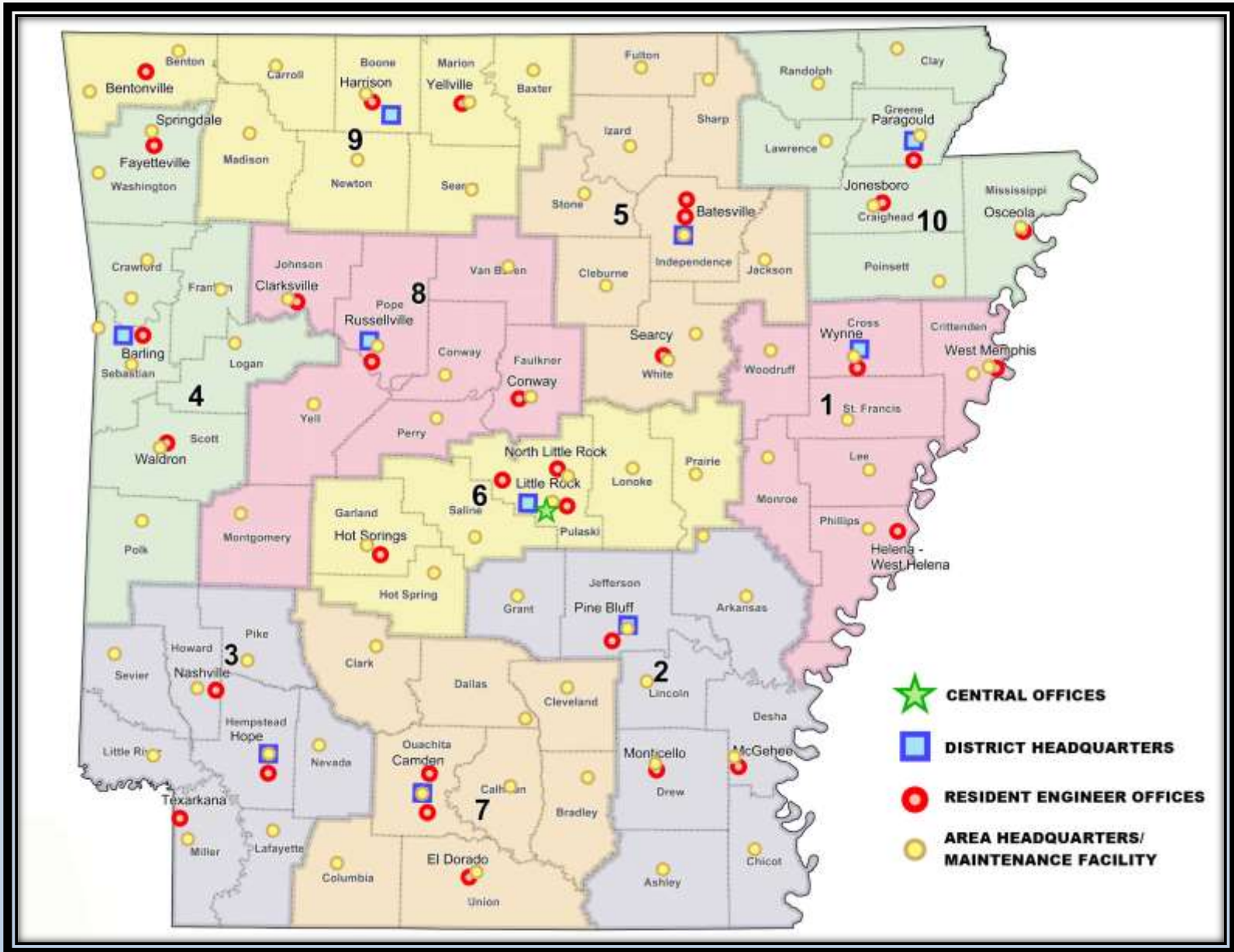
Mission:
Provide a safe, efficient, aesthetically pleasing
and environmentally sound intermodal
transportation system for the user.

