

## Human Environment Digest

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June 2, 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

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### 2017 Transportation Planning Excellence Awards Program Now Live

Jointly sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the [2017 Transportation Planning Excellence Awards Program](#) is now accepting nominations for outstanding transportation planning practices performed across the Country in the last 3 years.

### National Park Service Announces Underrepresented Community Grants

The *National Park Service* (NPS) is now accepting applications for its [Underrepresented Community Grants](#) program for fiscal year 2016 for projects that support the survey, inventory, and designation of historic properties that are associated with underrepresented communities. Applications are due on July 15, 2016.

## Bicycle/Pedestrian

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### "Foot Traffic Ahead 2016" Report to be Released June 14

On June 14, *Smart Growth America* will release its new report titled "[Foot Traffic Ahead 2016](#)," discussing cities that are well-positioned to address a growing demand for walkable neighborhoods and those with room for improvement.

### AASHTO Panel to Update Road Design Guidance for Rise in Bike/Ped Demand

The *American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials'* (AASHTO) Standing Committee on Highways voted to develop [new robustly researched guidance](#) to roadway engineers on how best to incorporate multiple travel modes when designing roads.

## Environmental Justice

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### **Environmental Justice Webinar Recording Now Available**

On May 18, the *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) and the *American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials* (AASHTO) jointly hosted a national webinar titled "Moving Environmental Justice Forward in Transportation Planning and Project Development." A [recording of the webinar](#) is now available.

### **EPA's Newest Environmental Justice Strategy Available for Public Review**

The *Environmental Protection Agency* (EPA) recently released a new "[Environmental Justice \(EJ\) 2020 Action Agenda](#)." This new strategy builds on EPA's "Plan EJ 2014" and draws upon input from governmental partners and external stakeholders to address environmental challenges that are facing American communities today.

## **Livability**

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### **US HUD to hold Webinar Series for Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Grantees**

The *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development* (HUD) will hold a [series of webinars](#) for Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery grantees that covers the basics of the program. New grantees are strongly encouraged to attend.

### **"Selling Smart Growth" Report Released**

The *Victoria Transport Policy Institute* in Canada released a report in May titled "[Selling Smart Growth](#)" that examines the trade-offs that households make between housing and transportation costs, and describes how to communicate these trade-offs to stakeholders.