



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS

NARC Legislative Briefings

Over the next two months, NARC is offering weekly legislative briefings designed to bring you up-to-date with current legislative trends and the ways in which these bills may impact regions. Here is a preliminary schedule of those briefings:

July 18, 3:00 PM ET: *Federal Water Pollution Control Act*

This session will focus on a bill to codify the Environmental Protection Agency Integrated Planning requirements that will improve the water infrastructure planning process for local governments expected to be introduced to the House.

July 25, 3:00 PM ET: *FY 2019 Budget and Appropriations*

This session will focus on the FY 2019 budget and appropriations process, and how programs that are important to localities and regions are being funded compared to last year.

Other sessions will focus on transportation, autonomous vehicle legislation, and the likely congressional agenda that will begin after Labor Day – exact dates and times will be announced. Within days of the mid-term elections, NARC will host a conference call laying out what the election outcome means for the remainder of the 115th Congress and the 116th Congress, which begins January 3, 2019.

The call-in information for these legislative briefings is below:

- Call-in Number: (571) 317-3122
- Access Code: 480-330-989
- Audio Pin: #

Contact Maci Morin at maci.morin@narc.org or Neil Bomberg at neil@narc.org with questions.

CONGRESS BRIEF

THUD Appropriations

The Senate Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) appropriations bill may be attached to an upcoming minibus package that is expected on the floor the week of July 23. The Senate named its conferees for a three-bill minibus that includes the Energy and Water Development bill, which they hope will be finished before August 3.

Meanwhile, House Republicans have no immediate plans to bring their THUD spending bill to the floor. The bill passed through committee on May 23 but Chairman Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) expressed his disappointment that it is not yet on the floor agenda. Mark Meadows (R-NC), Chairman of the House Freedom Caucus, said his caucus has not yet taken a position on the bill, but indicated that transit and housing spending can be difficult for them to support. Leadership is aiming to pass as many appropriations bills as they can in July.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

CMAQ Program: A Guidebook for Preparing Performance Plans for MPOs

This FHWA resource serves to help MPOs prepare a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Performance Plan. It includes information on the requirements for the plans and guidance on the components. The resource also provides additional information and links to other CMAQ related resources.

REGIONS BRIEF

Uber Has Terminated Self-Driving Car Operators in Pittsburgh

Uber laid off about 100 autonomous vehicle operators and eliminated the position during an employee meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. Uber plans to replace those employees with about 55 specialists trained in on-road and more advanced test-track operations. Pittsburgh was the first city to welcome Uber's self-driving car operations. In September of 2016 Uber put its first passengers in the vehicles there. However, the company has suspended driverless-car testing across the country since the fatal crash on March 18 in Tempe, AZ.

NACTO Guidelines for the Regulation and Management of Shared Active Transportation

The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) released guidance for cities and other public entities on regulation and management for shared active transportation such as dockless bikes and scooter share. Their guidance suggests minimum standards that all cities should require for data and safety in addition to standards to be developed at the local level, such as for parking. The document includes a State of the Practice as of June 2018 for cities where this technology has been deployed.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Transportation Planning Specialist

Benton-Franklin Council of Governments, Richland, WA

Executive Director

Centralina Council of Governments, Charlotte, NC

Transportation Planner

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, Pittsburgh, PA

OPPORTUNITIES

[View full list opportunities!](#)

T3e Webinar: Modeling Dispatchers Managing Intelligent Transportation Systems

July 18, 12:00 – 1:00 PM ET

This webinar series provides a platform for students to share their research findings. Concepts of intelligent transportation systems (ITS) have gained popularity in recent years, with several manufacturers proposing designs for innovative vehicles. However, less attention has been placed on how these vehicles would be controlled and managed in network operations. Through the development of concepts of operations for remote management of fleets with heterogeneous levels of vehicle and network autonomy, this research presents preliminary requirements for ITS operations centers.

Logistics of Large-Scale Incident Event Response and Business Continuity

July 18, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

Large-scale incident events such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires, major snowstorms, or widespread terrorist or military attacks can have a damaging impact on the transportation system. These incident impacts can create short-term infrastructure unavailability lasting a few hours or days and can cause longer-term infrastructure damage that causes portions of the transportation network to be unavailable for a few weeks or months. Severe incident events have a particularly large impact on freight transportation, which requires an efficient, reliable transportation network for the pickup and delivery of goods. This USDOT webinar will discuss some of the logistical challenges communities and regions face when recovering from disaster and other large-scale events, and how supply chain-focused companies are both impacted by those events and can help

regions that are affected by the events to recover.

Webinar Series on the Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment Program: Device Acquisition and Installation

Wyoming DOT Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment, July 23, 11:30 – 1:00 PM ET

NYCDOT Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment, July 30, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Tampa Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment, August 7, 11:00 – 12:30 PM ET

USDOT will host a webinar for each pilot site about the connected vehicle devices being acquired and installed as part of the deployment. Representatives from each pilot site will provide an overview of their approach to identifying the type and number of devices, equipment, and software-based capabilities acquired for the pilot. The webinar will also address their approach to engaging with vendors and getting the devices in hand and installed while adhering to a stringent installation schedule.

TREDPLAN-Regions Demonstration

July 31, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

TREDPLAN is a new and unique system for evaluating and communicating the interrelationship between growth, and freight activity for regional planning using a fusion of data including county-level freight data. TREDPLAN-Regions offers a way to put the regional shifts in freight-economy in perspective by offering an intuitive model, which links models of freight and the economy together to allow for dynamic forecasting of activity and tracking of inter-industry freight shipments. It allows for the comparison of regions based on stratified market segments, by commodity, mode, and foreign trading partner and domestic sources. This webinar will demonstrate TREDPLAN-Regions.

NPMRDS Users Quarterly Technical Assistance Webinar

August 4 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET

The next National Performance Management Research Data Set (NPMRDS) users webinar will focus on handling frequently asked questions related to the use of the NPMRDS, including common issues with conflation, metric reporting for the System Performance/Freight/CMAQ performance measures, and the National Highway System. Presenters will provide an update on recent developments with the NPMRDS (v2) and FHWA resources to support the use of the data set and the calculation of performance measures.

CONTACT US