

Human Environment Digest

October 5, 2017

Welcome to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Human Environment weekly 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.

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.

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Bicycle/Pedestrian



"Manual on Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections to Transit"

The *Federal Transit Administration* (FTA) recently published a "[Manual on Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections to Transit](#)." The publication provides best practices to help transportation professionals improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and access to transit, including information on evaluating, planning for, and implementing improvements to pedestrian and bicycle access to transit.

Pedestrian Detection Systems May Prevent Crashes and Injuries

The *U.S. Department of Transportation's* (USDOT's) *Volpe Center* recently developed a [new infographic](#) to estimate the safety benefits of Pedestrian Crash Avoidance and Mitigation Technologies (PCAM). Together with the *National Highway Traffic Safety Administration* (NHTSA), the *Volpe Center* is evaluating detection technology to help prevent crashes and injuries involving vehicles and pedestrians.

Application Open for America Walks' Community Change Grants

America Walks announced that the next round of its [micro grant funding program](#) is now open. The program will award grantees up to \$1,500 in community stipends for projects related to creating healthy, active, and engaged places to live. The application deadline is November 10, 2017.

Environmental Justice



Environmental Justice Community Practice Webinar Available

The Center for Environmental Excellence at the *American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials* (AASHTO) recently published a recording of the September meeting of its [Environmental Justice \(EJ\) Community of](#)

Practice. The webinar includes an overview of Federal EJ resources, a review of the Center's current and past EJ work, and case studies of EJ analysis during transportation planning.

Urban Waters Federal Partnership Wins Sammies People's Choice Award

The Urban Water Federal Partnership recently won the Service to America Medals (Sammies) People's Choice Awards. The Partnership works across 19 locations to revitalize communities located along urban waterways. The Partnership has worked with the *U.S. Department of Transportation* (USDOT) on TIGER grants and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure to support Urban Waters communities.

Livability



October 2017 FHWA Livable Communities Newsletter Now Available

The October 2017 edition of the *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) Fostering Livable Communities Newsletter is now available. The newsletter provides transportation professionals with real-world examples of ways in which transportation investments promote livability, such as providing access to good jobs, affordable housing, quality schools, and safer roads.

TRB Releases 14 Papers on Public Transportation

The *Transportation Research Board* (TRB) recently published the Journal of the Transportation Research Board No. 2652, "Public Transportation: Marketing, Fare Policy, and Transformative Data Trends." This collection of papers focuses on several topics surrounding public transportation, such as analyzing transit ridership, discounted youth passes, and impacts of fare changes on accessibility.

Smart Growth America Launches ArtPlace Transportation Field Scan

Smart Growth America released its new ArtPlace Transportation Field Scan, a national examination of creative placemaking that documents how and where artists, designers, and cultural workers are collaborating with local governments and community partners to solve transportation challenges. The field scan explores seven of the most pressing challenges facing the transportation sector today, identifies how arts and culture contribute to solutions, and offers case studies from diverse community contexts. *Smart Growth America* will conduct a free webinar to discuss the field scan on October 13, 2017.

Active Transportation Projects Receive America's Transportation Awards

America's Transportation Awards announced its Top 12 finalists for the 2017 awards cycle. *Colorado Department of Transportation* (DOT) was honored as one of the best in the nation for its US 36 Express Lanes project, which included the installation of intelligent transportation systems for incident management, the addition of bus rapid transit lanes, the addition of a commuter bikeway, and other elements.

Healthy Places Healthy People Application Period Open

Healthy Places for Healthy People recently announced that the application period is open for its next round of planning assistance. *Healthy Places for Healthy People* engages with community leaders and healthcare providers to create walkable, healthy, and economically-vibrant communities. The organization will provide selected communities with planning assistance that centers around a two-day community workshop. The application deadline is October 25, 2017.

"Revitalizing Smaller Legacy Cities, from Gary to Lowell"

The *Lincoln Institute of Land Policy* published a new report titled, "Revitalizing America's Smaller Legacy Cities." The report examines the challenges of American legacy cities, which are defined as older industrial centers with populations of under 200,000. The report identified replicable strategies that have helped these cities transform into sustainable communities.

"Aging in Place in Small Urban and Rural Communities"

The *Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute* at *North Dakota State University* released a report titled, "Aging in Place in Small Urban and Rural Communities." The report analyzes the current state of aging in small urban and rural settings throughout the Country. The report seeks to determine if publicly-funded transportation projects can assist the elderly to age in place by evaluating the costs of public transit versus assisted living facilities.

ITE Talks Transportation Podcast: Smart Communities

The *Institute of Transportation Engineers* (ITE) released the [fourth episode](#) of its ITE Talks Transportation series. The episode focuses on a discussion about designing smart communities in Portland, OR, featuring Peter Koonce of the *City of Portland Bureau of Transportation*.