



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS

CONGRESS BRIEF

Both chambers are expected to adjourn by the end of the day for a seven-week recess period. They will return after Labor Day, on September 5.

FAA Extension to POTUS' Desk

Both the House and Senate passed an FAA extension, with two days to spare before the July 15 expiration. On Monday, the House passed the FAA extension by voice vote; the Senate passed the bill yesterday in a 90-4 vote. The 14-month extension now goes to President Obama to sign. Lawmakers have until September 30, 2017 to agree upon a long-term bill.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

Supporting MPOs with the Bicycle-Pedestrian Count Technology Pilot Project

FHWA recently concluded a one-year **Bicycle-Pedestrian Count Technology Pilot Program**. The program explored challenges and opportunities for MPOs working to establish bike and pedestrian counting programs. Each of the pilot's ten MPOs received funds to purchase counters, participated in technical support webinars, and developed plans for using the data. A final report, to be released later this summer, will detail the MPOs experiences and lessons learned.

Considerations for Transportation Decision-making

FHWA released resources for MPOs regarding the impacts of climate change on environmental justice (EJ) communities and how to reduce its negative impacts. The resources include the ***FHWA Climate Change Adaption Framework*** and the ***Guide to Assessing Criticality in Transportation Adaption Planning***.

2016 Geographic Databases Released

Last month, the 2016 edition of the USDOT Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) National Transportation Atlas Database (NTAD) was released online. NTAD is a compilation of datasets that represent the nation's transportation infrastructure and support research, analysis, and decision-making across modes. The database consists of over 60 data layers and includes several new features, such as truck parking and road and airport noise layers.

REGIONS BRIEF

NARC Resources on MPO Coordination Proposed Rule

NARC created a webpage with resources related to the FHWA and FTA MPO Coordination NPRM. You can find NARC resources, such as webinar slides and NPRM red lines, as well as resources from the federal docket regarding the rule.

MTC's Participation in the FHWA Climate Resilience Pilot Program

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in the San Francisco Bay Area recently participated in the FHWA Climate Resilience Pilot Program and conducted a study to examine how future sea level rise will affect transportation assets. MTC worked with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, California DOT, and San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District. The program focused on three areas in Alameda County that include the Bay Bridge, Oakland Coliseum, and Hayward State Route 92 Corridor and developed 124 adaption

strategies to directly address the governance, information, physical, and functional vulnerabilities. The final report is now available and the findings from this study will be integrated into future plans.

Who's On Board 2016

TransitCenter released a new report, *Who's on Board 2016: What Today's Riders Teach Us About Transit That Works*, that analyzes responses from 3,000 transit riders in 17 regions across the country. The report found that frequency, speed, and walkability are the three most important aspects that create effective and satisfying transit service. Respondents consistently ranked amenities such as Wi-Fi and outlets at the bottom showing the desire for more frequent and reliable service above fancy add-ons. TransitCenter also looked at how people use transit and divided users into three categories: occasional riders, commuters, and all-purpose riders.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Senior Regional Planner

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, DC

Regional Transportation Director

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

Director of Municipal Services

Capitol Region Council of Governments, Hartford, CT

Associate/Regional Planner

Madera County Transportation Commission, Madera, CA

Alamo Local Authority Crisis Intervention Assessor

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

Associate Planner

Stanislaus Council of Governments, Modesto, CA

OPPORTUNITIES

[View full list of grants and events!](#)

FHWA MPO Coordination NPRM Webinar

July 15, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

On Monday, June 27, USDOT published a Notice of proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on *Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform* in the Federal Register. This webinar will review the NPRM and address questions. The comment period closes August 26. USDOT encourages stakeholders to review the proposed rule and submit comments to the docket.

RESCHEDULED NARC Webinar! Learn About New Census Business Builder Tools

July 21, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

Join NARC and the Census Bureau for a webinar demonstration on how to access and use the Census Business Builder. This new suite of tools is geared towards helping Regional Councils understand and visualize their unique region and provide access to the data that is most useful for them. The Census Business Builder: Regional Analyst Edition is a new set of economic and demographic data tools that allow for quick analysis of a region's economy and demographic profile. The tool allows users to build a region by aggregating counties in an easy to use map interface. Over 80 Census demographic and economic data variables are available, and the results can be viewed in the map or in report form. The Census Business Builder: Small Business Edition provides a window into businesses in your community, and allows users to pick from over 50 business types and view economic and demographic data valuable to understanding the current mix of businesses.

Connected Vehicles and Rural Road Weather Management

July 28, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

Each year, rural roadways experience a greater number of fatal crashes than urban roadways. Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS) have been adopted by rural transportation agencies with the purpose of providing travelers better information about the impact of current weather conditions on the roadway; however, RWIS can only provide data for a specific location and localized weather conditions require continuous high resolution road weather condition reporting. In response to the need for a more reliable system, connected vehicle (CV) technology introduced the concept of using vehicles to communicate current roadway conditions. This presentation will introduce new advances in the field of rural road weather management as well as provide insight into the research conducted at the University of Wyoming to implement a Connected Vehicle Road Weather Condition System.

NARC Event! NARC's 2016 Executive Directors Conference and Board Retreat

September 18-21 – South Bend, IN

Please join NARC and the Michiana Area Council of Governments this September for the annual Executive Directors Conference that is designed by and for executive directors of councils of governments and metropolitan planning organizations. Discuss topics ranging from human resources and succession planning to what's new on the technological horizon. The conference also provides a great opportunity for networking and sharing of information on best practices. This year's conference will start with a reception on Sunday night and end with the Board of Directors Retreat on Wednesday. Conference sessions for executive directors will end around 2:00 PM on Tuesday. The Board Dinner will be Tuesday evening, time and location TBD. **Note:** *Please plan to arrive on Sunday, September 18 as we will not have hotel rooms available on Saturday night.*

CONTACT US

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