

August 16, 2018 [View this email in your browser](#)



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**2018 executive directors conference
september 30 - october 2
cleveland, oh**

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MEMBER REQUEST

Strategic Alignment of Committees

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning would like to connect with other MPOs and regional councils who have updated their committee structures after the development of a new long-range or strategic plan. If your organization has experience in planning and implementing strategic committee-level changes and would be willing to share materials or lessons learned in the process, please contact Sarah Reed at sarah@narc.org.

CONGRESS BRIEF

Senate Still Working On FAA

The Senate returned yesterday with just 46 days until Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) authorization expires. Republicans and Democrats have been working on amendments for a manager's package, but several issues are continuing to hold up progress. Over thirty industry groups sent a **letter** to Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) urging the long-term reauthorization of FAA. The letter states that the short-term extensions over the past few years have negatively impacted the FAA and urges the Senate to consider the bill.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

TPM Implementation Plan

The Transportation Performance Management (TPM) Implementation Plan aims to support FHWA units, state DOTs, MPOs, and other stakeholders with implementing TPM requirements. It details the overarching goals of the program and how to achieve them, timelines for key implementation dates, and a list of available resources.

Green Infrastructure and Multimodal Roadway Design Case Studies

As a part of FHWA's efforts to document and promote connected pedestrian and bicycle networks in communities, it has put together several case studies on roadway design and green infrastructure. FHWA organized the case studies into several project types including mitigating flood risk, public-private partnerships, multimodal network connectivity, and state and locally-driven projects. The categories and a summary of the case studies are described in more detail in the full report, available [here](#).

Midwest Alternative Fuel Corridor Convening

FHWA has initiated a series of regional convenings to encourage multi-state and regional cooperation for planning and developing Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) fueling stations. The Midwest Alternative Fuel Corridor Convening was the first in this series and was hosted in St. Paul

by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Its focus was on addressing barriers to expanding alternative fuel corridors in the Midwest. A total of 52 stakeholders from MPOs, industry, non-profits, and Clean Cities Coalitions participated in the convening. The summary and convening materials are available [here](#).

FEMA Considering Shift to Risk-Based Pricing for Flood Insurance

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is currently looking into switching to risk-based pricing in 2020 for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This process would end the subsidies most coastal communities have on their flood insurance premiums and will raise insurance costs on places repeatedly hit by hurricanes and floods. It is part of a strategy to make NFIP, which is currently \$20 billion in debt, financially stable. The plan will likely require congressional approval, which is not guaranteed considering politicians have not come to a consensus on how to approach NFIP's issues, instead extending the program's reauthorization deadline six times in the last ten months.

REGIONS BRIEF

Modernizing Transportation Revenue Collection with a Road User Charge

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has drawn attention to the increasing inadequacy of the motor fuel tax (MFT) as a transportation revenue source. In this report, CMAP projects that, absent any rate change, MFT revenue will continue its decline over time. They state that "the funds available today are not even sufficient for maintaining our current infrastructure." Their draft "ON TO 2050" comprehensive plan outlines proposals for new revenue sources, ultimately leading to replacement of the MFT with a road user charge (RUC). The report also notes that other states are coming to terms with declining fuel tax revenues – 24 states have increased their MFT rates since 2012. A road user charge (collected as a per-mile fee) is meant to address transportation trends, such as ever-increasing fuel efficiency and electric vehicles, which cut into traditional MFT revenues. Five states are currently planning/implementing RUC pilot programs, while four states have already completed one.

New York City Caps Uber

The city council voted last week in New York City to approve a one-year industry-wide cap on new licenses and to give the Taxi & Limousine Commission the authority to set pay standards for drivers. The ride-hail companies argued against the cap, stating that it would reduce the number of available drivers. City regulators will use the year to study economic and environmental impacts of the industry. The council voted against similar caps three years ago. Since then, licenses have increased from 12,600 to more than 80,000.

JOBS

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Associate Transportation Planner

Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Central Point, OR

GIS Analyst

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, Pittsburgh, PA

Executive Director

Kankakee River Basin Commission, Portage, IN

Transportation Modeler

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, Detroit, MI

OPPORTUNITIES

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Critical Urban and Critical Rural Freight Corridors Guidance and Designation Process Discussion

August 29, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

This webinar will provide an overview of the Critical Urban and Critical Rural Freight Corridor designation process, including the program requirements, as well as give examples of how state

DOTs and MPOs identified corridors within their jurisdictions and coordinated with other transportation planning partners as part of the designation process.

National Dialogue on Highway Automation: Workshop 3 – Freight

September 5 – 6, Chicago, Illinois

The National Dialogue on Highway Automation will consist of 5 meetings held across the country. Each workshop will involve discussions on general issues of highway automation and specific topics as identified. Participants should select specific workshops based on their desired topic area, or simply by the most convenient date and location. The Chicago workshop will focus on freight and will explore truck platooning applications and truck automation, as well as implications for traffic operations and infrastructure.

Consortium for Scenario Planning Annual Conference

September 12-14, Columbus, OH

The newly-formed **Scenario Planning Consortium** will hold its first annual conference in Columbus, Ohio, hosted by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Program highlights include training sessions, an “unconference” portion so participants can explore the topics that interest them most, and in-depth information on scenario planning in Ohio. If you have questions about this event, please contact Janae Futrell at jfutrell@lincolnst.edu. Registration is now open and can be found [here](#).

Advancing Mobility Management

September 17-18, Dallas, TX

Many transit agencies are embracing the concept of “mobility management,” which is a strategic approach to designing and delivering transportation services that start and end with the customer. It begins with a community vision in which the entire transportation network works together with customers, planners, and stakeholders to deliver the transportation options that best meet the community's needs. This course is designed to help build the capacity of transit professionals to implement and scale up mobility management strategies and initiatives while exposing participants to promising practices in the field.

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