



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

eREGIONS

EXECUTIVE NOTE

Dear NARC Members:

It was wonderful to see so many of you in Austin for our NARC/NADO Executive Directors Training and NARC Board and EDC meetings. If you need a refresher on what you learned at the conference or would like to see what you missed, we have posted many of the presentations from the training on our [website](#), and will continue to post as more of them come in. Also, please take a couple of minutes to complete your [evaluation form](#), as NARC & NADO will use this information to plan for future events. Please send evaluations to me at joanna@narc.org.

Thanks,
Joanna L. Turner

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

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

EPA Launches New CWSRF Website

Over its lifetime, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) has provided more than \$105 billion of financing for water infrastructure projects. This state-federal partnership program has provided almost 35,000 loans for communities of all sizes and types nationwide. Now the CWSRF has a new website covering all facets of the program. For example, the site includes information on types of projects eligible for funding, types of financial assistance offered, and data on the program's environmental benefits and lifetime accomplishments. Parties seeking funding can use the site to link to their state CWSRF program.

Public Transportation Safety Program Rulemaking Released

In the aftermath of a recent train derailment on Washington, D.C.'s Metro rail system, the Federal Transit Agency (FTA) on Friday released a proposed rule establishing a Public Transportation Safety Program. One aspect of the program includes giving the FTA Administrator new powers to take enforcement actions against transit agencies that violate federal law, as well as the authority to penalize offending agencies by withholding federal funds or requiring more frequent reporting. Public comment will be accepted on the proposal rule until October 13.

OTHER NEWS

Public Safety and Industry Groups Issue Recommendations on 911 Governance & Reliability

Last Tuesday, the Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies (iCERT) and six other industry and public safety organizations submitted a proposal to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recommending key principles for guiding the nation's efforts in deploying and operating next generation 911 (NG911) systems reliably and with effective governance and

accountability. The principles are designed to aid the FCC's efforts to address the complex governance, accountability, and reliability issues presented by today's evolving 911 systems and services, and to respond directly to the FCC's challenge to industry and public safety to collaborate on best practices. The principles offer an overarching approach for addressing the long-term viability of the nation's 911 system.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Want your organization featured here? Send details to anna@narc.org.

Farmersville, CA Roundabout Groundbreaking

The Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) is implementing a new transportation project that includes two closely-spaced roundabouts at an intersection located south of SR 198. Roundabouts are beneficial because they increase vehicle capacity at their interchanges and improve the flow of traffic. They can contribute to significant reductions in all accidents (35%), accident injuries (76%), and fatal accidents (90%). Another great feature of this project is that it also has plans for future development on vacant sites that are adjacent to the new roundabouts.

FEATURED JOBS

View full list of jobs!

Transportation Intern

National Association of Regional Councils, Washington, DC

Assistant Director of Local Authority

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

FUNDING

View full list of grants!

EVENTS

View full list of events!

FEMA Hosting Webinars to Receive Input on FIOPs

Click [HERE](#) for a listing of all webinars.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is updating the Federal Interagency Operational Plans (FIOPs). FIOPs, part of the National Preparedness System, outlines the concept of operations for integrating and synchronizing existing national-level federal capabilities to support local, state, tribal, territorial, insular area, and federal plans. They are also designed to provide state, local, tribal, territorial, and insular area planners an understanding of how the federal government will function in its response, so that they may develop or modify plans to bolster an integrated and whole community effort to make the collective response stronger and more effective. Click [HERE](#) to review proposed updates to the FIOPs and download the feedback matrix. Email comments, using the provided matrix, to PPD8-Engagement@fema.dhs.gov. Additionally, FEMA is hosting a series of webinars from August 17 through August 26 to discuss the update effort. Advance registration is required.

RIS Program Opportunities for Rural Communities Webinar

August 8, 2:30 PM ET

This webinar will outline the parameters of each **2015 Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) Program** competition, discuss tips on the application process, and provide general guidance on ways to build a competitive proposal. New to the program this year, up to \$2.5 MM of the i6competition funds will be awarded to rural organizations focused on expanding capabilities for entrepreneurs. Special considerations will be given to applicants prioritizing populations and communities that are underrepresented in innovation and entrepreneurship. Q&A will follow the formal presentation. Please submit any questions you have ahead of time via email

to oi@eda.gov, using the subject line: "Questions for Rural Webinar."

Federal Reserve Webcast: How Does Your Cost of Living Compare to the National Average?

September 23, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

Join the next ECONversations webcast featuring Atlanta Fed economist Brent Meyer. Meyer will discuss the cost of living and how it's connected to how individual consumers experience inflation. During the webcast, he will use a new tool called **myCPI** to help you find comparable cost-of-living trends with the overall Consumer Price Index (CPI). The webcast is free and open to the public.

CONTACT US

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