Central Offices in Little Rock

10 Districts Statewide

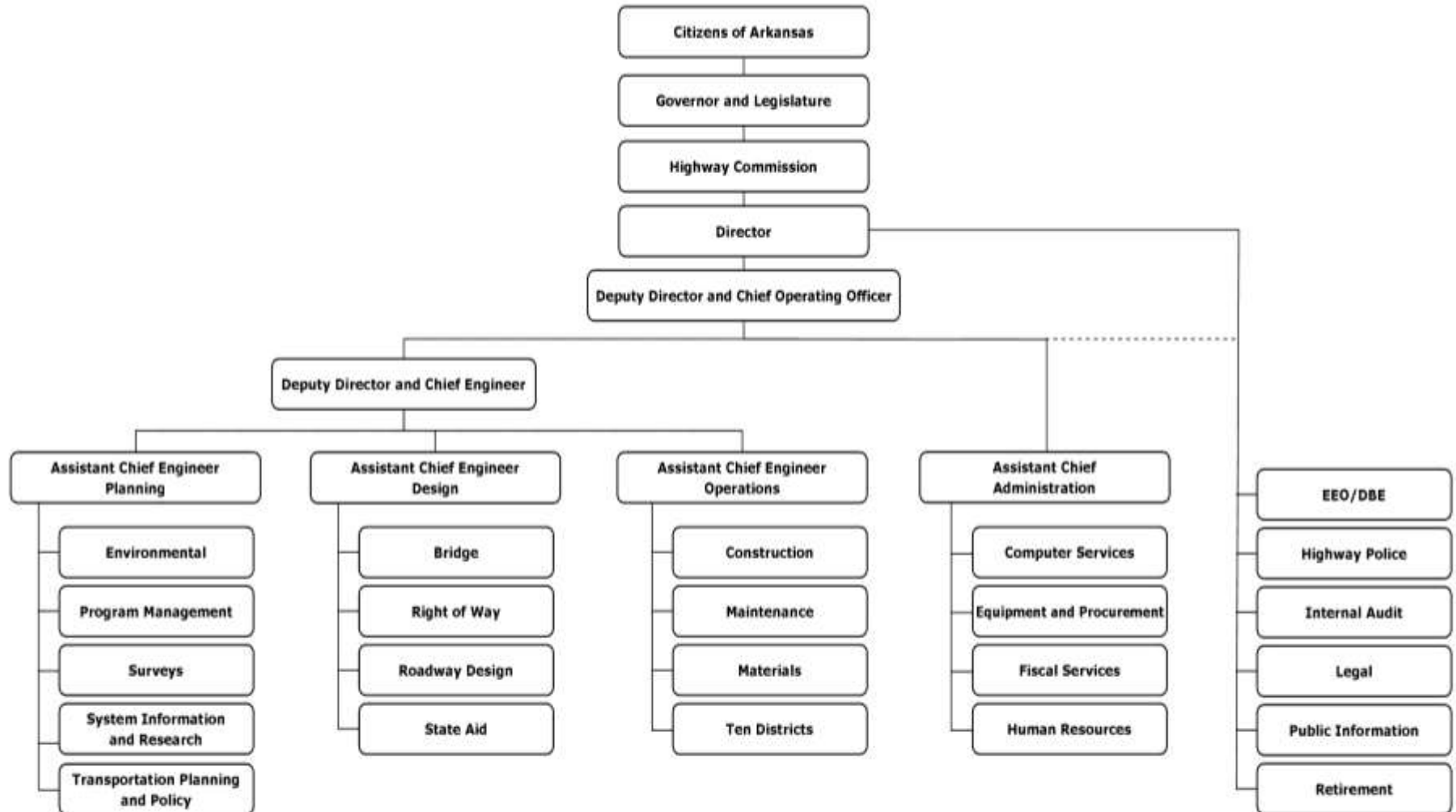


District Organization





Organization Chart



Scott G. Bennett

Director of Highways and Transportation

March 13, 2015

Date

History





Prior to 1913

“We are always yapping about the ‘Good Old Days’ and how we look away back and enjoy it, but I tell you there is a lot of hoey to it.”

– Will Rogers





The Teens

- ***First Commission Created***
 - ✓ ***No Hwy. Department***
 - ✓ ***No Hwy. System***
- ***3,600 Vehicles - \$72,000 Total Budget***
- ***36,000 Miles of Public Roads***

