

# NEWS



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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For Immediate Release  
News Release

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## **LONGTIME CONGRESSIONAL TRANSPORTATION LEADER JAMES OBERSTAR WINS 2010 GEORGE S. BARTLETT AWARD**

The Honorable James L. Oberstar, former Congressman and Chairman of the House of Representatives' Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, is the 2010 recipient of the George S. Bartlett Award for his outstanding contribution to highway progress. Congressman Oberstar will receive the award on January 26, 2011, during the Chairman's Luncheon at the TRB 90th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The George S. Bartlett Award was established in 1931 by a group of friends of George S. Bartlett to perpetuate the spirit of friendship and helpfulness that he brought to his work in the highway field. The award is conferred annually. The recipient is selected by a Board of Award composed of one representative each from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the American Road and Transportation Builders Association, and the Transportation Research Board.

Congressman Oberstar was a key architect of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, as well as most of the other major public infrastructure bills passed by Congress over the last three decades.

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As Committee Chairman, Oberstar authored several major pieces of legislation in the House, including authorization bills for water resources, the Federal Aviation Administration, and federal surface transportation programs. Within 48 hours of the collapse of the I-35W bridge in Minneapolis in 2007, Oberstar won Congressional approval of a bill to authorize \$250 million in emergency funds to replace the structure. Elected to 18 terms in Congress, he was Minnesota's longest-serving Member.

A native of Chisholm, Minnesota, Oberstar is the son of an iron ore miner. He is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions for his distinguished public service and many contributions to the nation's transportation system. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from the College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota, and a master of arts degree from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium.

More than 10,000 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 90th Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, January 23-27, 2011. The meeting, held at the Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 4,000 presentations in 650 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. TRB facilitates the sharing of information on transportation practice and policy by researchers and practitioners; stimulates research and offers research management services that promote technical excellence; provides expert advice on transportation policy and programs; and disseminates research results broadly and encourages their implementation. A major focal point of TRB's activities, the Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest.

Organized in 1920, TRB is a division of the National Academies, which include the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council. The nation turns to the National Academies for independent, objective advice on issues that affect people's lives worldwide.

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