

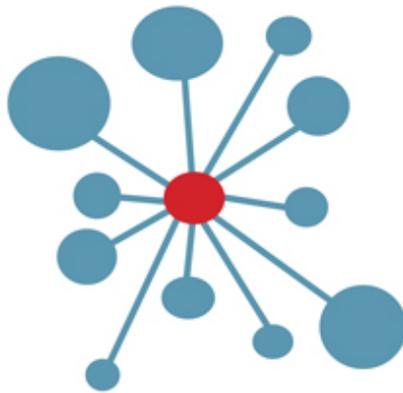
August 11, 2016

[View this email in your browser](#)



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS



**converge ■ learn ■ share**

**executive directors conference  
september 18 - september 20, 2016  
south bend, in**

**Register Today!**

## CONGRESS BRIEF

### **Senators Call on FCC to Improve Vehicle Cybersecurity and Privacy**

Senators Edward Markey (D-MA) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) – members of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee – sent a letter to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) last week requesting that it consider several privacy and safety measures for vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure communication. They outlined four considerations and encouraged collaboration between the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to protect consumers before automakers deploy these technologies. Last summer, the pair introduced the ***Security and Privacy in Your Car Act*** that directed FTC and NHTSA to establish federal standards on these issues.

## ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

### **MPO Coordination NPRM**

With just over two weeks until comments are due, NARC, AMPO, and NADO are working to finalize comments to share with you to inform your own comments. In advance of that, if NARC can help you develop your comments OR if you have comments you'd like to share, please email them to Erich Zimmermann at [erich@narc.org](mailto:erich@narc.org). Finally, if you would like the link to NARC's NPRM analysis and other materials, please get in touch as you won't find it linked anywhere on the website.

In related news, *Eno's Transportation Weekly* (TW) publication **ran a piece this week** from DVRPC's Executive Director Barry Seymour regarding his concerns with the NPRM, while Emil Frankel (an Eno board member) had a more positive outlook. They have placed these pieces outside of their normal paywall, so you can read them even if you don't have a TW subscription.

### **Final Guidance on Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change**

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) released the *Final Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Reviews*. The guidance provides a framework for agencies to consider within NEPA and ways to address greenhouse gas

emissions from federal actions. FHWA has also addressed this new guidance in a **memo** to its field offices that provides recommendations and addresses initial questions.

### **FHWA Scenario Planning Workshop Reports**

Two new summary reports are now available from the **Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council** and the **Gulf Regional Planning Commission** FHWA Scenario Planning Workshops. These peer exchange workshops introduce scenario planning to regions and identify ways to leverage existing scenario planning tools through panel presentations and group discussions. The program is a part of the FHWA and FTA Transportation Planning Capacity Building Program and FHWA Scenario Planning Program.

## **REGIONS BRIEF**

### **New Report About P3s**

The Center for American Progress published a report on public-private partnerships (P3s) and their ability to fund infrastructure projects. The report addresses several issues with liquidity and public pension claims and provides guidance on what kinds of projects are well-suited for this type of funding.

### **Poll: US Infrastructure Getting Worse**

According to a new poll from the Association of Equipment Manufactures (AEM), 46 percent of the 2,000 surveyed registered voters think the state of U.S. infrastructure has gotten worse. Almost 90 percent believe that roads, bridges, and energy grids require extreme repair. This sentiment was felt across all political parties and a majority also believed that state and local governments should be doing more. AEM is hoping that these results will influence lawmakers and presidential candidates when they fine-tune their long-term infrastructure plans.

### **Member Request! Regional Transit Plan**

Centralina Council of Governments in Charlotte, NC is currently in the design phase for development of a regional transit plan. They are looking to incorporate aspects of economic development, workforce affordable housing, broadband, and transit oriented development. Please share any models for this design process from your region or research demonstrating the value and benefit of this kind of development with Sarah Reed at [sarah@narc.org](mailto:sarah@narc.org).

## **JOBS**

*[View full list of jobs!](#)*

### **Deputy Executive Director**

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, Chesapeake, VA

### **Director, Alamo & Bexar Area Agencies on Aging**

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

### **Executive Director**

Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization, Yuma, AZ

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

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

### **The Use of ITS Data for Transit Planning and Management, and Its Challenges**

August 24, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

The USDOT Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office (ITS JPO) sponsored a project with ITS America, in cooperation with the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), to support a range of activities related to research, development, and dissemination of information on ITS and its application to public transportation modes. As part of these activities, ITS America has developed strategic discussion papers on key topics that might help identify and understand challenges and barriers to ITS deployment as well as suggest recommendations for action. These discussion papers build on the knowledge gained from a range of experts through workshops, listening sessions, and interviews, as supplemented by a review of pertinent literature. This webinar will focus on the Use of ITS data for transit planning and management, and its challenges.

## **Innovations in Accessible Mobility Grant Opportunity**

Applications Due: August 26

The National Aging and Disability Transportation Center is inviting applications for development of program innovations that increase accessible transportation options for older adults and people with disabilities, and maximize the use of Section 5310 and other federal funding investments. Grants of up to \$50,000 each will be awarded to as many as six communities for a twelve month period. Local and regional private nonprofit or government organizations may apply for this funding opportunity.

## **First-Mile, Last-Mile: Connections to Transit**

September 8, 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

Walkability and good public transit are natural partners because – together – they provide a reliable, supportive infrastructure for people to live well without a car. This webinar explores ways for transit advocates and walkable community advocates to work together to create solutions in which the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

## **Ridesharing, Technology and TDM in University Campus Settings**

September 8, 3:00 – 4:30 PM ET

This webinar features lessons from a new FHWA report that examines how university campus transportation departments are using new technologies and supportive policies to advance ridesharing and transportation demand management (TDM) as alternatives to driving alone to campus. It looks at university campuses as “ridesharing and TDM laboratories” where innovations may be first attempted in a relatively more controlled environment, from which elements could potentially be transferred to broader, more complex metropolitan transportation planning contexts. The report features case studies of successful ridesharing and TDM practices at six U.S. universities that have dramatically lowered drive-alone rates. In addition to the case studies, the report summarizes how ridesharing and TDM programs have factored into university transportation programs in the past; identifies and generalizes innovative practices from the case studies; and discusses how those practices may be applied in local, regional, or statewide transportation planning contexts.

## **Register Today! NARC's 2016 Executive Directors Conference and Board Retreat**

EDC: September 18-20 – South Bend, IN

Board Retreat: September 20-21 – South Bend, IN

Join NARC and the Michiana Area Council of Governments for the 2016 Executive Directors Conference in South Bend, Indiana. This conference brings executive directors, deputy directors, and senior staff together to network, share best practices, and explore opportunities for strengthening professional capacity and development. *Please plan to arrive on Sunday, September 18. Hotel rooms will not be available on Saturday night at our hotel or any others in the area.*

## **CONTACT US**

*Copyright © 2016 National Association of Regional Councils, All rights reserved.*