

November 1, 2018 [View this email in your browser](#)



MEMBER REQUESTS

NARC Survey about Connected and Automated Vehicles

Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAVs) will have profound impacts on transportation planning and the entire transportation system. NARC is conducting a survey to understand the needs, challenges, and engagement practices in considering regional priorities and varying stages of research and development in CAV technology. Please share your thoughts regarding CAVs from a regional perspective and let us know how we can best tailor our activities to your needs. **The survey should take approximately 6 minutes to complete and will close for responses on Thursday, November 8, 2018.** The survey can be found [here](#).

CONGRESS BRIEF

Congress will return on November 13, after the midterm elections.

Democrats Eye Infrastructure Plan If They Retake House

According to *Bloomberg Government*, Democrats are planning to pursue a major transportation and infrastructure measure if they win the House majority in the upcoming midterm elections. Ed Rendell, the former Democratic governor of Pennsylvania and co-founder of **Building America's Future**, said House Democrats could start hearings as early as January with the aim of passing a bill by May. Both Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), potential Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman and House Speaker respectively, have also been highlighting their desire to make infrastructure a top issue if they win the House. Challenges may include finding a funding source and growing partisan rancor.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

Updates to FTA's Environmental Review Regulations and Section 4(f) Regulations Published

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Railroad Administration, have updated environmental regulations and Section 4(f) regulations to reflect MAP-21 and FAST Act changes. The rule was published on Monday this week and will go into effect on November 28. Major changes include three new Section 4(f) exemptions, requirements for coordination plans and schedules, and broadening of the definition of "existing operational ROW."

Community Connections Innovations Handbook

This FHWA handbook is designed for states, MPOs, local and tribal governments, and other practitioners to help implement Community Connections. The handbook highlights 16 studies where Community Connections considerations have been applied successfully and includes a toolbox that describes existing tools, planning techniques, and other guidance.

New USDOT Report Explores the State of the Practice for Low-Speed Automated Shuttles

USDOT published a report exploring the use of low-speed automated shuttles with the goal of fostering successful deployment with awareness for design and accessibility. Limited to 25 miles per hour, these shuttles are designed for fully automated driving within confined and controlled environments. The report indicates current practices, deployments, and growing interest among stakeholders. In defining the rising practice of low-speed automated shuttles, USDOT presents uncertainties related to appropriate use and on-board attendant operation.

REGIONS BRIEF

USDOT Celebrates Groundbreaking for Bus Rapid Transit Line in Kansas City

Kansas City held a groundbreaking ceremony attended by FTA Acting Administrator Jane Williams in celebration of the Prospect MAX BRT line serving downtown Kansas City. USDOT supported this project with \$29.9 million through FTA's Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program. Prospect MAX BRT will be the third bus rapid transit line in Kansas City, offering expanded services to a 10-mile corridor connected to alternative bus routes into Missouri and Kansas.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Senior Transportation Modeler

Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments, Cincinnati, OH

Data Technician

Puget Sound Regional Council, Seattle, WA

Executive Director

Metropolitan Transportation Commission/Association of Bay Area Governments, San Francisco, CA

Comprehensive Resiliency Planner

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Pinellas Park, FL

Associate Transportation Planner

Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Central Point, OR

OPPORTUNITIES

[View full list opportunities!](#)

NARC Webinar! NARC-LISC Opportunity Zones Webinar

November 15, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

NARC and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) will hold a webinar on the Opportunity Zones program on November 15. The presentation will provide an overview of the program, how it aims to attract private investment to underserved areas, and what to expect over the next phases of Opportunity Zone implementation. Wasatch Front Regional Council will also be featured, sharing their role in designating Opportunity Zones in Utah and potential opportunities this program presents for their organization and their region.

EDC-5 Regional Summits

The objectives of the Every Day Counts (EDC) Regional Summits are to: facilitate dialogue, encourage creative thinking, and celebrate a shared vision for new opportunities. These Summits are an integral component of the EDC model, bringing together transportation leaders and front-line professionals responsible for the development and delivery of highway projects. The Summits provide transportation professionals the opportunity to learn about the 10 innovations promoted through EDC-5, exchange ideas with their state, local, and industry counterparts, and provide feedback to FHWA on the support and resources needed to adopt the innovations.

