American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Executive Director John C. Horsley is Luncheon Speaker and W.N. Carey, Jr., Distinguished Service Award Recipient

John C. Horsley, Executive Director of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), is the featured speaker at the Chairman’s Luncheon and Awards Program, and the 2012 recipient of the W. N. Carey, Jr., Distinguished Service Award. Horsley, recognized for his outstanding support of TRB and his longtime leadership in support of national transportation research programs, will receive the award on January 16, 2013, during the Chairman’s Luncheon at the TRB 92nd Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

 Created by the TRB Executive Committee in 1972 as the Highway Research Board Distinguished Service Award, the award was renamed in 1987 to honor W. N. Carey, Jr., who served with distinction as the TRB Executive Director from 1967 until 1980. The award recognizes individuals who have given leadership and distinguished service to TRB.

During his luncheon speech, Horsley, who will retire as AASHTO executive director in February, will highlight the states' perspectives on trends and challenges for the U.S. transportation system in coming years.

In his tenure as AASHTO Executive Director, he has nurtured the special relationship that TRB enjoys with the state transportation departments (DOTs). He has worked tirelessly to ensure that local,
state, and federal decision makers understand the value of research and recognize the critical importance of the TRB–state–federal partnership in supporting transportation research and its implementation.

As an ex officio member of the TRB Executive Committee since 1999, Horsley has given thoughtful and steady guidance during a complicated time of great challenge—but also great opportunity—for transportation and transportation research. In addition to his Executive Committee service, he has been actively involved in the National Cooperative Highway Research Program, representing state DOT interests and promoting effective collaboration among individual state DOTs, AASHTO, TRB, and the Federal Highway Administration. As an ex officio member of the Oversight Committee for the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2), Horsley has consistently worked to ensure that SHRP 2 is a success and that its research results are implemented successfully and adopted into routine practice.

A native of the Pacific Northwest, Horsley was elected to five terms as County Commissioner in Kitsap County, west of Seattle, Washington. He is a past President of the National Association of Counties and was founding Chairman of the Rebuild America Coalition. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Harvard University.

More than 11,000 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 92nd Annual Meeting, in Washington, D.C., January 13-17, 2013. The meeting, held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 4,000 presentations in 750 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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