
REGIONAL COUNCILS: THIS MONTH IN PHOTOS

PIMA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (AZ)

Last month, Pima Association of Governments (PAG) hosted a day-long teen leadership summit for youth attending high schools throughout Pima County, AZ, the second most populous county in Arizona. Nearly 200 teens signed up for the event, which offered dozens of career resource exhibits, a motivational speaker who helps teens take an active role in authoring their destinies, a hands-on transportation planning activity led by graduate students in civil engineering from the University of Arizona, and career roundtable discussions with local leaders from all branches of the armed forces and nearly 50 different professions, including photography, higher education, public relations, orthopedics, software development, government service and more. Picture below are students from Sahuarita High School as they collaborate on the transportation planning activity. The students were presented with a real-life traffic circulation issue at a local elementary school and provided with a transportation planning toolkit to help them collaborate on a plan for improvements.



Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Planning Agency (NE)

February was a busy month for the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Planning Agency (MAPA). MAPA hosted several events, including:

1. a workshop for newly elected and appointed officials,
2. an open house to discuss future options for an aging bridge, and
3. MAPA's executive director was featured in a local TV news, 2-part investigative story on transforming transportation.

Following the November 2018 election, MAPA co-hosted a seminar for new elected officials. MAPA and the City of La Vista, Nebraska, with sponsorship from Papillion, Nebraska; Sarpy County, Nebraska; and Council Bluffs, Iowa brought in nationally-recognized speaker, Mike Conduff, President and CEO of the Elim Group, who engaged and entertained the crowd with the key elements of good governance. Participants left the session feeling empowered and better equipped to be a leader and shape the future of their community.





MAPA then hosted a three-hour open house to showcase options for a 69-year-old toll bridge in the southern part of the Omaha metro in Sarpy County, Nebraska. Community members stopped by to learn more about the three options for the bridge, which include demolishing it, rebuilding it with a bike/pedestrian lane, or repurposing it as a bike/pedestrian crossing over the Missouri River.





Like many regions, the transportation needs of the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro area are changing as the population of the region shifts. Local television station, KETV NewsWatch 7 (ABC), talked to MAPA Executive Director, Greg Youell, about MAPA's expected growth and the impact it could have on transportation in the next 20 years. Links to watch that story and the follow-up story appear below.

Part 1

<https://www.ketv.com/article/mapa-study-shows-transportation-funding-gap-big-investment-needed-for-regions-future/26335196>

Part 2

<https://www.ketv.com/article/the-push-for-a-transportation-transformation-in-omaha/26347842>

Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and Palm Beach TPO (FL)

Late last month, the Broward MPO, the Miami-Dade TPO, and the Palm Beach TPO hosted a Safe Streets Summit. It is South Florida's premier educational event aimed at promoting and creating healthier, safer, and more vibrant communities by encouraging and building the necessary skills to implement Complete Streets throughout the South Florida region. Originally a Broward MPO event, the Summit has expanded to include the Miami-Dade TPO and Palm Beach MPO, emphasizing the importance of partnerships in creating a safe and accessible transportation system for all users.



Among the speakers were Miami-Dade Mayor Francis X. Suarez (left) and former US Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx (first photo below), who served as the Safe Street Summit's keynote speaker. Also pictured (second photo below) are Greg Stuart, executive director of the Broward MPO, and Aileen Bouclé, executive director of the Miami-Dade TPO.



