

Human Environment Digest

February 9, 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.

Contents:

- [Announcements](#)
- [Bicycle/Pedestrian](#)
- [Environmental Justice](#)
- [Livability](#)

Announcements

Deadline Extended for 2017 EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Opportunity

The deadline for the *Environmental Protection Agency's* (EPA) Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) opportunity has been extended to February 10, 2017, at 11:59 PM (ET). The EJSG provide funding for eligible applicants for projects that address local environmental and public health issues within an affected community. The amended Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be found on grants.gov.

Implementation and Equity 201: A New Webinar Series on Creating Complete Streets

The *National Complete Streets Coalition* announced a new monthly webinar series, designed to help professionals from a variety of disciplines put Complete Streets principles into action. "[Implementation & Equity 201: The Path Forward to Complete Streets](#)," will explore a new issue each month related to creating safer, healthier, more equitable streets.

Bicycle/Pedestrian



"Measuring the Impact of Complete Streets Projects: Preliminary Field Testing"

The *New York State Department of Transportation* (NYS DOT) released a [report](#) that describes a field study assessing the impact of Complete Streets projects in Buffalo, NY. The study highlights eight street corridors where Complete Streets projects have been implemented or planned. The study team used multiple data collection tools to assess the impacts of the Complete Streets projects, including surveys, vehicle counts, and crash analyses. The authors suggest that ongoing Complete Streets data collection needs to become a shared priority among local Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Departments of Public Works, and Complete Streets groups.

Environmental Justice



U.S. DOT Environmental Justice Strategy

The *United States Department of Transportation's* (U.S. DOT) Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategy can be found online [here](#). The EJ Strategy describes a framework for accomplishing the U.S. DOT's goal of providing fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system for communities nationwide.

"Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity"

The *National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine* released a [report](#) that seeks to delineate the causes of and the solutions to health inequities in the United States. The report focuses on what communities can do to promote health equity, what actions are needed by the many and varied stakeholders that makeup communities, as well as the root causes and structural barriers that need to be overcome.

Livability



FHWA Releases Updated CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) developed a [series of tools](#) to provide technical support and resources for the implementation of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. The CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit is offered as an additional resource to assist State Departments of Transportation (DOTs), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and project sponsors develop reliable air quality benefit estimates in order to assist in project justification.

"Empty Spaces: Real Parking Needs at Five TODs"

On January 31, 2017, *Smart Growth America* published a new report, titled "[Empty Spaces: Real Parking Needs at Five TODs](#)." The report set out to determine how much less parking is required at transit-oriented developments (TODs) and how many fewer vehicle trips are generated than standard industry estimates. The report includes case studies from five TODs, including Englewood, CO; Wilshire/Vermont Station in Los Angeles, CA; Fruitvale Transit Village in Oakland, CA; Redmond, WA, Station in the Seattle region; and, Rhode Island Row in Washington, DC.

"Preparing for Aging Populations in America's Cities"

The *AARP* and the *U.S. Conference of Mayors* released a [report](#) on how cities across the Nation are preparing for their aging populations. The report summarizes the results of a survey of city leaders that tried to identify the resources, infrastructure, and policy changes that are needed to make cities more livable so that residents can choose to age in place.