

# FHWA Update

*FACERS Annual Meeting – June 2017*

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U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

# Agenda

- Emergency Relief (ER) Program
- Highway Trust Fund
- Compliance Assessment Program (CAP) Update
- Procurement Quality Assurance Reviews



# Emergency Relief

- Scope of Services templates complete for debris removal, cut & toss, signal repair, sign repair, CEI and generators.
- Pre-event debris removal contracts:
  - Contractor must be FDOT pre-qualified to be FEMA eligible.
  - Competitive bid
- Debris monitoring is professional services. Coordination underway with FEMA.
- Trainings



*Photo Source: Florida Department of Transportation*

# Emergency Relief

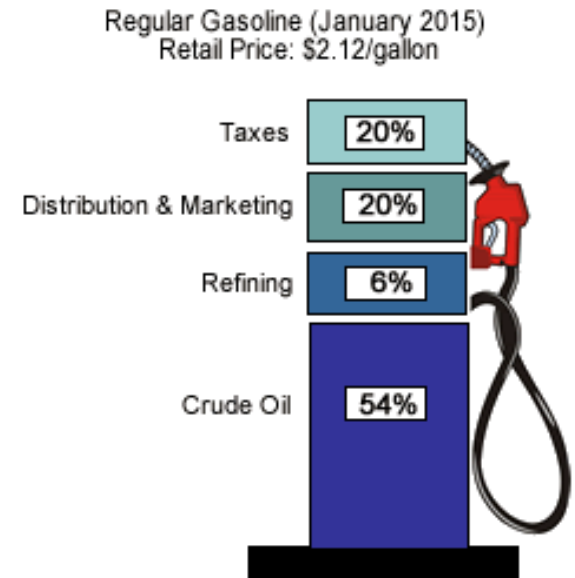
- Lessons learned:
  - Estimate Accuracy
  - Need pictures even for debris removal
  - Clear limits when removing debris
  - Local preference concerns
  - Grouping of sites need FHWA approval
  - Tipping fees must be of the 1st pass.



Photo Source: FDOT

# Highway Trust Fund

- User-supported fund
- The HTF has three long-standing sources of income:
  1. Federal fuel taxes;
  2. Other Federal taxes on truck users; and
  3. Interest on invested balances.



SOURCE: U.S. Energy  
Information Administration

**Table 7. Current Highway Trust Fund tax rates**

Tax type	Tax rate
<b>Federal fuel taxes</b>	
<b>Gasoline and gasohol</b>	18.4 cents per gallon
<b>Diesel</b>	24.4 cents per gallon
<b>*Special Fuels have different rates.</b>	
<b>Other Federal taxes on truck users</b>	
<b>Tires: (maximum rated load capacity)</b>	
<b>0-3,500 pounds</b>	No Tax
<b>Over 3,500 pounds</b>	9.45 cents per each 10 pounds in excess of 3,500
<b>Truck and Trailer Sales</b>	12 percent of retailer's sales price for tractors and trucks over 33,000 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) and trailers over 26,000 pounds GVW
<b>Heavy Vehicle Use</b>	Annual tax: Trucks 55,000 pounds and over GVW, \$100 plus \$22 for each 1,000 pounds (or fraction thereof) in excess of 55,000 pounds (maximum tax of \$550)

# Highway Trust Fund

- Each State is guaranteed that at least 92% of its highway user percentage attributions to the *Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund* will be returned to the State.
- Florida's Gross Tax Collections in 2015: \$2.44B

*What's your contribution?*

# Compliance Assessment Program (CAP)

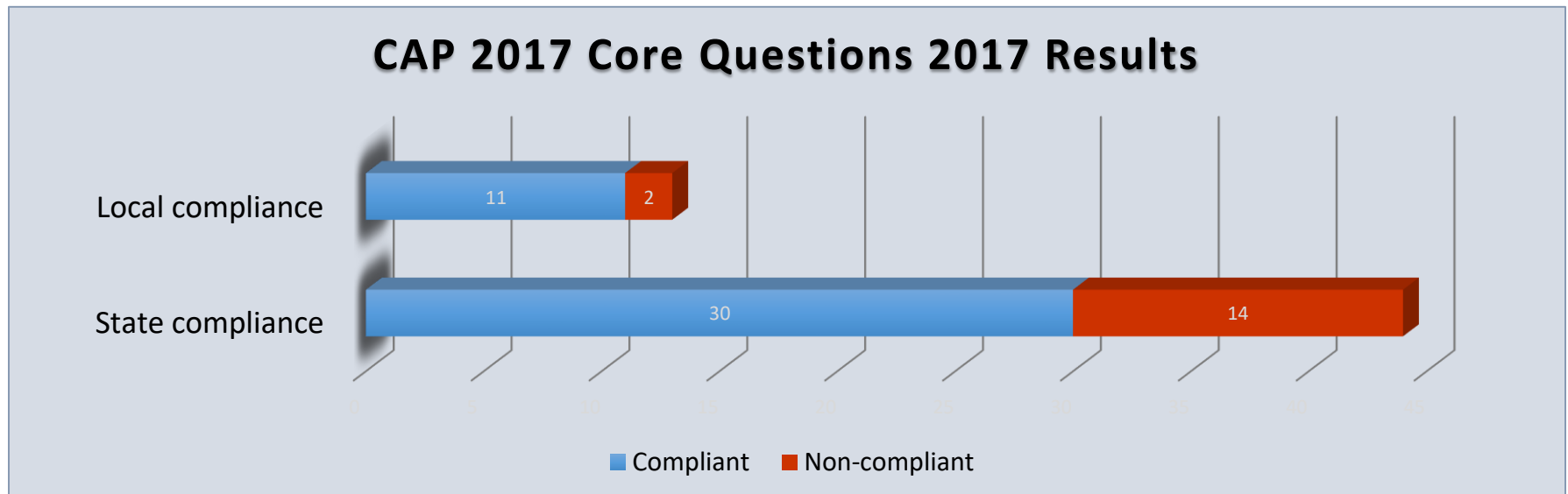
- Random sample from Headquarters
- Provide reasonable assurance, at both the National and local level, that Federal-aid highway construction projects are in compliance with key federal requirements.
- Assess a statistically valid sample of projects to inform the FHWA, with an acceptable level of certainty, of the degree of compliance.





# Compliance Assessment Program (CAP)- 2017 Results

- 23% of projects sampled are locally administered
- 85% of LAP projects showed overall compliance
- Missing Utility and Railroad certifications on two LAP projects.



# Compliance Assessment Program (CAP)- 2017 Results

- Division's Contract Administration review
- Three LAP projects had findings:
  - No adequate assurance that completed work quantities were determined accurately
  - Unable to verify sublet approval.
  - Contract did not specify percentage of work to be performed by contractor.

# LAP Quality Assurance Reviews

- Lead by FDOT between December 2016 and April 2017.
- Preliminary findings:
  - Instances of use of Local preference
  - Preference programs
  - Need for Negotiation training

# Focus Area Inspections

- Ongoing Performance Year 2018
  - Crash cushions/end treatments
  - Pedestrian access
  - Buy America/pre-fabricated items
  - Use of Force Account in LAP
  - Safety/Railroad projects
  - Construction oversight
  - Emergency Relief



# QUESTIONS?

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