

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS**

TRANSPORTATION THURSDAYS

CONGRESS BRIEF

Surface Transportation Bill Conference Committee Holds First Meeting

Yesterday, the first formal meeting of the Transportation Reauthorization Conference Committee was held. The committee is tasked with resolving policy differences between the House STRR Act and the Senate DRIVE Act to create a final legislative package. Their first order of business was to name Representative Bill Shuster (R-PA), Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as conference Chairman. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, was named Vice Chairman. The rest of yesterday's public meeting was primarily to permit members to give opening statements. The current expiration of the transportation program is November 20, but an extension until December 4 is in the works. That gives members two additional weeks, with a major holiday in between, to work out an agreement.

NARC Conference Committee Resources

To provide NARC members with an overview of some of the more important issues the conference committee will be discussing during this process, we've compiled a **side-by-side document** outlining current law and how that compares with the details of the Senate DRIVE Act and the House STRR Act. Additionally, NARC and the rest of the LOT Coalition **sent a letter to conferees** yesterday outlining a number of issues that impact regions and local areas.

The Internet of Cars

Earlier this week, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform held a hearing on connected vehicles security and privacy. Representatives from Toyota, Tesla, General Motors, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Information Technology Industry Council, and Electronic Privacy Information Center provided testimony. The committee is exploring whether federal legislation is required to regulate cybersecurity and privacy in connected vehicles. While this technology could greatly improve safety, there is a potential for vehicle hacking and data breaches in areas - such as the GPS location of privately owned vehicles.

ADMINISTRATION BRIEF

New Connected Vehicles Website

A new website from the Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office explains the basics of connected vehicles and how the technology will benefit specific users. The site also describes next steps for the federal government and how this technology will be used here and around the world.

REGIONS BRIEF

New Scioto Greenways Open for Residents to Enjoy

Earlier this month, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission celebrated the opening of the 33 acre Scioto Greenways project in downtown Columbus. The project was a collaboration between

several groups in the area that resulted in an additional 1.5 miles of trails that connect to the 330-mile Ohio to Erie Trail, giving visitors access to the river and more green space to the downtown area.

JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Transportation Research Analyst

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Cleveland, OH

Senior Research Associate

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Cleveland, OH

Senior Transportation Modeler

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Cleveland, OH

Principal Transportation Modeler

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Cleveland, OH

Senior Transportation Planner

Pima Association of Governments, Tucson, AZ

Senior Environmental Planner

OH-KY-IN Regional Council of Governments, Cincinnati, OH

OPPORTUNITIES

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

MOVES2014a: Introduction and New Features

November 18, 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

December 10, 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

MOVES2014a is the latest version of the Environmental Protection Agency's Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator, incorporating significant improvements in calculating onroad and nonroad equipment emissions. This webinar provides an introduction to MOVES2014a with additional training on the new features.

Large-Scale Strategic Transport Models in Australia and Europe

November 19, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM ET

This webinar will describe models of long-distance travel that have been developed for countries in Northern and Western Europe by RAND Europe. The presentation will start with a description of some characteristics and policy issues for long-distance travel, and then detail the national model of long-distance travel that has been developed in Great Britain. It will also highlight other national and corridor studies.

Re-Programming Mobility 2030: Scenarios of Digital Transformation in Metropolitan America

November 24, 12:00 – 1:00 PM ET

As digital transformation occurs at every scale of the transportation system—from individual trip planning to the design and management of regional mass transit systems. How will mobility and land use patterns shift in U.S. metropolitan areas over the coming decades? Hear key findings from an alternative futures scenario exercise conducted by NYU's Rudin Center for Transportation exploring these possibilities, and the ways in which transportation policy and planning organizations may act and react to these shifts.

Crash Data for Planning Survey

Respond by November 30

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. These snapshots are intended to highlight current practices, address trending topics, provide best practice examples, and act as a resource for planners, executives, legislators, and others interested in planning practices. MPO participation is requested.

New FHWA Climate Change and Sustainability Resources Available

FHWA recently compiled several new resources on sustainability and climate change that includes studies, webinars, and news.

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