



SUBSCRIBE NOW

U.S. EDITION Thursday, July 17, 2014 As of 3:13 AM EDT

Subscribe | Log In

- Home
- World
- U.S.
- Business
- Tech
- Markets
- Market Data
- Your Money
- Opinion
- Life & Culture
- N.Y.**
- Real Estate
- Management

TOP STORIES IN NEW YORK



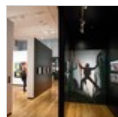
Rail Strike Would Boost Some Businesses

1 of 12



Weak Economy Dogs Christie on the Road

2 of 12



Two Museums, One Mission: More Visitors

3 of 12



Queens Project Stirs Worry That Residents Will Be Priced Out

Updated July 17, 2014, 3:13 a.m. ET

Obama pushes transportation money at closed bridge

Article

MORE IN NEW YORK »

Email Print


Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — President [Barack Obama](#) announced a new program Thursday to attract more private money to help pay to build new roads, bridges and highways as he criticized Congress for refusing to approve a more lasting source of transportation funding.

The new program is designed to encourage collaboration between state and local governments and private-sector investors, expand the market for public-private partnerships and make greater use of federal credit programs.

Obama argued that the U.S. is losing its competitive edge to other countries that spend freely on infrastructure upgrades.

"First-class infrastructure attracts investment, and it creates first-class jobs," Obama said at the Port of Wilmington, where the recently closed I-495 bridge served as the backdrop. The bridge was closed indefinitely last month after four support columns were found to be tilting, forcing 90,000 daily drivers to find another way through downtown Wilmington.

 Obama's trip is part of a broader effort to press Congress to keep money flowing into the Highway Trust Fund, the source of federal aid to states for surface transportation projects. The fund is expected to begin running out of money next month unless lawmakers act.

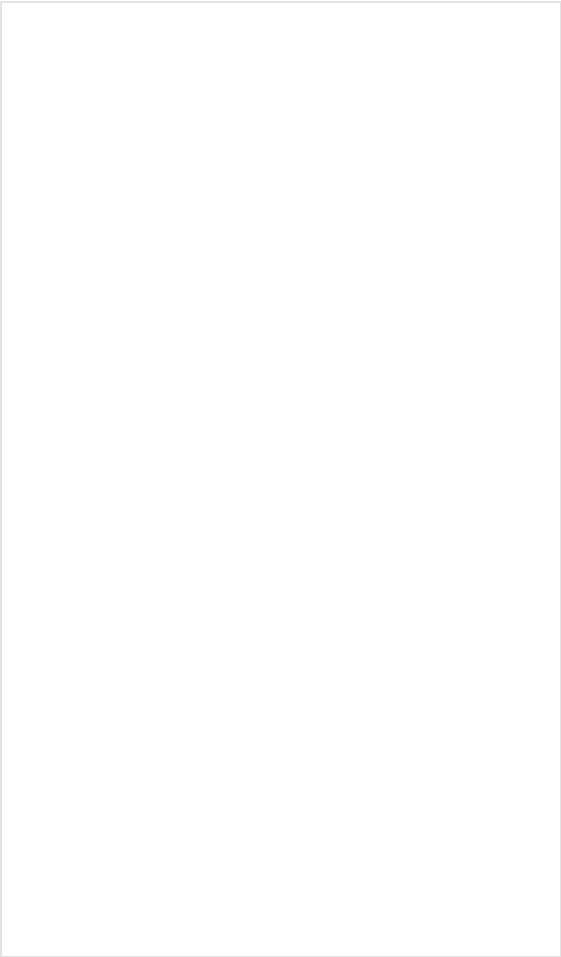
The Republican-controlled House passed a temporary transportation funding bill this week to keep aid flowing through next May, after the midterm elections. A similar bill is pending in the Senate, though the chamber's Democratic leaders are expected to vote next week on the House-passed measure. Obama supports the temporary patch but pressed for more stable funding.

He said even smaller transportation projects can take years to design and build.

"A few months of funding doesn't cut it," said Obama, who has devoted most of his public appearances this week to pressing Congress to either approve his four-year, \$302 billion transportation proposal or come up with an alternative long-term measure.


