

Imagine if we invested our state's transportation dollars...

... to save money

Bicycle lanes enhance safety on the road because the lanes are better defined, pavement life is extended, and motorist sight distance is improved. Public transportation improves mobility, reduces congestion, and expands an industry's labor pool. Riders on southern Illinois' RIDES program, which serves 11 counties, **contribute a combined payroll of over \$1 million** per year to this rural area.



Urbana - Share the Road



Chicago - mega-pothole



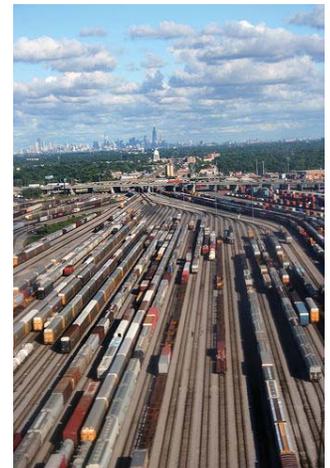
Stickney - crumbling viaduct

...to ensure a fix-it-first approach

According to the Federal Highway Administration, **of the almost 26,000 total bridges in Illinois, more than 2,500 of them are structurally deficient.** Thirty-one percent of the state's major roads are in poor or mediocre condition and were the cause of 1,361 traffic fatalities in 2005. The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) cites a **\$10.3 billion need for capital investment** over the next five years. According to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), a 20-year 'good-repair' strategy in Chicago would yield an anticipated \$4.6 billion.

...to improve our air quality

Short-term exposure to motor vehicle emissions significantly contributes to increased acute cardiovascular disease, particularly for certain at-risk populations. According to the Environmental Law and Policy Center, **Cook County's air toxin levels are among the top 5 percent nationally.** Research shows that living within 100 meters of a major roadway can shorten one's life span by 6 months.



instead of just spent them.

WE COULD...

...reduce our impact on the environment

Transit riders use about one-tenth the energy per passenger-mile as people riding in an automobile. According to the RTA's 2007 Moving Beyond Congestion study, **public transportation cuts at least 2,500 tons of air pollution.** Transit produces 45 percent less carbon dioxide and 48 percent less nitrogen oxide than private vehicles.



Chicago - CTA Station

...provide people with transportation options

Every **\$10 million invested in public transportation saves more than \$15 million** for both highway and transit users. This includes savings of about \$1,500 and 200 gallons of gas every year. In northeastern Illinois, the area where the east-west tollway intersects with the Eisenhower was affectionately known as the 'Hillside Strangler'. It was ranked as one of the top 10 worst traffic spots in America, the State of Illinois paid \$97.5 million to move the problem less than one mile east, creating the 'Mannheim Strangler'. Using a criteria-based system, we can work to **eliminate wasteful spending.**



Urbana - crumbling bike lane

...reduce congestion

By reducing travel times, the Interstate system saves each Illinois resident 85 hours of travel time annually – 1.1 billion hours statewide. **Northeastern Illinois loses approximately \$7.3 billion due to congestion** in lost time, fuel, and environmental damages.



Blue Island - Traffic at Crossing

...create jobs

A third of the nation's rail volume travels through the Chicago region, generating more than \$1.7 billion in annual wages and sustaining 38,000 rail-related jobs. With freight demand expected to double by 2030, **investments in freight could lead to 17,000 new jobs and more than \$2 billion in annual production** over the next 20 years. Unless something is done to alleviate the congestion stress, a decaying system, and outdated technology, the economic loss to the region in jobs and productivity would be devastating.



Willow Springs - Freight Traffic

And we should.
Support HB2359 to support transportation investments
for a better Illinois.