Highway 71 near Bella Vista



The Twenties



Repair Shop of State
Highway Department,
Little Rock, early 1930s



- **Highway System Created**

- **Highway Department Created**

- **First Gas Tax – 1 cent per gallon**

- **200,000 Vehicles/8,800 highway miles (1,400 Paved)**

- **Highway Commission Structure Changed Twice**

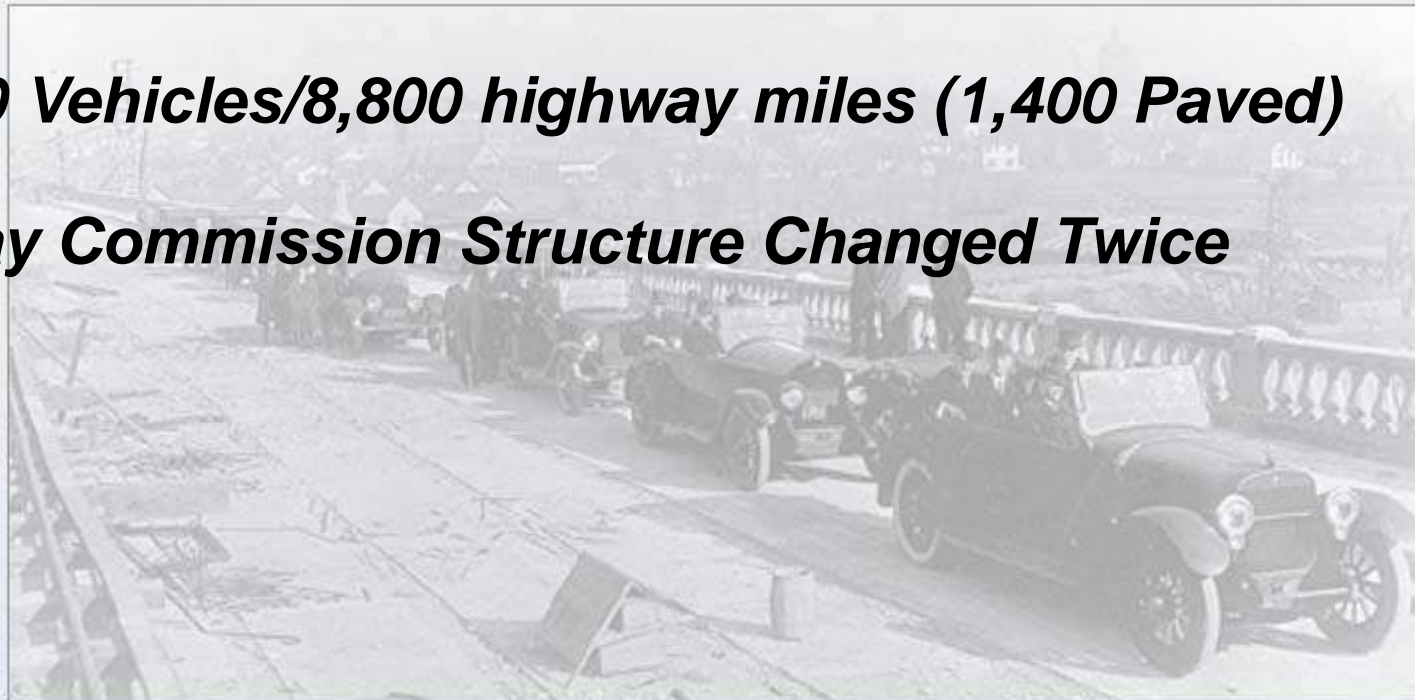
Highway Districts 1923



Highway Districts 1925

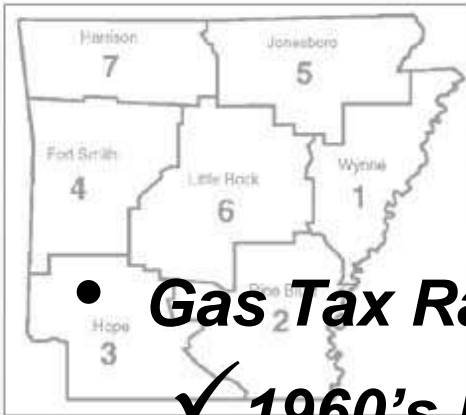


Broadway Bridge dedication,
1922. View is looking towards
North Little Rock





The Thirties



- **Gas Tax Raised to 6.5 cents per Gallon**
✓ **1960's Before Next Increase**



Magnet Truck. Picked up an average of 20 lbs of metal per mile

- **255,000 Vehicles; 9,300 Highway miles (3,000 Paved)**
- **Commission Structure Changed Two More Times**



State Highway Department HQ, 1939





The Forties

- ***World War II – Major Influence***
- ***455,000 Vehicles; 9,700 Highway Miles (4,900 Paved)***
- ***Commission Structure Changed Two More Times***
- ***Too much Political Influence on Highways – Growing Discontent***

Operation of the Henderson Ferry at Norfolk Lake cost \$117,981 for 1947-48. During this period 189,856 vehicles were ferried over at an average cost of 62¢ per vehicle.

Dillard's Ferry, a hand-cranked operation, crossed the Buffalo River at Highway 14 from 1929-1958.





The Fifties



- **1951 - Highway Audit Commission Report**

✓ ***“the advice, counsel and expert know-how which is available from the Department’s own technical and administrative staffs bear scant weight indeed when they are in conflict with the political pressures and political promises of the moment.”***

- **9 Legislative Acts Restructured Commission since 1913**
- **1952 – Mack Blackwell Amendment**

Widening Hwy 67 near
Malvern, 1956

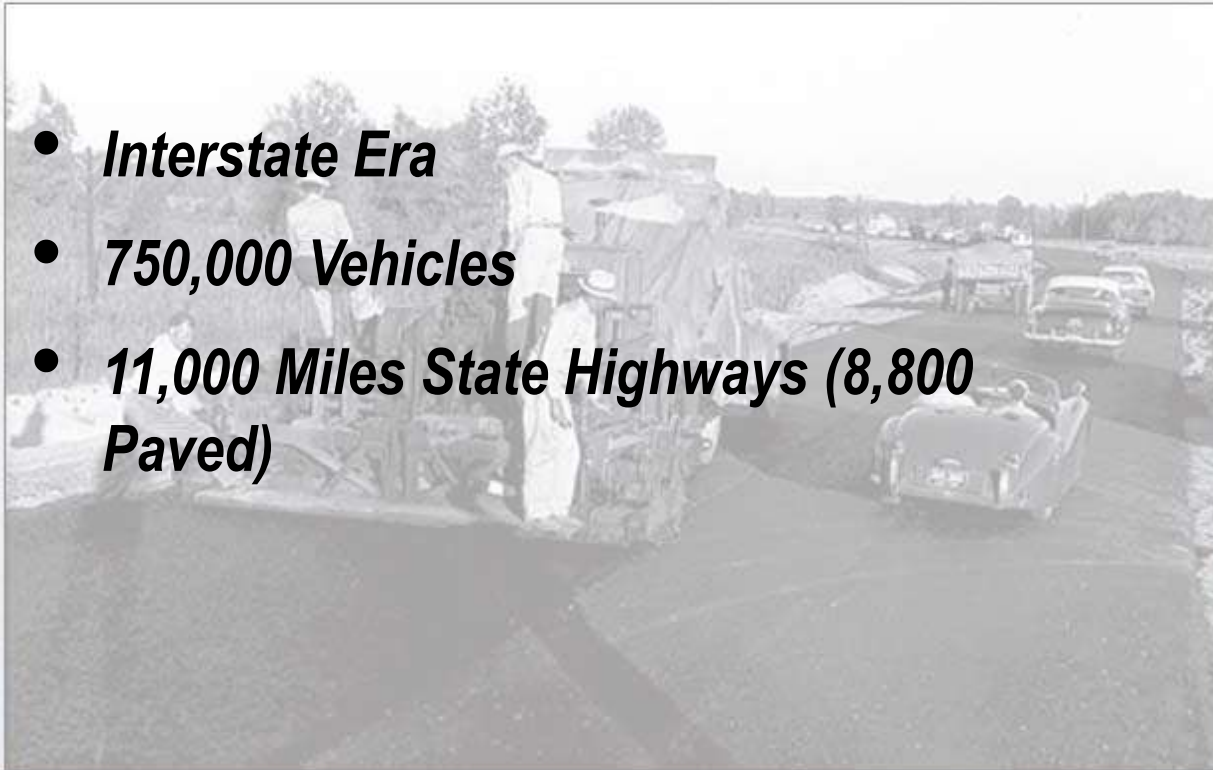




The Fifties



- ***Interstate Era***
- ***750,000 Vehicles***
- ***11,000 Miles State Highways (8,800 Paved)***



