

Human Environment Digest

September 7, 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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Announcements

TIGER Program Issues Notice of Funding Opportunity

On September 6, 2017, the *U.S. Department of Transportation* (USDOT) [announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) for the FY17 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant Program. This year's grant selections will reflect an increased focus on projects that exceed the minimum cost share requirements and on projects that serve communities in rural areas. The application deadline is October 16, 2017.

Call for Abstracts for 2018 International Transportation Economic Development Conference

The *Transportation Research Board* (TRB) and the *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) are sponsoring [I-TED 2018: International Transportation Economic Development Conference](#) on June 6-8, 2018 in Washington, D.C. The conference will focus on economic development and its social impacts; transit-oriented development; linkages of international trade, economic development, and transportation corridors; and transportation improvements and market competitiveness. Registration is open; the deadline to submit abstracts is November 15, 2017.

Bicycle/Pedestrian



"A Right to the Road: Understanding & Addressing Bicyclist Safety"

The *Governors' Highway Safety Association* (GHSA) released a report titled ["A Right to the Road: Understanding and Addressing Bicyclist Safety."](#) The report analyzes fatal crash data involving bicyclists to identify changes in trend lines associated with locations and causes of crashes.

"Discussion Guide for Automated and Connected Vehicles, Pedestrians, and Bicyclists"

The *Pedestrian Bicycle Information Center* (PBIC) published a ["Discussion Guide for Automated and Connected Vehicles, Pedestrians, and Bicyclists."](#) The guide presents 10 key challenge areas that should be at the center of discussions involving automated and connected vehicles and active transportation.

"Methods to Measure Walkability"

The *Transportation Research Board* (TRB) hosted a series of videos in July 2017 that examine the methods of measuring walkability that bicycle and pedestrian planners are incorporating into their processes. The presentations that were

recorded included quantitative and qualitative data collection methods and models. [Recordings and slides](#) from the proceedings are now available.

Video Analytics Towards Vision Zero Partnership

The city of Bellevue, WA; *the University of Washington*; and *Microsoft* collaborated to launch the "[Video Analytics towards Vision Zero Partnership](#)." The crowdsourcing project relies on volunteers to analyze prerecorded traffic videos, labeling the trajectory of cars, bikes, and people. The organizations will use the information to develop learning algorithms so that computers will be able to recognize objects, and flag collisions and "near misses."

Livability



FTA Accepts Applications for Passenger Ferry Service Grants

The *Federal Transit Administration* (FTA) is [accepting applications to award \\$30 million](#) in fiscal year 2017 competitive grants for passenger ferry projects in urbanized areas. The agency will award grants to States and public entities to repair and modernize ferry boats, terminals and related facilities and equipment, in order to support existing ferry service and to establish new passenger ferry service so that a larger segment of the traveling public may enjoy increased transportation options and improved accessibility. The application deadline is October 23, 2017.

How Transit Affects Job Seekers

The *University of Southern California* (USC) released a study on [how transit affects individuals seeking jobs](#). The researchers found that being able to bike or use a ridesharing service can be a crucial factor in searching for jobs for riders with limited access to public transportation. The study emphasizes developing first- and last-mile connections to aid these riders.