

Human Environment Digest

September 22, 2016

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.

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

Every Place Counts Leadership Academy Launch

In order to help the public become more comfortable getting involved in transportation decisions, *U.S. Department of Transportation* (USDOT) Secretary Anthony Foxx launched the Every Place Counts Leadership Academy. The Leadership Academy will be geared toward future community leaders who want to improve their communities but have limited experience with the process of making transportation decisions. To learn more about the launch of the Leadership Academy, [click here](#).

FTA Announces Rides to Wellness Grant Recipients

On September 12, 2016, the *Federal Transit Administration* (FTA) announced selections for Rides to Wellness Demonstration and Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants, which will help connect people to much-needed healthcare services through improved access to public transportation. Grants awarded to [19 projects in 16 States](#) will build partnerships between health, transportation, and other service providers to address the problem of helping people without vehicles maintain good health.

Bicycle/Pedestrian



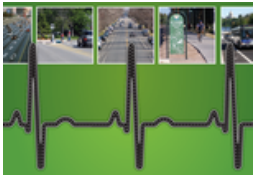
USDOT Announces Mayors' Challenge Pedestrian and Bicycle Awards

On September 16, 2016, *U.S. Department of Transportation* (USDOT) Secretary Anthony Foxx announced the [Mayors' Challenge Pedestrian and Bicycle Award winners](#) at the "2016 Safer People, Safer Streets Summit" in Washington, D.C. The mayors and cities that won awards have taken significant action to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety in their communities. Award winners were selected by USDOT based on their efforts to improve walking and biking locally based on the seven Challenge Activities.

AARP Releases Fact Sheet on Bicycling

The *American Association of Retired Persons* (AARP) recently released a [fact sheet](#) on how bicycling can contribute to community livability. The fact sheet is part of AARP's livability series, which provides information to help make communities great places for people of all ages to live.

Health



EPA Seeking Nominations for Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals

The *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* (EPA) is establishing the Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) to provide independent advice and expert consultation on the technical aspects of risk assessments, methodologies, and pollution prevention measures or approaches supporting implementation of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act. For more information, including how to submit comments or nominations to serve, please visit EPA's [Federal Register](#) notice.

EPA Offers Up to \$80,000 for Air Sensor Data Best Practices

The *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* (EPA) has recently announced its [Smart City Air Challenge](#), which encourages communities to install hundreds of air quality sensors and analyze the resulting data. Through the challenge, EPA will offer two communities up to \$40,000 each to work with their residents to crowdsource air quality data and share it with the public online. Applications are due by October 28, 2016.

Livability



FHWA AID Demonstration Program Now Accepting Applications

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) is now accepting applications for the Acceleration Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Program until February 1, 2016. The AID Demonstration program provides funding as an incentive for eligible entities to accelerate the implementation and adoption of innovation in highway transportation. To apply, view the [grant opportunity](#).

FTA Announces \$1 Billion to Expand San Diego Trolley Service

On September 14, the *Federal Transit Administration* (FTA) [announced a \\$1.04 billion Federal grant](#) agreement with the *San Diego Association of Governments* (SANDAG) to extend existing Blue Line Trolley service from downtown San Diego to the growing University City area. The extension will improve access to employment hubs and numerous educational and medical facilities north of downtown, making it easier for people to travel throughout the city.

Future Cities Accelerator Opportunity to Improve Poor and Vulnerable Communities

The *Future Cities Accelerator* is seeking 10 early-stage for-profit or non-profit organizations that are likely to benefit over 1 million poor or vulnerable people in U.S. cities. The Future Cities Accelerator will award those organizations [\\$100,000 in grant funding plus 9 months of intensive support](#). Applications are due by September 25, 2016.

American Trails Issues Calls for Symposium Presentations

American Trails has issued a call for presentations for its 2017 International Trails Symposium: ["Trails Take Flight: Connecting People, Places, and Possibilities,"](#) which will take place in Dayton, Ohio on May 7-10, 2017. Proposals can be for national or international presentations and are due by December 9, 2016.