Widening Hwy 67 near
Malvern, 1956





The Sixties

- ***No changes to Commission Structure***
- ***Arkansas - National Forefront in Interstate Construction/Completion***
- ***Legislature transferred 3,400 miles of County Roads to Highway System***
- ***1.1 million Vehicles; 14,500 Highway Miles (13,000 Paved)***

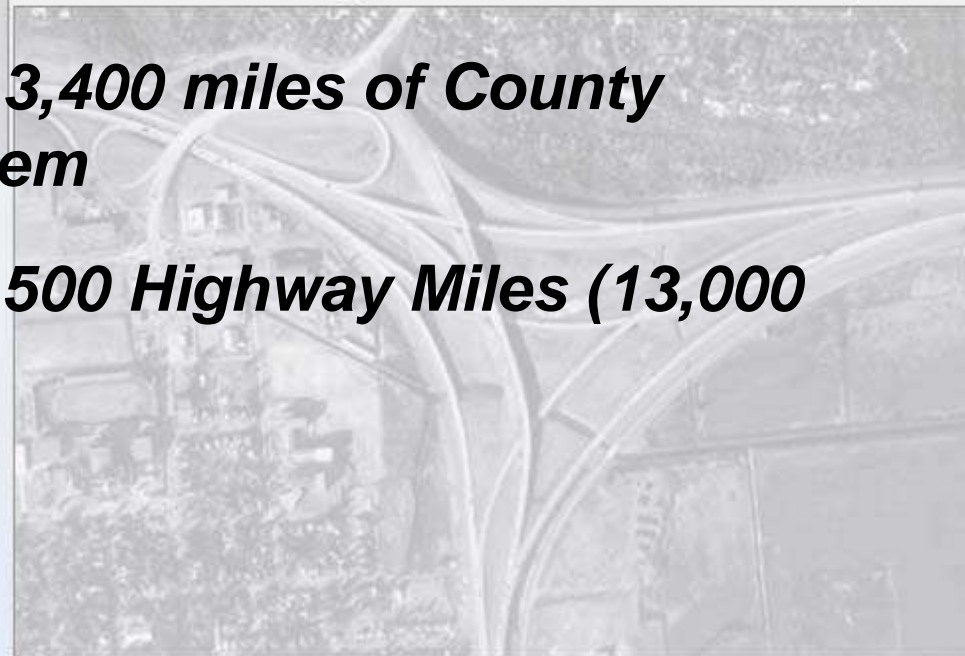
Highway
Department
Complex at I-30
/ Hwy 338, late
1960s



Highway 144, South of Lake Village



Weights & Standards Division, AHD



North Terminal Interchange, 1962



The Seventies

- **Department became Debt Free**
- **Legislature transferred nearly 1,000 more miles of County Roads to Highway System**



South Terminal Interchange



Archie Lawrence Blackwell burning bonds at a ceremony in 1975.

- **Department adds “Transportation” to its name – Authority Expanded**

- **1.7 million Vehicles; 16,000 Highway Miles (15,000 Paved)**



Toad Suck Ferry on Arkansas River at Highway 60, 1970



I-430 River Bridge, 1973

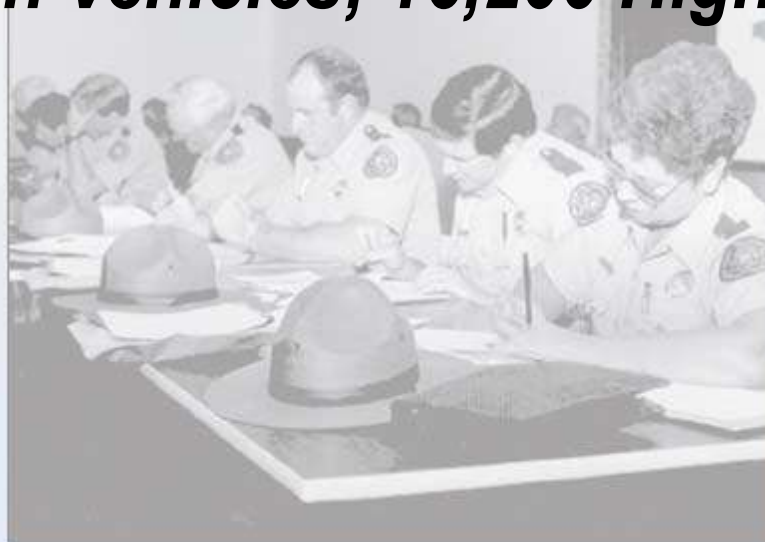


The Eighties



- **1985 - Rural Road Program – out of the mud**
- **Early Retirements – huge workforce turnover**
- **2.0 million Vehicles; 16,200 Highway Miles**

East-West Alignment linking Hwy 270 W and Hwy 70 W in Hot Springs.



