

Overview

In the United States, federal and state governments regulate all aspects of the transportation sector, as well as make investments in the sector. Adding to the complexity, the private sector is also fully involved in many ways -- investing in highways and mass transit, for example.

The transportation sector is more than highways, railways, and ports -- pipelines for oil and natural gas are increasingly important, considering the energy resources currently being developed in many regions of the US. Railways are used to ship oil and gas, with recent well-publicized accidents involving those shippers, making safety a key concern.

The transportation sector is heavily regulated in the US, and there is safety legislation surrounding many aspects of the sector -- from roads and bridges to rail and public transit. Partner with lawyers who understand the very wide-ranging opportunities and dangers inherent in the transportation business.

When it comes to investment, public/private partnerships can be found throughout the transportation sector. Projections vary, but economists agree that investment will run to billions and billions over the next decade. Public transit is often partly funded by taxes -- sales taxes and gas taxes, for example. Rely on a team that understands the complex tax laws that provide transit support.

One place where investment is certainly needed is the US highway system. Toll roads -- both public and private -- have provided a new opportunity for many regions to upgrade their highways without taking on massive amounts of debt. Work with a team that understands the sector and can develop creative legal structures.

Ports and airports have increasing numbers of passenger and commercial miles logged. Larger airplanes make airport expansion increasingly important. Ports need to be upgraded to handle the bigger container cargo ships coming in from overseas.

Because this sector is highly regulated, you will want lawyers with first hand experience of those challenges, and the ability to design the strategy needed to get the job done. Dentons lawyers are recognized by their peers as among the best in a wide range of categories -- suited to match a wide range of opportunities in the US transportation sector.

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