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A Quiet Crisis in Transportation Finance: Options for Texas

This paper discusses the alternatives available to finance transportation in Texas. It notes that, until relatively recently, transportation was effectively funded nationwide by a combination of motor vehicle fuel taxes, local government funds, state government fund and the federal government. However, due to increased fuel efficiency of motor vehicles, energy concerns and the rising prices of gasoline, motor fuel taxes are not as effective a means of financing transportation as they once were. Some possible transportation financing future directions for the State of Texas include increased reliance on borrowing, electronic toll collection, and local sales taxes.

Record URL:

http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/testimonies/2006/RAND_CT260.pdf

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Publication Date: 2006-4

Language

English

Media Info

Media Type: Web

Edition: Testimony

Features: References;

Pagination: 24p

Subject/Index Terms

TRT Terms: [Automated toll collection \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Automated%20toll%20collection"\)](#); [Energy \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Energy"\)](#); [Federal government \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Federal%20government"\)](#); [Financing \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Financing"\)](#); [Fuel conservation \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Fuel%20conservation"\)](#); [Fuel taxes \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Fuel%20taxes"\)](#); [Future \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Future"\)](#); [Gasoline \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Gasoline"\)](#); [Loans \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Loans"\)](#); [Local government \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Local%20government"\)](#); [Motor fuels \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Motor%20fuels"\)](#); [Prices \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Prices"\)](#); [Sales tax \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Sales%20tax"\)](#); [State government \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="State%20government"\)](#)

Geographic Terms: [Texas \(/Results?q=&datein=all&index="Texas"\)](#)

Subject Areas: Energy; Finance; Highways; I10: Economics and Administration;

Filing Info

Accession Number: 01038897

Record Type: Publication

Report/Paper Numbers: CT-260

Files: TRIS

Created Date: (/edit/794557)Dec 29 2006 11:08AM

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

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