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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

September 4, 2014

Transportation Thursdays

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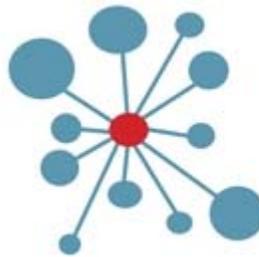
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executive directors' conference
september 21 - september 24, 2014
des moines, ia

Register Today!

ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEF

NARC & AMPO Release Member Survey Results: NARC, jointly with the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO), released the results of a survey designed to solicit MPO feedback on changes to federal transportation law that will require the largest MPOs (over 200,000 population) to have transit representation on their voting policy board. Some results from the survey:

- The changes, as envisioned by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), will be disruptive. More than one-fifth of respondents indicated a change in board structure will require a change to state law.

Governments

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- Transit is well represented at the nation's MPOs. More than 90% of members indicated transit is currently represented at the board level.

Download a summary of the issues and a breakdown of the results [HERE](#). Contact Erich Zimmermann, erich@narc.org, with questions.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

Senator John Thune Announces Commerce Committee Hearing on Rail Service: Yesterday, Senator John Thune (R-SD) announced that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation will hold a hearing on September 10 concerning rail service issues associated with transporting agricultural products in the U.S. The hearing will examine rail service backlogs in South Dakota and throughout the region. Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

REGIONAL BRIEF

Washington Region's First BRT Line Opens with Help from TIGER: Metroway, the Washington region's first bus rapid transit (BRT) line, is now open to passengers in Northern Virginia. The project was partially funded with a federal *Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery* (TIGER) grant that was received by the Transportation Planning Board. The new BRT line runs along the Route 1 corridor between the Braddock Road and Crystal City Metro stations in Alexandria and Arlington Counties, and is operated by Metro. Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

OPPORTUNITY BRIEF

Click [HERE](#) to view the list of grants and events still open!

GRANT: Notice of Funding Availability for TOD Planning Pilot Program

Proposal Deadline: November 3

FTA is making \$19.98 million in funding available for its *Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Pilot Program (TOD)*. This program helps support FTA's mission of improving public transportation for America's communities by providing funding to local communities to integrate land

use and transportation planning with a transit capital investment that will seek funding through FTA's *Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Program*. Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Grants.gov website by midnight Eastern Time on November 3, 2014. Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

WEBINAR: U.S. DOT Vision 2045: Shaping America's Transportation Future

September 8, 1:00 PM ET – [The Future of Freight](#)

September 9, 11:00 AM ET – [The Future of Freight](#)

September 9, 2:30 PM ET– [Moving America Forward](#)

September 10, 11:00 AM ET – [Moving America Forward](#)

September 10, 2:30 PM ET – [Shaping America's Aviation Future](#)

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx invites you to participate in a webinar series on the future of America's transportation system. Each webinar will look at the landscape of the transportation system and provide the opportunity to identify challenges and opportunities that our country will face in coming decades. These sessions seek to provide an intellectual reset for transportation policy over the next three decades, building off previous years of existing strategic transportation plans, research, and visions. Click on each session to register.

WEBINAR: Eco-Plan Beta Testing

September 10, 3:00 PM ET

Does your agency or organization need improved access to integrated ecosystem and transportation data? Could you use a "one stop shop" web tool to incorporate national and local resource datasets into your transportation planning process? Do you want to help in using geospatial data to identify and avoid potential conflicts between ecological assets and transportation plans? FHWA is looking for people like you to test Eco-Plan, a web-based tool that pulls together current, national geospatial data. Click [HERE](#) to register.

WEBINAR/PUBLIC MEETING: Seeking Stakeholder Input to FHWA's Vehicle to Infrastructure (V2I) Deployment Guidance

September 12, 9:30 AM ET - Cobo Center: 1 Washington Blvd. Detroit, MI 48226

Remote participation will be available via web conference.

The purpose of this meeting is to seek stakeholder input on preparations by FHWA regarding the development of Connected Vehicle Infrastructure (V2I) deployment guidance and deployment coalition planning. U.S. DOT would like input from transportation infrastructure

owner/operators on draft FHWA guidance aimed at supporting successful implementation and operations of connected vehicle technologies. It should be noted that the deployment of V2I technologies will be voluntary and is not coupled with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's proposed rulemaking for Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) communications. Click [HERE](#) to register.

WEBINAR: U.S. DOT *Connected Vehicles Pilot Deployment Program: Communications and Role of DSRC*

September 19, 11:00 AM ET

The *Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment Program* seeks to combine connected vehicle and mobile device technologies in innovative and cost-effective ways. Ultimately, this program will improve traveler mobility and system productivity while reducing environmental impacts and enhancing safety. U.S. DOT anticipates a procurement action for multiple pilot deployment concepts in 2015. Click [HERE](#) to register.

WEBINAR: TREDIS Freight Planning and Economic Development

September 23, 1:00 PM ET

TREDIS offers enhanced features that make use of new datasets enabling analysis of commodity flows, freight requirements, and the economic consequences of freight policies and infrastructure investments. This webinar will highlight new TREDIS products, driven by enhanced data sources: vFreight and Transearch. It is suitable for those interested in regional and state-wide multimodal freight transportation planning. Click [HERE](#) to register.

SURVEY: Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

Deadline: September 29

The AASHTO Standing Committee on Planning invites your participation in a brief survey covering current and future planning activities at state DOTs, MPOs, and regional organizations. The insights and responses you provide will be used to develop a quarterly series of "snapshot" publications. Snapshots will highlight current practices, trending topics, best practice examples, and other information on the survey topics. A series of snapshots are being developed through NCHRP 8-36 to address timely topics and provide a resource for planners, executives, legislators, and others interested in planning practices. The snapshots will be made available through the Transportation Research Board and at www.planningsnapshots.camsys.com. Click [HERE](#) for the survey.

NARC CONFERENCE: Executive Directors' Conference

September 21 - 24; Des Moines, IA

Join NARC and the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization for the 2014 Executive Directors' Conference in Des Moines, IA! For more than 40 years, NARC has brought hundreds of Executive Directors, their Deputies, and Senior Staff together to network, share best practices, and explore opportunities for strengthening professional capacity and development. Click [HERE](#) for details.

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