

Email not displaying correctly? Click [HERE](#) to view it in your browser.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

May 1, 2014

Transportation Thursdays

NARC LEADERSHIP

President

Hon. Penny Gross,
Supervisor, Fairfax
County, VA

Chair Jim Hassinger,
NARC Executive Directors
Council;
Executive Director,
Southwestern
Pennsylvania Commission

Hon. Fred Strong
Chair, Transportation
Committee
Board Member, NARC
and
San Luis Obispo Council
of Governments

Lyle Wray
Chair, Transportation
Committee
Executive Director, Capitol
Region Council of
Governments

[ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEF](#) [LEGISLATIVE BRIEF](#)

[REGIONAL BRIEF](#) [OPPORTUNITY BRIEF](#)



ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEF

Administration Sends Congress Transportation Proposal: The Obama Administration's surface transportation authorization bill, *GROW America Act*, was unveiled Tuesday. The bill is a four-year, \$302 billion plan and marks the first time this Administration has proposed specific transportation legislation. It would provide increased funding and authority to local governments and their metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). The bill also looks to provide overall funding increases and address the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) insolvency, at least over the term of the bill, by reforming corporate taxes. The proposal includes \$206 billion for the highway system and road safety, and \$72 billion for transit. Additionally, it provides \$5 billion for *Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery* (TIGER) and

Michael Parks
Chair, Transportation
Committee
Assistant Executive
Director, Brazos Valley
Council of Governments

NARCSTAFF

Joanna Turner

Executive Director

Shannon Baxevanis

Deputy Director

Mia Colson

Program Analyst

Nathan Devers

Intern

Marcy Fritter

Office Manager

Taylor Markwith

Program Associate

Lindsey Riley

Deputy of
Communications

Anna Rosenbaum

Communications
Associate

Erich W. Zimmermann

Director of Transportation
Programs

Make NARC your
homepage —

click here to learn how.

\$5 billion for high-speed rail. The Administration is encouraging Congress to move on reauthorization as the HTF could be insolvent by July, months before current legislation expires in September. Click **HERE** to read NARC's press release. ***NARC will release a detailed analysis of the bill tomorrow.***

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

House Subcommittee on Aviation Holds Hearing on Small and Rural Community Air Service:

Yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on the state of air service to small and rural communities, exploring ways to provide improved air service to these areas. Small and rural communities have seen a significant drop in air service provided over the past several years compared to the nation's larger airports. Possible solutions suggested would likely take a multimodal approach, allowing for nongovernmental transportation options. Click **HERE** for more information.

House Democrats Push to Increase Commuter Rail Safety: In an effort to reduce rail accidents and passenger deaths, Reps. DeLauro (D-CT), Himes (D-CT), Esty (D-CT), and Maloney (D-NY) are planning to introduce a bill that would require the railroad industry to create a safety reduction program and force federal regulators to produce a firm time for implementing positive train control (PTC). PTC is a system which prevents two trains traveling on a single track from colliding by detecting excessive speed and monitoring other unsafe movements. Click **HERE** for more information.

OPPORTUNITY BRIEF

Click **HERE** to view the list of grants and events still open!

WEBINAR: Bridges Beyond 100 Years: Innovative Systems

May 6, 2:00 PM ET

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) will summarize its *Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2) Project: Bridges for Service Life beyond 100 Years: Service Limit State Design*. This project developed new design codes, performance measures, and implementation tools that can lead to longer and more predictable bridge service life. Click **HERE** to register.

WEBINAR: Innovative Bridge Designs for Rapid Renewal

May 13, 2:00 PM ET

TRB will summarize its SHRP 2 Project: *Innovative Bridge Designs for Rapid Renewal*. This project developed pre-engineered standards for modular bridge substructure and superstructure systems, which can be installed with minimal traffic disruptions. Products include design standards and design examples for complete prefabricated bridge systems, as well as recommended specification language for accelerated bridge construction (ABC) systems. Click [HERE](#) to register.

WEBINAR: Transportation Planning Information Exchange

June 11, 1:00-3:00 PM ET

A host of presenters from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will provide an overview of planning emphasis areas (PEAs). The discussion will be followed by a Q&A session. Click [HERE](#) for the joint letter from FHWA and FTA Administrators' Greg Nadeau and Therese McMillan describing the PEAs. If you have specific questions to submit prior to the webinar, please send them to Harlan Miller at harlan.miller@dot.gov. Click [HERE](#) to register.

CONFERENCE: NARC's 48th Annual Conference and Exhibition

June 8-11, Louisville, KY

The Annual Conference and Exhibition is the largest national event focused on promoting effective regional cooperation and solutions through interaction and education. Held annually in June, NARC's Annual Conference is the premier place to learn how to engage in effective regional collaboration. Click [HERE](#) for a draft agenda, hotel reservation and registration information. Two days of transportation tracks are planned (on Monday and Tuesday) - we encourage all MPOs to attend these sessions. We look forward to your participation in Louisville!

We are sending you this e-mail primarily for your information, to meet your needs, further our valued relationship, and because you requested to receive electronic newsletters from the National Association of Regional Councils. Please forward as appropriate.

[Unsubscribe](#) anna@narc.org from this list.

Our mailing address is:
National Association of Regional Councils
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 305
Washington, DC 20002

[Add us to your address book](#)

Copyright (C) 2014 National Association of Regional Councils All rights reserved.

[Forward](#) this email to a friend

[Update your profile](#)