



CONGRESS BRIEF

Senate Leader's Priorities

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) told reporters this week that his priorities for the summer are FY 2019 defense authorization, farm bill reauthorization, and water resources development legislation. He also plans to continue to prioritize confirming judicial nominees and has advised members not to purchase nonrefundable tickets, pending his decision on continuing through August. No mention was made of the FAA reauthorization in his must-do list, which expires September 30.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

Greenhouse Gas Measure Repealed

FHWA has issued a final rule repealing the performance management measure assessing greenhouse gas emissions. Previously, state DOTs and MPOs were required to measure the percent change in tailpipe carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions on the National Highway System as part of the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP). FHWA repealed the measure after the NPRM was published on October 5, 2017, based on the comments received and imposed costs. State DOTs and MPOs may still voluntarily measure and assess emissions.

FTA Announces \$25.8 million for Transit Planning in Communities Nationwide

Grant funding totaling \$25.8 million is now available to support transit planning efforts as a part of the FTA Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning. The Pilot Program provides funding to integrate land use and transportation planning efforts to support transit ridership, multimodal connectivity, and mixed-use development near transit stations. Eligible applicants include FTA grantees that are either a project sponsor of an eligible transit project or an entity with land use planning authority in an eligible transit capital project corridor.

Final Rule on Private Investment Project Procedures

FTA released a final rule yesterday to encourage public-private partnerships; it goes into effect June 29. The rule was required by MAP-21 but aligns with the new administration's priorities. It describes new procedures to encourage several innovations, including project management flexibility and new project revenue streams. "FTA anticipates using the lessons learned from these experimental procedures to develop more effective approaches to including private participation and investment in project planning, project development, finance, design, construction, maintenance, and operations."

Technical Assistance in Testing the Multimodal Corridor Planning Framework

USDOT/FHWA is accepting letters of interest for technical assistance for up to five communities where the local transportation agency will use a data-driven and performance-based decision-making **framework** to incorporate multimodal access, improve health outcomes, and enhance community considerations into corridor planning. Teams can be led by the regional agency and letters of interest are due June 29.

REGIONS BRIEF

AASHTO's Executive Director Announces Retirement

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Executive Director Frederick G. "Bud" Wright announced last week that he plans to retire at the end of 2018. Wright was appointed Executive Director in November 2012 and previously served as executive director for the Federal Highway Administration from 2001 to 2008. He also led AASHTO through a new strategic plan development process that expanded the organization's focus to include all modes.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Principal Data Analyst

Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, TX

Planner – Transportation

Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, TX

Principal Planner – Transportation

Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, TX

Manager, Transportation Planning

Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, TX

Manager – Transportation Program

Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, TX

OPPORTUNITIES

[View full list of opportunities!](#)

Fuel Economy and Emissions Standards

June 12, 4:00 – 4:30 PM ET

This April, the Trump administration announced it will revise the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for cars and light trucks for model years 2022-2025. Join this webinar to learn more about the history of the standards, what the administration might do, and how states with stronger standards might respond. The webinar will feature Margo T. Oge, former director of the Office of Transportation and Air Quality at EPA, who led the rulemaking for the emissions standards now under reconsideration.

Advancing Clean Air Projects at Ports and Goods Movement Facilities Through the CMAQ Program

June 20, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Diesel-fueled equipment, including trains, trucks, tugboats, and cranes that operate at ports, railyards, and other goods movement facilities across the country, are the workhorses that help

make economic prosperity possible. Diesel engines emit harmful pollution that can contribute to significant health problems for the many people who live and work around these facilities. This webinar will discuss how the CMAQ program can help improve air quality around ports and other goods movement facilities and include tips and lessons learned for potential project sponsors and beneficiaries.

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