

November 3, 2016

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS



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NARC's new address:**

**660 NORTH CAPITOL ST NW
SUITE 440***

WASHINGTON, DC 20001

**Please note that the suite number has changed.*

CONGRESS BRIEF

Transportation Members Face Tough Reelection Battles

Election Day is only days away and several key transportation-related members of Congress are in tight reelection battles. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) and committee members John Mica (R-FL), John Katko (R-NY), and Jeff Denham (R-CA) all face tight races. Shuster is opposed by a tea-party backed candidate, Art Halvorson, who is running as a Democrat after losing to Shuster in the Republican primary. If Shuster wins, he promises to continue the push for air traffic control privatization in the 115th Congress. Interestingly, Representative Sam Graves (R-MO), who would seek to replace Shuster as chairman, made recent comments indicating how unlikely this proposal would be in the next Congress. In the Senate, Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) is locked in a toss-up with New Hampshire Governor Maggie Hassan.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

Accelerating the Deployment of Electrical Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure

Today, the Obama Administration announced key steps to accelerate the implementation of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure across the United States. The announcement includes shared goals between the administration, states, localities, and the private sector to advance deployment and improve technology. Twenty-four states and local governments have made commitments that include impressive goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, build new charging stations, and electrify their fleets. The White House announcement also highlights USDOT and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) initiatives that are promoting the adoption of electric vehicles.

FHWA Unveils National 'Alternative Fuel and Electric Charging' Network

FHWA today announced the 55 routes that will serve as the basis for the alternative fuel corridor national network as directed by Congress in the FAST Act. The corridors selected already have alternative fuels stations in operation and will soon be eligible to feature highway signs to notify drivers in the same way as gas stations, restaurants, and lodging. More miles will continue to be added to the 85,000-mile network that spans 35 states as more fueling and charging stations are built.

REGIONS BRIEF

NARC Fleets for the Future All-Team Meeting

Last week, NARC hosted a meeting with the regional councils, Clean Cities coalitions, and technical partners of the DOE project promoting the value of alternative fuel vehicles for local governments. The Pima Association of Governments, Mid America Regional Council, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, North Central Texas Council of Government, and Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments joined NARC in DC for a daylong session on the best practices for moving toward alternative fuel vehicles. The team focused on gaseous fuels and electric vehicles and also heard an update from the Mid America Regional Council on their pilot alternative fuel vehicle procurement that is well underway. The meeting also included a presentation from FHWA on the use of federal Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles and the necessary infrastructure. The second-year goal of the project will be a national procurement allowing all regional councils to promote the use of and purchase of alternative fuel vehicles for their fleets. If you would like further information on the project or are interested in participating in the national procurement, please contact Sarah Reed at sarah@narc.org.

Active Transportation Agenda for the Next President

The Partnership for Active Transportation, a collaboration of organizations, has published recommended actions for the next presidential administration to promote the health, safety, and economic vitality of communities nationwide. Their actions include increased investment, prioritizing safety, improving planning, and focusing on transportation networks to create safe and practical routes for pedestrians and cyclists. Organizations can sign on to their agenda before November 10 to recommend their proposed actions to the next administration.

Health Impact Assessment Toolkit for Planners

The American Planning Association (APA) released a toolkit for planners ready to begin a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). The APA toolkit provides guidance for planners on how to move from “considering an HIA” to “conducting an HIA” within the context of the community and builds upon the findings in their **report** and research with the Pew Charitable Trusts.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Transportation and Data Manager

Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency, Omaha, NE

Regional Planner

San Diego Association of Governments, San Diego, CA

Planner III

West Florida Regional Planning Council, Pensacola, FL

Planner I

West Florida Regional Planning Council, Pensacola, FL

Regional Planner

Flint Hills Regional Council, Ogden, KS

Payroll Specialist

San Diego Association of Governments, San Diego, CA

Planner

Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, Meridian, ID

Alamo Local Authority Team Leader

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

OPPORTUNITIES

View full list of grants and events!

State Freight Plans and State Freight Advisory Committees – FAST Act Guidance Overview

November 16, 1:00 – 2:30 PM ET

The State Freight Plan FAST Act guidance was published in the Federal Register on October 14, 2016. The guidance outlines the requirements for states to prepare FAST Act-compliant state freight plans, and to ensure they are eligible to continue to obligate the new National Highway Freight Program (FAST Act Section 1116) formula funds after the two-year anniversary of the FAST Act on December 4, 2017. The FAST Act State Freight Plan guidance builds upon the MAP-21 State Freight Plan interim guidance many states used to prepare plans prior to enactment of the FAST Act. In addition to discussing the statutory requirements for state freight plans, the new guidance also provides State Freight Advisory Committee recommendations. This webinar will provide information to aid states in complying with the FAST Act requirements relating to State Freight Plans and Freight Advisory Committees.

2017 Walkability Action Institute

Applications due: November 30, 11:59 pm ET

Send via email in one PDF document to Karma Edwards (kedwards@chronicdisease.org).

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity seeks applications from MPO regions (or other similar regional entity) for competitive funding assistance to support attendance at the third annual walkability action institute, titled *Step It Up!: Action Institute to Increase Walking and Walkability*. The purpose is to prepare interdisciplinary teams from MPO regions to pursue policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) supports for walking and walkability. This action institute will provide teams with the most up-to-date academic and applied learning methods, and will reinforce and support implementation of significant national public health policy statements promoting walking and walkability.

USDOT Requests Applications for \$850 Million in FASTLANE Transportation Infrastructure Grants

Applications Due: December 15, 8:00 PM ET

USDOT is soliciting applications for the FY2017 Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) grants. During the last cycle, USDOT received 212 applications and selected 18. The evaluation criteria remains the same as last year, so USDOT is expecting some applicants to reapply and suggests highlighting new or revised information in the application. The total available funding is estimated to be \$850 million and will be awarded by the new administration next year.

CONTACT US

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