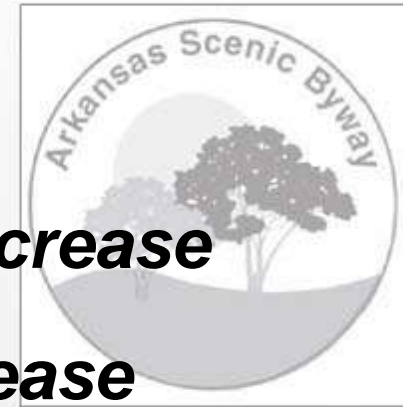
Removal costs reached \$4 M, 1984

Transportation Safety Agency, 1989



The Nineties

- **1993 – Last Federal Gas Tax Increase**
- **1999 – Last State Gas Tax Increase**
- **1999 – Interstate Rehabilitation Program –**
First highway bond issue in 50 years



Section of Hwy 7
Arkansas Scenic
Byway of Arkansas.

1991 Highway Improvement Program planned to improve or replace approximately 560 bridges.

- **I-540 (now I-49) and I-530 completed**
- **2.1 million Vehicles; 16,400 Highway Miles**

Dedication of I-540 and Bobby Hopper Tunnel, 1999





The New Millennium



- **2011 – 2nd Interstate Rehabilitation Program**
- **2012 – Connecting Arkansas Program**



Winter Weather in Dec 2000 and
Jan 2001 cost almost \$40 M.

- **Governor's Working Group on Highway Funding**

- **3.0 million Vehicles; 16,400 miles State Highways**



New White River
Bridge on Hwy 64
at Augusta opened
in 2001.



Today





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Maintains

16,418 miles of Highway
7,335 Bridges

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10 Districts Statewide

Mission:

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Projected Federal & State Revenue

Federal Funds

Est. Avg. Annual Revenue from the FAST Act

\$540 million

State Funds

Est. Avg. Annual Revenue 2017-2019

\$410 million

Total Gross Available

\$950 million





Improvements vs. Revenues

10 Year Projection

(x \$1 million)	
(Revenue and Needs are in 2014 Dollars)	
ESTIMATED FEDERAL-AID AND STATE REVENUE	\$ 3,555
NEEDS	AMOUNT
PAVEMENT	\$ 3,060
BRIDGES	\$ 1,102
CAPACITY	\$ 2,880
SAFETY	\$ 700
EQUIPMENT	\$ 180
FACILITIES	\$ 62
ITS	\$ 27
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 8,011
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	AMOUNT
FOUR LANE GRID SYSTEM	\$ 11,300
NEW LOCATION / NEW OR MODIFIED INTERCHANGES	\$ 820
OTHER MAJOR WIDENING	\$ 230
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 12,350
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 20,361
SHORTFALL	\$ (16,806)



Challenges

➤ **12th** largest system in the country

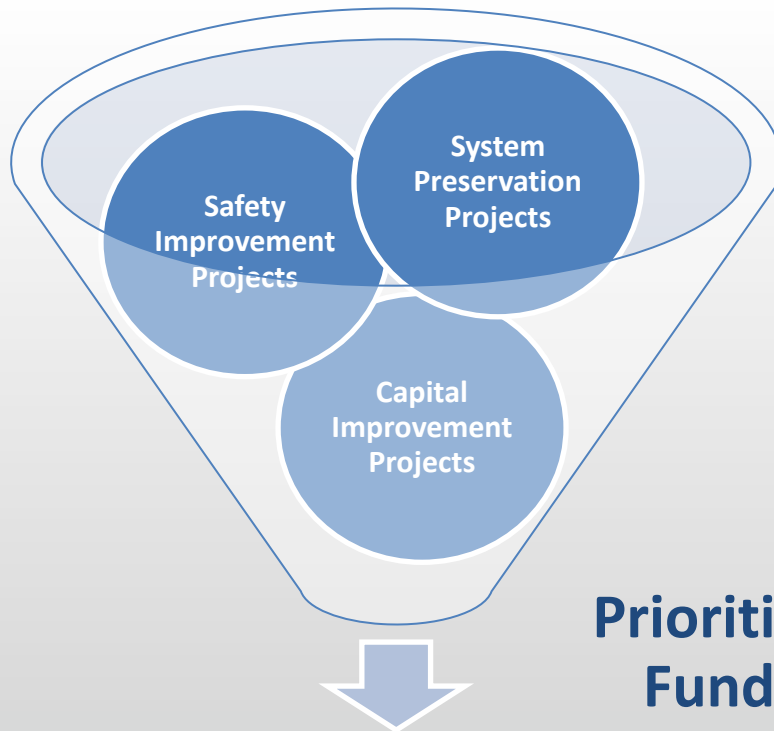
➤ **44th** in highway revenue per mile.