Michael Steel, a spokesman for House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said the Democratic-controlled Senate is the roadblock to transportation funding, and he urged Obama to work to break the Senate gridlock.

"Instead, he is giving a petulantly irrelevant speech," Steel said.



SYNC. TRACK. DECIDE.

SYNC YOUR BROKERAGE ACCOUNTS.
GET ALL THE MOST IMPORTANT HEADLINES FOR YOUR HOLDINGS.
USE PORTFOLIO NOW »



Available to WSJ.com Subscribers

Costly Drug Is

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx welcomed the progress on Capitol Hill but said a short-term solution "is still insufficient to solve our crisis." Lawmakers have kept the fund teetering on the edge of bankruptcy since 2008 through a series of temporary patches because they cannot agree on a politically acceptable, long-term funding solution. Action is needed before Congress breaks for August.

Before arriving at the port, Obama stopped at the Charcoal Pit for a cheeseburger lunch with Tanei Benjamin, the single mother of a 6-year-old daughter who wrote him a letter last year about her personal situation. The White House said that after reading Benjamin's letter, Obama wrote "This is the person we are working for" on the bottom and sent the letter to his senior staff.

Obama has been meeting in public venues with the authors of some of the 10 letters he reads every night, part of a concerted White House push to get him out of Washington and interacting with everyday people.

From Delaware, Obama was headed to New York City to raise campaign money at separate events at two homes for the Democratic Party and the House Majority PAC, which tries to help Democrats win House seats. The events were to be closed to media coverage.

Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

—Copyright 2014 Associated Press

SYNC. TRACK. DECIDE.	<p>THE MOST IMPORTANT HEADLINES FOR YOUR HOLDINGS USE PORTFOLIO NOW »</p>
-----------------------------	--

SPONSORED LINKS

- [Hot Penny Stocks To Buy](#)
- [2014 Crossover SUVs](#)
- [High Yield Savings Account](#)
- [10 Stocks To Own](#)
- [Big-Data Analytics](#)
- [Dividend Stocks To Buy](#)
- [Dividend Income Funds](#)
- [2014 Luxury Sedans](#)
- [Best Dental Plans](#)
- [Best CD Rates](#)

SPONSORED RESULTS

- [10 Best Dividend Stocks](#)
- [Best Investments For 2014](#)
- [Best CD Rates](#)
- [Dividend Stocks To Buy](#)
- [High Yield Savings Account](#)
- [2014 Luxury Sedans](#)
- [10 Stocks To Own](#)
- [2014 Crossover SUVs](#)
- [Best Dental Plans](#)
- [Big-Data Analytics](#)

Denied; Medicaid Takes Heat



China Plays Big Role in U.S. Bond Rally



Media Squeeze Fuels Fox Bid



Prosecutors Change Their Tune on Deterrence

\$2 A WEEK FOR 12 WEEKS [SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Latest NY AP Top News

- Reactions to the death of Elaine Stritch
- A timeline of the New Jersey traffic jam scandal
- NY's Medicaid covering post-birth contraceptives

More in New York

- LIRR Strike Averted as Unions, MTA Reach Deal
- Christie's Iowa Trip Poses Political Test
- Mayor de Blasio Appears on Stephen Colbert's Show
- Christie Aide Testifies Before Bridge Lane Closure Panel
- New Jersey Police Officer Operating Radar Gun Killed in Crash

Before Heading Off on One Trip, Mayor Says There May Be More Vacations

As he prepared to take a 10-day Italy getaway Thursday, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio wouldn't rule out taking more vacation time later this year.

Cuomo's Running Mate Makes a Rare Appearance

Former U.S. Rep. Kathy Hochul, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's newly-tapped running mate who has kept a low profile since being named the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor in May, made an appearance Thursday in Manhattan, launching a new women-focused ballot line.



New Jersey Police Officer Operating Radar Gun Killed in Crash

David Fincher's 'Gone Girl' to Open New York Film Festival

This Day in N.Y. Sports History: 1961

[See All](#)
[RSS Feed](#)

Popular Now

What's This?

1 Malaysian Passenger Jet Crashes in Ukraine With 295 on...

