



MEMORANDUM

To: AHC Member Organizations

From: American Horse Council

Re: House Passes Recreation Trail Program Funding

Date: March 11, 2005

On March 10th the House passed the federal highway funding legislation known as “The Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users” or “TEA LU” (H.R. 3). The six-year bill provides funding for highways and transit systems totaling \$283.9 billion through 2009. This is the funding level included in the President’s 2006 Budget. This piece of legislation will now be sent to the Senate.

The legislation is important to the horse industry because it authorizes appropriations for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), which provides funds to the states to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for horse trails and other non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. The program was authorized in 1991 and has received increased funding and support since its establishment.

TEA LU provides \$503 million to the RTP program over six years, an 86% increase over the present level. The following funding levels called for each fiscal year are:

2004	\$53 million
2005	\$70 million
2006	\$80 million
2007	\$90 million
2008	\$100 million
2009	\$110 million

The American Horse Council supported the passage of this legislation and will continue to work towards its introduction and passage in the Senate.

If you have any questions please contact the AHC staff at 202-296-4031

