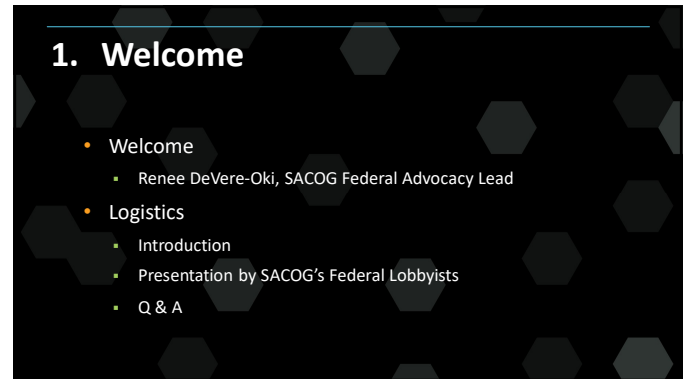




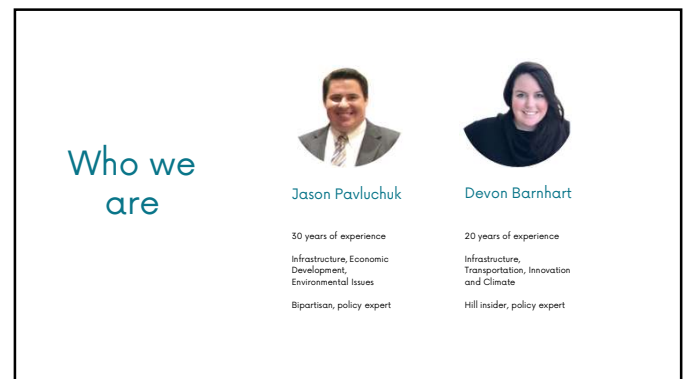
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State of Play in DC

- Slim Majority Trying to Reshape Federal Policy
- Shock and Awe - Presidential Expansion of Power + Executive Orders
- “Fiscal Restraint”

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Congressional Funding – The Basics

Authorization The Cookie Jar	Appropriations The Cookies	Budget Guidance on How Many Cookies Can Be Eaten	Budget Reconciliation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates New Federal Law • Creates Federal Funding Programs that are then Appropriated*** • Includes mix of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Policy Changes (Changes to Code) – Federal Funding/Grants – Directives to Federal Agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Funding Bill • 13 Subcommittees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – T+UD • Often includes Congressionally designated spending (earmarks) • Must Pass for the Government to function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pass as individual bills – Pass as one bill – Pass a continuing resolution (CR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a law – a rule • Guides Congress on how much to spend each year • Spending over the amount in a specific category allows a Member of Congress to raise a ‘budget point of order’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Each House (or Congress) then votes to uphold the point of order or move on • Applies to authorization and appropriation bills • Each House (House/Senate) can have their own budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process by which Congress realigns spending to meet a 10-year budget • In practice, it allows Congress to pass major funding and tax policies with only 50 votes in the Senate (Budget reconciliation packages can not be filibustered) • Very strict (and often fluid) rules apply to what can be included in a budget reconciliation package • Examples of Budget Reconciliation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Affordable Care Act – 2017 Tax Bill – Inflation Reduction Act

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2025 Congress

- March 2025: Finished FY 25 Appropriation Process (Continuing Resolution Through End of FY 25)
- April 2025: Begun Budget Reconciliation
 - House & Senate passed separate budgets with differing instructions and caps – Opens the door for authorizing Committees to begin reconciliation
- May 2025: Begin markup of individual committee budget reconciliation packages
 - Finish in summer/fall of 2025
- May 2025: Begin FY 26 Appropriation Process
- Summer/Fall: Beginning of Transportation Reauthorization

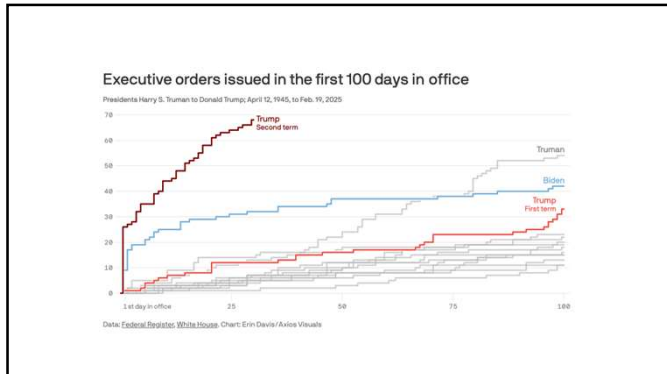
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First 100 days

- Action Through Executive Orders
- DOGE
- Court Challenges



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Who are the key players at DOT?



DOT Secretary Duffy

FHWA Sean McMaster

FTA Marc
Molinaro

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Trump Administration Transportation Priorities

- Adherence to Executive Orders
- Mandatory Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Review and Unilateral Amendment of Existing Agreements
- Focus on Family - Marriage/Birth Rates
- Clear federal interest: IN highways and bridges, OUT bikes, climate
- Compliance with Federal Immigration Enforcement

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What has DOT been up to?

DOT is tasked with rescinding/canceling all orders, rules, funding agreements and policies that do not adhere to executive orders or stated administration policy

Project-by-project review underway

**Discretionary
Grant Pause**

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What does this mean for existing grants?

- Formula funds (90% of transportation funding) appear secure
- Focus of pause is on competitive grants
- DOT working to:
 - Rescope/Reframe where they can
 - A very small amount of grants may be cancelled

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My agency was awarded a grant what does this mean for me?

- If you have the funding in hand or the project is underway, there should be nothing to worry about
- If you have a project grant agreement with USDOT and it's been reviewed and approved, you should also be ok
 - but if it's been a while since you have heard from USDOT – check with them.
- If you do not have a project grant agreement and have not heard from USDOT – reach out and check on the status, it is likely that your project is still 'in-review'
- If you do not have a project grant agreement and USDOT has an issue with the grant, they will notify you – they will then look to:
 - Revise/Rescope/Refocus the project to meet their requirements
 - Cancel the grant (VERY few grants will be cancelled)

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What else?

- Staffing cuts at all agencies continue, may slow projects and reviews
- Reorganization
- Limited guidance and input from federal staff
- Confusion and differing interpretations of verbal guidance will likely persist

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What does it mean for future grants?

- Some grants are moving forward - SS4A, Low-No, SMART, ATTAIN, Congestion Reduction
- Applications should speak to priorities in the new NOFOs
- Cost benefit analysis need to be reassessed
- New requirements for grants that they must meet the EOs, including ICE

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3. Questions and Answers

- Please type your questions into the Q and A.
- Raise hand feature is available to ask your question verbally.

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING
FOR FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS PLEASE REACH OUT TO:

rdevere-oki@sacog.org

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