➤ **\$20.4 billion** in needs

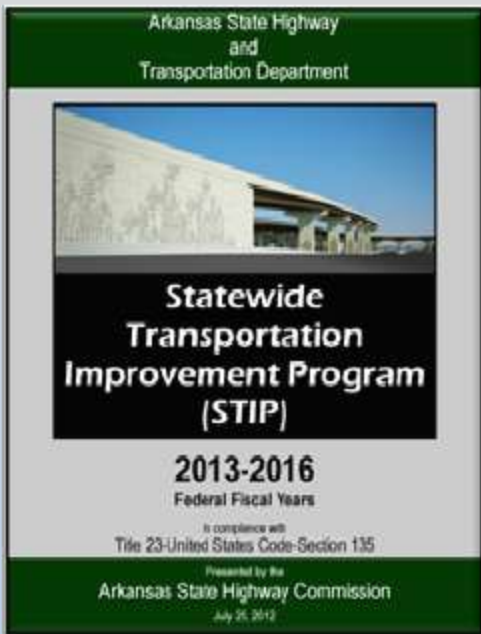
➤ **\$4.0 billion** in available revenue



Scheduling



Prioritized Within the Funding Available





Scheduling

Arkansas State Highway
and
Transportation Department



Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

2013-2016

Federal Fiscal Years

In compliance with
Title 23-United States Code-Section 135

Presented by the
Arkansas State Highway Commission

July 25, 2012



Project Lifecycle



Open Discussion With the Commission





Project Lifecycle





Project Selection

Where do project ideas come from?

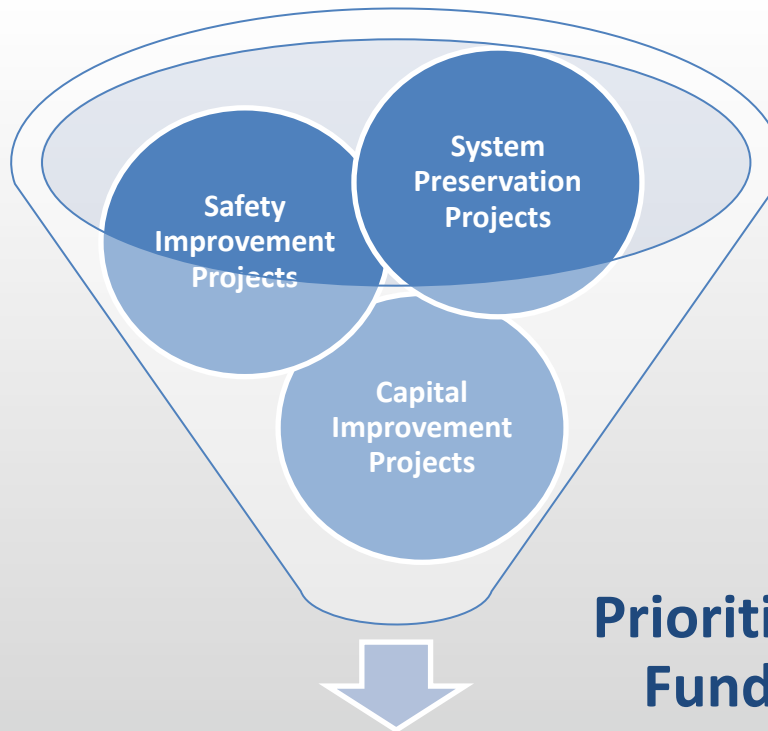
- ✓ Local Agencies
- ✓ Department Staff
- ✓ Elected Officials
- ✓ The Public

How do we evaluate projects?

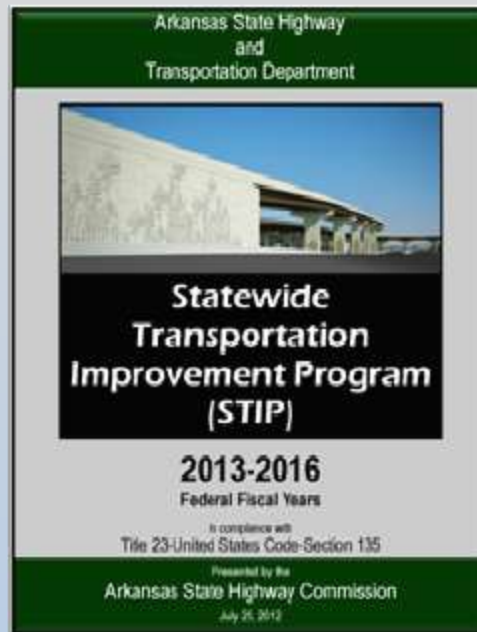
- ✓ Engineering Analysis (data)
- ✓ Safety factors
- ✓ Connectivity
- ✓ Economic Development
- ✓ Public Input



Scheduling



Prioritized Within the Funding Available



Class Exercise





CLIP Results

Safety Projects

Project #	CLIP 1	CLIP 2	CLIP 3	CLIP 4	CLIP 5
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
TOTAL \$\$					



CLIP Results

Bridge Projects

Project #	CLIP 1	CLIP 2	CLIP 3	CLIP 4	CLIP 5
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
TOTAL \$\$					



