



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 30, 2015

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

As you know, the most recent Congressional extension of the “Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act” (MAP-21) (Public Law 112-141), is set to expire on October 29, 2015. This law authorizes the “National Priority Safety Programs,” at 23 U.S.C. § 405 (Section 405), which provide grants to States to carry out our shared highway safety mission – saving lives and preventing injuries and crashes on our Nation’s roadways.

While your State has met the requirements for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Section 405 grants under MAP-21 (see enclosure), NHTSA is unable to tell you how much your State will receive in FY 2016 grant funds because Congress has yet to extend the programs beyond October 29. It is also possible that Congress may change grant program requirements in any extension legislation. For these reasons, no allocation of funds is being made at this time. When FY 2016 programs are authorized and funds are appropriated by the Congress, I will notify you and your Governor’s Representative for Highway Safety of your highway safety grant awards and the requirements associated with these federal funds.

As you know, Secretary Foxx and all of us at the U.S. Department of Transportation have been working urgently toward the long term transportation authorization the Nation needs and deserves. The absence of such an authorization has a number of pernicious effects: delaying major infrastructure projects, preventing long term planning by State highway departments, and costing the jobs of hard-working Americans. The delay of highway safety grant funding is just one of these negative effects, but it is an especially worrisome one to me. At a time when road fatalities appear to be moving upward after a long decline, we must not delay the important work performed by State highway safety offices around the nation. We will continue to urge Congress to pass stable, long term funding for these important programs.

While the delay in funding is a hurdle to our efforts, we cannot allow it to prevent us from using every tool available to save lives and prevent crashes. In the coming months, I would like to discuss with you NHTSA's safety initiatives and how we can team with your State Highway Safety Office to save lives and prevent crashes. Family members, friends and loved ones deserve to travel safely every single time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark R. Rosekind". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and 'R'.

Mark R. Rosekind, Ph.D.

Enclosure

23 U.S.C. Section 405 – National Priority Safety Programs
South Carolina Qualified for in FY 2016

cc: Governor's Representative for Highway Safety

23 U.S.C. Section 405 – National Priority Safety Programs
South Carolina Qualified for in FY 2016 under MAP-21

National Priority Safety Program Area
Section 405(b) Occupant Protection
Section 405(c) State Traffic Safety Information System Improvements
Section 405(d) Impaired Driving Countermeasures
Section 405(f) Motorcyclist Safety