

## Human Environment Digest

May 3, 2018

Welcome to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Human Environment biweekly email digest. This digest shares the latest information from a range of Federal and non-Federal sources, addressing transportation and its relationship to the human environment. Through this information exchange, FHWA hopes to foster dialogue at all levels and continue to further the state of the practice on these important topics in support of safety; infrastructure, including accelerated project delivery, access to jobs, and community revitalization; technology and design innovation; and accountability, including, data-driven decisions and performance-based planning.

For more information on any of these topics, see the FHWA Related Links on the sidebar.

\*The information provided in this mailing does not necessarily reflect the view of the Federal Highway Administration or the U.S. Department of Transportation.



### Safety

#### Bike Safety Events Throughout May

May is full of activities that are meant to improve engagement on topics related to safe biking. May 9 is [National Bike Month](#) includes an ever-expanding diversity of events in communities nationwide, including Bike to Work Week from May 14-18, and Bike to Work Day on May 18. The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) is celebrating events throughout the month through its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) pages, using the hashtag #BikeMonth.

#### "Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations"

The *Federal Highway Administration* recently released the ["Guide for Improving Pedestrian Safety at Uncontrolled Crossing Locations"](#) as part of [Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian](#) (STEP). The guide details a six-step process for improving safety at uncontrolled crossings and provides new tools to help agencies identify countermeasure options based on roadway characteristics and pedestrian safety issues.



### Infrastructure

#### USDOT Announces BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants Program

The *U.S. Department of Transportation* (DOT) published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for \$1.5 billion in discretionary grant funding through the [Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development \(BUILD\)](#) Transportation Discretionary Grants program. BUILD Transportation grants will replace the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. BUILD Transportation grants are for investments in surface transportation infrastructure and are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. BUILD funding can support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports or intermodal transportation.

#### Ten New Walk Friendly Communities Recognized

On April 25, *Walk Friendly Communities* (WFC) [recognized 10 communities](#) for their commitment to prioritizing pedestrians and creating safe, comfortable, and inviting places to walk. The new communities are Fort Collins, CO; Hartford, CT; Saranac Lake, NY; Coeur D'Alene, ID; Indiana, PA; Kirkland, WA; Louisville, KY; Mountain View, CA; Rochester, MN; and Shorewood, WI.

#### "Guidebook to Funding Transportation Through Land Value Return and Recycling"

The *Transportation Research Board's* (TRB's) National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) published Research Report 873, titled ["Guidebook to Funding Transportation Through Land Value Return and Recycling."](#) The report presents examples of how to take advantage of a portion of property-value increases to fund maintenance and operations as well as investment in the infrastructure.



### Innovation

## **FHWA's Fostering Multimodal Connectivity Newsletter**

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) published the [April 2018 edition of the Fostering Multimodal Connectivity Newsletter](#). The newsletter provides transportation professionals with real-world examples of ways in which multimodal transportation investments promote economic revitalization, provide access to jobs, and achieve safer communities. This edition highlights drone-assisted development of a multiuse path in Washington State, the City of Durham's Bike+Walk Implementation Plan, and more.

## **FHWA's National Dialogue on Highway Automation**

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) is initiating a national conversation with partners and stakeholders to better understand the implications of highway automation to facilitate innovation and inform the Agency's role in this area. The [National Dialogue on Highway Automation](#) represents a series of meetings held across the country to facilitate information sharing, identify key issues and prepare the infrastructure and the broader transportation community to safely and efficiently integrate automated vehicles into the road network.

---



## **Accountability**

### **FHWA Posts Request for Comments on Contracts for Federal-Aid Construction**

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) announced in the Federal Register that the [Indefinite Delivery and Indefinite Quantity \(ID/IQ\)](#) method of contracting (including job order contracts) for low-cost construction contracts in the Federal-aid highway program will be allowed, without prior FHWA approval, under certain circumstances. The deadline to submit comments through the Federal Register is June 1, 2018.