CLIP Results

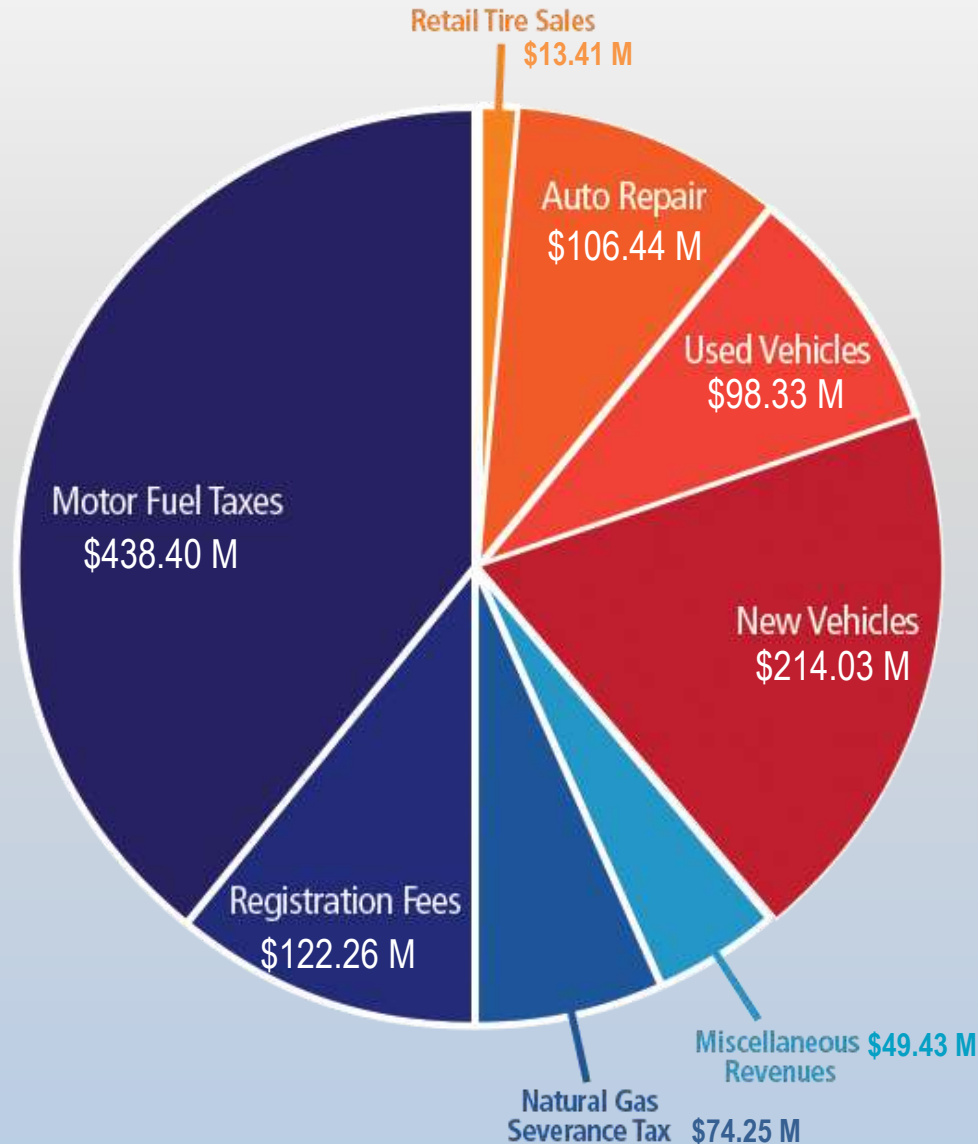
All Other Projects & Totals

Project	CLIP 1	CLIP 2	CLIP 3	CLIP 4	CLIP 5
Safety					
Bridges					
HPC					
4-Lane Grid					
Major Wide.					
Very Poor					
Poor					
Fair					
System Pres. Total					
TOTAL \$\$					



