

Michael Friedberg | Shawna Francis Watley | Lisa Ann Barkovic

September 15, 2020

Holland & Knight

Speakers



Michael Friedberg
Partner



Shawna Francis WatleySenior Policy Advisor



Lisa Ann Barkovic Senior Policy Advisor

Historical Perspective

- President Obama First Term (2009-2013)
 - Appointed Republican Congressman Ray LaHood as USDOT Secretary
 - Passed American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA); \$787 billion stimulus package that birthed the TIGER grant program (now BUILD) and placed heavy emphasis on high-speed rail projects
 - Created Partnership for Sustainable Communities, linking transportation initiatives with housing, environmental policies; eliminating barriers to cross-agency work
 - FY 2012 Budget Request included large surface transportation reauthorization proposal to the tune of \$556 billion and focusing more on multi-modal initiatives and less on oil-dependent transportation system
 - National infrastructure bank





Historical Perspective

- President Obama Second Term (2013-2017)
 - Appointed Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx as USDOT Secretary
 - Autonomous Vehicle Proving Grounds
 - Smart Cities
 - Ladders of Opportunity
 - Grow Act, surface transportation reauthorization proposal
 - Proposed \$10-a-barrel oil tax to fund clean transport



Historical Perspective

- President Trump First Term (2017-2021)
 - Appointed Republican Elaine Chao as USDOT Secretary
 - Budget requests slashed funding for programs like the Capital Investment Grants program, TIGER
 - Renamed Tiger to Build, added additional criteria
 - Renamed Fastlane to Infra, added additional criteria
 - Every new regulation put into place, two had to be eliminated
 - Executive Order to streamline the permitting and review processes for infrastructure projects.
 - Proposed \$1 trillion infrastructure overhaul (transportation, water, energy, telecommunications)
 - Financing Mechanisms (Someone has to pay!)
 - Tax Credits, Tolls, PPPs, Government Bonds, Infrastructure Banks, Repatriation



Second Term – Trump Administration

- 49 point wishlist released during RNC (Platform for 2021)
 - Create 10 Million New Jobs in 10 Months
 - Create 1 Million New Small Businesses
 - "Made in America" Tax Credits
 - Expand Opportunity Zone
 - Transportation not specifically mentioned
- \$1 trillion infrastructure package still on table?
 - 10 year reauthorization?
 - Rural area focus
 - Broadband
- DOT Changes?



Potential Biden Administration

- Vice President Biden Calling for a transformational investment in America's Infrastructure
 - \$1.3 trillion over ten years
 - Highways, Roads, & Bridges
 - Transition to Low and No-Carbon Vehicles
 - Rail
 - Transit and Regional Planning
 - Aviation
 - Freight
 - Community Investment:
 - Aging Pipelines, Water Infrastructure
 - Broadband
 - School Modernization
 - 10-20-30 formula
 - Pro Labor and Middle Class Opportunities



Congress

- Depends on who wins election
- Surface Reauthorization
 - If President Trump Wins
 - If Vice President Biden Wins
- Still big question—HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY FOR IT?!
- Infrastructure Spending Through Appropriations
- Possible COVID Recovery Package
 - Addressing the effects of COVID on Transportation
 - Air
 - Rail
 - Transit
- Transportation and Technology
 - How to address the advances in autonomy



Questions?

Thank You

Michael K. Friedberg



Michael Friedberg

Washington, D.C.
202.469.5131
michael.friedberg@hklaw.com

Michael K. Friedberg is a Washington, D.C., attorney who is a member of the firm's Transportation & Infrastructure Industry Sector Group. Mr. Friedberg focuses on developing and implementing advocacy strategies for Holland & Knight's transportation and infrastructure industry clients on a wide range of issues, including all modes of transportation such as aviation, rail and transit, autonomous vehicles, maritime, pipelines and the transportation of hazardous materials.

In addition, Mr. Friedberg has experience assisting clients on developing support for infrastructure developments, especially with respect to getting prospectuses approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction on approval of prospectuses.

Mr. Friedberg most recently served as staff director of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In this role, he served as the committee's primary advisor on passenger rail, rail safety, the economic regulation of railroads, pipeline safety and the transportation of hazardous material. He assisted the chairman in managing various bills, including the Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act and the Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act of 2015.

Shawna Francis Watley



Shawna Francis Watley

Washington, D.C.
202.828.5083
shawna.watley@hklaw.com

Shawna Watley is a senior policy professional and strategist with more than 16 years of experience in public policy, political, legislative and regulatory counseling, and creative solutions to corporate, nonprofit and governmental issues at the federal level. She has cultivated working relationships on the federal, state and local levels of government. This includes professional relationships with the Obama administration, leaders in the House of Representatives and the Senate, moderate Democrats and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. Watley forges and maintains working relationships with key elected political leaders, appointed officials and corporate executives. She has extensive experience representing public and private interests in numerous issues, including financial services, transportation, homeland security, healthcare, energy and education.

Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Watley was the principal owner of the Francis Group LLC, where she was retained by clients to lead efforts in government relations and develop strategy, programming and implementation for federal policy initiatives. She also previously served as director of congressional affairs for the Democratic Leadership Council and the Public Policy Institute, where she was responsible for the development of strategy, programming and implementation for the Congressional Affairs Department.

Lisa Ann Barkovic



Lisa Ann Barkovic

Washington, D.C.
202.419.2486
lisabarkovic@hklaw.com

Lisa Barkovic is a senior policy advisor with the Public Policy & Regulation Group.

Ms. Barkovic has extensive experience in the areas of federal appropriations, transportation, environment, energy, and homeland security.

Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Barkovic served five years in the office of former Congressman Mark Foley (FL-16) as a legislative assistant. Her work there included managing all appropriation requests, developing legislative strategy in conjunction with outside groups and the Congressman's constituency on an array of issues, in addition to preparing talking points, drafting testimony and legislation. Ms. Barkovic also served as the primary congressional liaison for the Congressional Travel & Tourism Caucus.