



Draft Agenda Now Available!

Reminder! 2018 NARC AWARDS Nomination Deadline is May 1

NARC is accepting nominations for its 2018 Achievement and Leadership Awards, which will be presented at the Awards Gala Dinner during the **52nd Annual Conference and Exhibition, June 3-6, in Orlando, Florida**. Conference attendance is encouraged. The awards provide an excellent opportunity for winners to promote their successes to a larger audience, as well as share best practices with their partners and peers. See **NARC Awards Nomination Guidelines** for details.

CONGRESS BRIEF

Rescissions Package a No-Go in the Senate

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) shut down the idea of a recessions package to reduce spending in the recently passed Omnibus bill, as has been floated in the House and by the administration. McConnell said that this action could imperil future negotiations with Democrats, telling *Fox News*, “you can’t make an agreement one month and say, ‘OK, we really didn’t mean it.’” He also pointed out that the administration was involved in bill negotiations and the President signed it, so they should not have been shocked to learn that the omnibus included Democratic priorities. Meanwhile, Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney told the House Appropriations Committee’s financial services subcommittee on Wednesday that he hopes to send a package in the coming weeks. He also said they plan to target money from previous years as well.

THUD Appropriations Member Day

The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations subcommittee had its FY 2019 Member Day yesterday. Several members applauded FY 2018 increases and urged the panel to protect infrastructure and housing programs and increase funding for FY 2019. Members also asked for support in their districts on specific issues, such as housing displacement from Louisiana floods and building Interstate 11 to link Las

Vegas and Phoenix. Subcommittee Chairman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) said he is very happy with the 2018 omnibus and that it will be a firm starting point for 2019.

Long-Term FAA Reauthorization Bill Introduced in House

Last Friday, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee introduced the **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018**, which would reauthorize FAA through FY 2023. Attached to the bill are provisions of the bipartisan **Disaster Recovery Reform Act** previously passed by the House that makes changes to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) policy. The FAA bill does not include FAA air traffic control spinoff provisions. As of yesterday, 40 amendments had been filed. The House is expected to vote on the bill next week. The current reauthorization deadline is September 30, 2018.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

\$1 Billion in Emergency Relief for Road and Bridge Repairs

FHWA announced over \$1 billion in emergency relief funds last Friday for 32 states, several territories, and federal land management agencies to repair roads and bridges damaged by disasters. Of that amount, \$263.7 million goes to areas affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. The funds will help pay for the reconstruction or replacement of damaged highways, bridges, guardrails, and other damaged safety devices.

FHWA Computation Procedure for the Pavement Condition Measures

This document is the first in a series of Standard Operating Procedures that FHWA will release to the public for transparency and to help guide states while setting targets. The FHWA *Computation Procedure for the Pavement Condition Measures* document will be used to ensure consistency in determining the minimum Interstate pavement condition level for each state (**23 CFR 490.315 and 490.317**) as well as whether or not a state DOT has made significant progress towards the achievement of its pavement condition targets from the **second national performance measure regulation**.

FTA Certification of State Safety Oversight Programs Deadline 2019

April 15, 2019 is the deadline for states to obtain FTA certification for their State Safety Oversight (SSO) Programs. FTA is prohibited by law from awarding new federal transit funds to any transit provider in a state that fails to meet the deadline and until certification is achieved. States should strive to submit their applications by September 30 or before. Thirty states need certification and **this map identifies** those states as well as states already certified and those that are in the process.

REGIONS BRIEF

MAPC Selects LimeBike, Spin for 15-Community Regional Bike Share System

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) in Boston recently incorporated a dockless bike share system in their region. MAPC selected LimeBike and Spin as the dockless service providers, which allows users to pick up and drop off a bike virtually anywhere in its fifteen participating communities. MAPC Executive Director Marc Draisen said, "The new system will incorporate station-less, smart bike technology, and will also feature some pedal-assist electric bicycles, or 'e-bikes,' to make cycling uphill and into headwinds less challenging. And, the system will be launched at no cost to the participating cities and towns."

JOBS

View full list of jobs!

Transportation Planner

East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission, Anniston, AL

Analyst I (Management Services)

Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento, CA

Local Government Services Intern

Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento, CA

Project Analyst

Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento, CA

OPPORTUNITIES

View full list of opportunities!

Sustainable Urban Freight Transport: A Global Perspective

Course Begins May 1

This free five-week course offers students and professionals an introduction to urban logistics. From a systematic scientific foundation of the field, this course will take you on a journey to learn how city logistics is understood and practiced in cities around the world. The instructors, members of a renowned global expert network, will teach you the basics of this highly complex social system. Using their experience in real-world projects, they will illustrate how the knowledge learned in this course is applied across industries and the public sector. This course caters primarily to university students or professionals working in urban transport infrastructure planning or logistics management. Whether you are simply curious about the topic or you intend to develop a career in these fields, this course will give you the tools you need to understand the complexities of urban freight transport systems.

NPMRDS Users Quarterly Technical Assistance Webinar

May 7, 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET

This quarterly webinar will focus on handling frequently asked questions related to the use of the National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS), including common issues with conflation and metric reporting for the System Performance/Freight/CMAQ performance measures. 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. Most of the webinar will be spent responding to questions, and USDOT is soliciting ideas for which questions to address. Submit questions about using the NPMRDS to **Andrew Reovan**.

FHWA National Dialogue on Highway Automation: Introductory Webinar

May 8, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Automated vehicles will significantly transform the nation's roadways. They offer potential benefits in safety but also introduce uncertainty for the agencies responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the roadway infrastructure. FHWA is initiating a national conversation with partners and stakeholders to better understand the implications of highway automation, facilitate innovation, and enable broader collaboration in this area. This National Dialogue on Highway Automation will commence with a series of meetings held across the country to facilitate information sharing, identify key issues, and prepare the broader transportation community to safely and efficiently integrate automated vehicles into the road network. Input received during the National Dialogue will help inform national research, policy, and programs and will aid in the development of a national transportation community for automation. This webinar will provide an overview of the upcoming National Dialogue meetings, discuss ongoing and planned national initiatives in automation, and present top highway automation focus areas to be explored through the Dialogue.

From 8 to 80: Creating Livable Communities for All Ages

May 9, 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

Walkable communities are only truly walkable when they can be enjoyed and accessed by citizens of all ages. Learn how communities of all shapes and sizes are ensuring they are livable for people of all ages and abilities.

Accessible Transportation Technologies Research Initiative Update - Robotics and Automation Project

May 14, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

USDOT will host a webinar on the Accessible Transportation Technology Research Initiative (ATTRI) and the benefits of robotics and automation for people with disabilities. For people with disabilities, including older adults and injured veterans, inadequate mobility and transportation can be a barrier to obtaining employment, commuting to appointments, shopping for groceries, or attending social events that many take for granted. ATTRI leads efforts to research, develop, and implement transformative solutions, applications, and systems to help all people, particularly those with disabilities, effectively plan and execute their travel, addressing individual mobility

needs.

2018 Getting Ready to Innovate Grant Funding Opportunity

Applications due May 31

The National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) has announced a new grant program, *Getting Ready to Innovate*. These planning projects will serve as incubators to develop innovations and build community support and commitment for increasing the availability and accessibility of community transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults. Grants up to \$20,000 each will be awarded to as many as ten communities for a six-month period. Local and regional private nonprofit or government organizations may apply.

CONTACT US

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