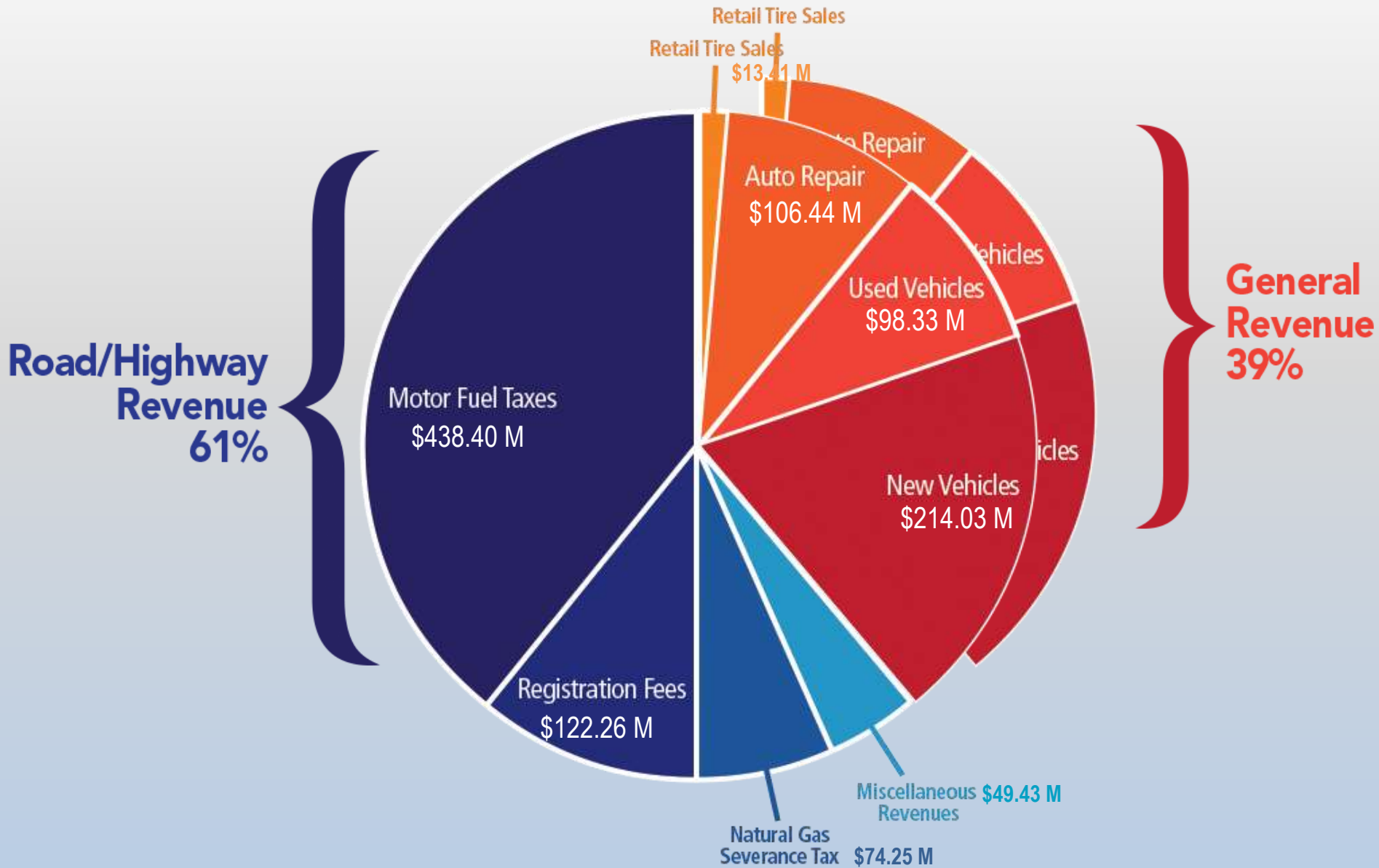
2015 Road User Related Tax Revenue

Total Road User Revenue Collected = \$1.12 Billion





2015 Road User Related Tax Revenue

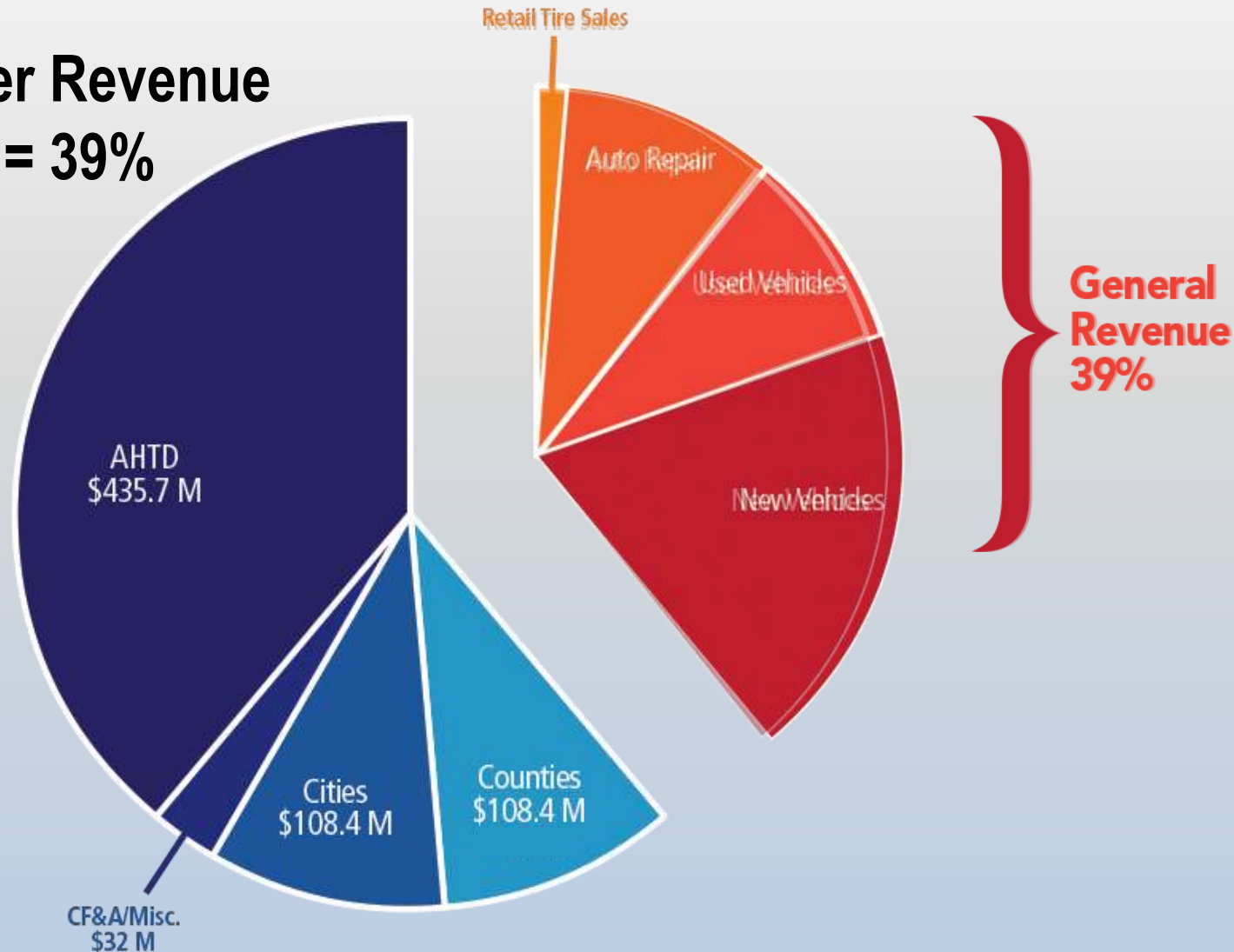




2015 Road User Related Tax Revenue

Total Road User Revenue Collected = \$1.12 Billion

**AHTD Road User Revenue
= \$435.7 M = 39%**



Questions?

