

## **January 2019 Monthly Washington, D.C. Report**



**To: Steve Heminger, Executive Director**

**From: Tom Bulger, President GRI**

**Date: January 30, 2019**

**RE: Monthly Report for January 2019**

- **Partial Government Shutdown Averted for Three Weeks**
- **House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Named**
- **March Washington, D.C. Trip Planning**
- **Meetings**
- **Coming and Going**

### **Partial Government Shutdown Averted for Three Weeks**

President Trump signed a bill to reopen the government through February 15, ending the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. This was caused after he and Congressional leaders agreed to continue negotiations over funding for border security and the President's proposed wall along the U.S. and Mexico border.

The President's capitulation came on the 35<sup>th</sup> day of the partial government shutdown amid airport disruptions. It also came as voter disapproval of the President's job approval reached 57 percent, its highest point of Trump's first two years in office.

### **House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Named**

On January 16, 2019, House leaders of both parties named the full complement of members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress. The panel will now have 67 members (37 Democrats and 30 Republicans). Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) was named Chair of the Highways and Transit Subcommittee.

### **March Washington, D.C. Trip Planning**

Since December 2018, staff has been busy planning for the Washington, D.C. trip in March 2019. All of the details for our annual Transportation Congressional Reception on March 12<sup>th</sup> have been finalized. Congressional and trade association etc. meetings are in process.

### **Meetings**

On January 17, 2019, I participated in a strategy call with Steve Heminger and Kevin McCarty of the US Conference of Mayors.

On January 23, 2019, I participated in a legislative strategy meeting with the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors.

### **Coming and Going**

Nicole Nason has been nominated to be the Federal Highway Administrator. She previously worked on Capitol Hill, the State Department, United States Department of Transportation, and the Highway Safety Administration. She graduated from American University in Washington, D.C. and law school at Case Western in Cleveland, Ohio.