

## Human Environment Digest

August 10, 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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## Environmental Justice



### New Fundamentals of Environmental Justice Web-based Course

The Federal Highway Administration's National Highway Institute is offering, at no cost, a new web-based training course titled Fundamentals of Environmental Justice. The course provides an update to resources, references, and case studies in a previous instructor-led environmental justice (EJ) fundamentals course. The course highlights [USDOT's guiding EJ principles](#) and discusses FHWA's commitment to incorporating these principles in the agency's programs, policies, and activities. Participants are presented with a variety of strategies and resources that can be used to address environmental justice in all phases of transportation decision making. Click on this link to register [NHI Course 142074](#).

## Health



### Health in Transportation Working Group 2016 Annual Report

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Health in Transportation Working Group examines and promotes existing policies and programs to assist agencies in addressing health-related issues such as noise, active transportation, quality-of-life, and access to jobs and services. The [2016 Annual Report](#) provides an overview of the Working Group's activities in 2016, documents its progress toward implementing the recommendations laid out in the 2015 Annual Report, and offers future recommendations for the Working Group.

## Livability



## **FHWA Releases Webinar Recordings on ICE Tool and EERPAT Model**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published [recordings of two recent webinars](#), which focused on tools for energy and greenhouse gas emissions analysis. The April 26 webinar introduced recent improvements in the [Energy and Emissions Reduction Policy Analysis Tool](#) (EERPAT) and the results from State pilot tests. In the June 8 webinar, FHWA staff provided an overview of [FHWA's Infrastructure Carbon Estimator \(ICE\) Tool](#), a spreadsheet-based model for estimating the energy and carbon dioxide emissions associated with the construction and maintenance of transportation facilities.

## **"Transportation Infrastructure Resiliency: A Review of Practices in Denmark, the Netherlands, and Norway"**

The Federal Highway Administration published a report titled ["Transportation Infrastructure Resiliency: A Review of Practices in Denmark, the Netherlands, and Norway."](#) The report summarizes a global benchmarking study on climate resilience that highlights practices used by transportation agencies in Denmark, the Netherlands, and Norway. The study includes international practices on integrating climate projections into highway planning and design procedures, managing uncertainty, and emergency management.

## **Strong Cities, Strong Communities Case Studies Published**

The "Strong Cities, Strong Communities" (SC2) Initiative is an innovative approach for supporting cities experiencing population and job loss, capacity constraints, and similar challenges. For 2 years, SC2 teams worked in place-based engagements in mayors' offices in 14 cities and coordinated an interagency team to support each city's vision, many of which included transportation elements. The initiative recently released [SC2 case studies](#), which highlight best practices of the placed-based engagements.

## **Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria**

The Governors Highway Safety Association and National Highway Traffic Safety Association recently released the [Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria \(MMUCC\) 5th edition guideline](#). The MMUCC helps States improve data collection and reporting, enhancing context-sensitive safety improvements to benefit all users of the transportation system, resulting in more livable communities.

## **FTA Announces a Proposed Rule to Streamline Private Sector Involvement in Transit Projects**

On July 31, the Federal Transit Administration announced [a proposal to facilitate public-private partnerships in public transportation](#). The newly proposed Private Investment Project Procedures (PIPP) for public-transportation capital projects will help the Federal Government develop more effective approaches to spurring private participation and investment in areas such as project planning, development, finance, design, construction, maintenance, and operations. Investments can support multimodal improvements associated with transit.

## **Lyft and Amtrak Partner to Deliver First- and Last-Mile Connections**

Lyft and Amtrak have partnered to provide customers with [a new solution](#) for challenges in first- and last-mile service. Amtrak app users can now book Lyft rides directly through Amtrak's mobile software. The feature is designed to help travelers fill gaps in the first and last legs of their journey.