



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS

CONGRESS BRIEF

Congress is not in session. The House and Senate will return on September 8.

Coalition Letter Outlines Local Issues with DRIVE Act

NARC and other members of the Local Officials for Transportation (LOT) Coalition (National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Association of MPOs, and National Association of Development Organizations) sent a letter to House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee leadership this week outlining the local perspective on the Senate's DRIVE Act reauthorization bill. In particular, the letter explains that the Senate bill actually reduces STP funding for local decision-makers. We would like to get this in the hands of as many members as possible, so please send **this letter** to your member of Congress (especially if they are on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee).

CBO Releases Updated HTF Projections

Earlier this week, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released its update of the nation's budgetary and economic projections, including projections regarding the Highway Trust Fund (HTF). The HTF analysis is essential because it determines the amount of funding Congress needs to pass a multi-year highway bill later this year. According to the CBO projections, the HTF will have cumulative deficits of approximately \$78 billion over the six-year period between fiscal years 2016 and 2021. Taking into account the transfer recently made into the HTF from the general fund at the end of July, Congress needs to find approximately \$72 billion to pay for a six-year reauthorization.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

Transportation Planning Process Briefing Book Update

Published by the Transportation Planning Capacity Building team at Federal Highways, this briefing book provides an overview of many of the transportation planning processes, and is intended for government officials, transportation decision makers, board members, service providers, and interested stakeholders and the public. The book outlines and overviews the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes and describes the key products produced as a result. This is the first update of the book since 2007.

Joint Report Considers Transportation Industry Employment

The U.S. Departments of Transportation, Education, and Labor recently released a **joint report** entitled *Strengthening Skills Training and Career Pathways across the Transportation Industry*. The report details future growth areas, or employment "hot spots," in transportation categorized by industry subsectors, occupations, career areas, and geographic areas. It also identifies good-paying, high-demand transportation jobs and analyzes patterns in the education and work experience required for entry, including on-the-job training requirements for new entrants to gain full competency. The report indicates that employers will need to hire and train a total of 4.6 million new workers – 1.2 times the current transportation workforce – due to expected growth,

retirements, and turnover in the transportation industry from 2012 to 2022.

Secretary Foxx Announces Grant Recipients to Promote Careers in Transit, Ladders of Opportunity

In addition to the employment report release, Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced \$9.5 million in grants to 19 projects in 13 states selected to help train a new generation of skilled workers and support long-term careers in the public transportation industry. The grants are provided through FTA's Innovative Public Transportation Workforce Development program.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Program Manager – Area Agency on Aging Division

Capital Area Council of Governments, Austin, TX

Procurement Coordinator

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

Human Resources / Legal Department Administrative Assistant

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

Senior Planner – Land Use Modeler

Puget Sound Regional Council, Seattle, WA

OPPORTUNITIES

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

Leveraging Datasets with the FAF: A Case Study on California's Statewide Freight Model

September 15, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

Speakers from Caltrans and the University of California-Irvine will present a case study on how they used FAF data in combination with other datasets to develop and apply a statewide freight model that supports transportation decision-making for the State of California. This webinar is aimed toward practitioners in state DOTs, MPOs, RPOs, and other agencies who have basic or no knowledge of the FAF but would like to move to the next skill level.

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