

Drivers losing money by traveling on unsafe roads

Governor Kay Ivey announced a plan to increase funding for roads.

By: [Kelly Kennedy](#)



Alabamians may soon see a gas tax increase.

Local leaders and a national transportation research group, TRIP, met in Decatur to discuss road, bridge, and traffic safety.

Researchers with [TRIP](#) found that on average, drivers in the Decatur-Huntsville area lose \$1,307 a year by driving on unsafe and congested roads. That's why Alabamians may soon see a higher tax on gas.

Tomorrow, Governor Kay Ivey is announcing a plan to increase funding for roads and bridges across Alabama.

Speaker Mac McCutcheon said, "When you look at the traffic flow across our state from people who live out of the state, if they're going to ride on our roads, then they need to help us keep them repaired and the expansion projects that we need, and because of that, we need to get some revenue from the gas pump."

Speaker McCutcheon is calling the possible gas tax increase an investment into the state. He says the gas tax would go up over time until it caps out.

"It's been 27 years since we've addressed that, and to be honest with you, we've gotten to the point where we're running out of money, and we cannot keep our roads maintained," said Speaker McCutcheon.