Remaining summits will be held in **Portland, OR**, and **Orlando, FL**.

Data Exchanges to Enable Automated Vehicle Integration

November 8, 12:00 – 1:00 PM ET

The target audience for this USDOT webinar includes deployers of AVs and supporting

technologies, ITS program managers at the state and local level, other agencies contemplating AV deployments, transportation agency chief information officers, and anyone interested in improving transportation data exchanges for accelerated safe deployment of AVs.

NPMRDS Quarterly Webinar

November 8, 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET

The National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS) is the probe data that FHWA is using for passenger and freight analysis and making available to states and MPOs in support of the national transportation performance measures. During this webinar, FHWA and its contractors will provide an overview of the probe data set, demonstrate data applications, and respond to technical assistance questions. This webinar is open to USDOT, state DOT, MPO, academic, and private sector participants.

Learn the Ropes: How to Start Your Safe Routes to School Program

November 13, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

Safe Routes to School programs can take many forms, developing organically or through a structured process. This webinar will highlight different types of programs and how each was started. Hear from city and school staff on best practices and ideas for how to start a program in your community.

Webinar for 2018 Alternative Fuels Corridor Request for Designation Nominations

November 14, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

FHWA is establishing a national network of alternative fueling and charging infrastructure along national highway system corridors. Join FHWA and DOT's Volpe Center for a webinar on the 2018 Alternative Fuels Corridor Request for Nominations.

Walk Audit 2.0: Walkability Assessment Next Steps

November 15, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

Walk audits are a great tool in creating communities where residents can participate in making their vision of healthy, safe, walkable streets real. In a walk audit, community members go for a walk together, noting what makes their streets feel comfortable for walking and what's missing. But what to do with this information? In this webinar, you will hear from community partners in Oregon and Washington who have completed walk audits and explore next steps for turning their vision into reality.

FTA Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans Webinar Series

PTASP Final Rule Frequently Asked Questions, November 15, 2:00 PM ET

Guidance on Using SSPPs to Develop an PTASPs, December 5, 2:00 PM ET

Following publication of two important new safety rules, FTA is hosting a **new webinar series** to provide technical assistance to transit agencies on the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Final Rule. The PTASP Final Rule requires certain rail and bus operators to develop safety plans to better manage their safety risk using Safety Management Systems. FTA's phase two webinar series runs from October 2018 through December 2018.

5th Annual Walkability Action Institute RFA

Applications Due: December 14

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) will be hosting their 5th Annual Walkability Action Institute on April 22-25, 2019 in Decatur, GA. NACDD has opened their request for applications (RFA) to offer eight interdisciplinary regional teams a chance to compete for travel assistance to attend the action institute. The course combines traditional learning methods with robust activities and outdoor learning. The teams must have a minimum of public health, planning, transportation, and elected official representation. Start forming your teams now!

2019 TRB Annual Meeting Resiliency Tabletop

January 13, 2019, Washington, DC, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

This exercise will assemble fifteen multi-disciplinary teams at the Annual Transportation Research Board (TRB) meeting in Washington, DC. Each team will have representatives in each of the following groups: economics and commerce, infrastructure, emergency management, government transportation entities (all levels), and government non-transportation entities.

During the 4-hour exercise, each team will collectively complete a workbook to stimulate a recovery from a freight disruption that affects local communities, regional economies, and national supply chains.

5th Annual Walkability Action Institute RFA Going Live Soon

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) will be hosting their 5th Annual Walkability Action Institute on April 22-25, 2019 in Decatur, GA. Next Monday, October 29, NACDD will open their request for applications (RFA) to offer eight interdisciplinary regional teams a chance to compete for travel assistance to attend the action institute. The teams must have a minimum of public health, planning, transportation, and elected official representation. Start forming your teams now – the RFA links and materials will be available soon!

CONTACT US

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