

Human Environment Digest

October 8, 2015

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

FHWA's October Successes in Stewardship Newsletter

"[Successes in Stewardship](#)," a monthly newsletter released by the *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) is now available online. This month highlights the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools in improving project delivery.

FINI Grant Applications are Now Open

The *U.S. Department of Agriculture* (USDA) announced the [availability of up to \\$16.8 million](#) in funding to help Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants increase fruit and vegetable purchases. The grant is administered by the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) program and assists local, State, and national organizations to test incentive strategies to help SNAP participants better afford and access healthy foods. Applications are due December 16, 2015.

Nicholas P. Bollman Award Nominations Now Open

The [Nicholas P. Bollman Award](#) nominations are now open until November 9, 2015. In memory of the co-founder of the *Funder's' Network*, the Nicholas P. Bollman Award recognizes leaders in the field of smart growth and livability.

Bicycle/Pedestrian



Updated Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of Federal Transportation Legislation

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) updated its guidance on "[Bicycle and Pedestrian Provisions of Federal Transportation Legislation](#)." The guidance describes Federal legislative and policy direction related to safety and accommodation for bicycling and walking.

"Where We Ride: Analysis of Bicycle Commuting in American Cities"

The *League of American Bicyclists* [released a report analyzing](#) 2014 American Community Survey data as it relates to bicycle commuting in America. The League found that between 2000 and 2014, there was a 62 percent increase in bicycle commuting.

Economic Development



FHWA Announces Funds Available for On-The-Job Training/ Supportive Services Program

The *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) announced the availability of up to \$3 million to help State departments of transportation or local transportation agencies develop the skilled workforce needed to ensure safe public roads. This is a pilot grant program as part of the Ladders of Opportunity effort. The application deadline is December 23, 2015.

HUD Announces Nearly \$150 Million to Assist in Revitalizing Housing in Five Communities

The *U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development* (HUD) announced five communities will receive funding to redevelop distressed public housing and revitalize the surrounding neighborhoods. Under the "Choice Neighborhoods Initiative," HUD awarded Atlanta, GA; Kansas City, MO; Memphis, TN; Milwaukee, WI; and Sacramento, CA almost \$30 million each.

Mineta Publishes "A Logitudinal Analysis of Cars, Transit, and Employment Outcomes"

Researchers at the *Mineta National Transit Research Consortium* studied how access to cars and transit can influence an individuals' ability to reach opportunities such as jobs, healthcare, education, and other important amenities and activities. The report found that for most families being "carless" is a temporary condition; however, underserved populations are less likely to own a car in any survey year than non-poor, US-born, and white families.

Livability



Southeast Florida Transportation Council Participates in Peer Review

A peer review of the Southeast Florida Transportation Council's (SEFTC) transportation model was conducted in August 2015 by the *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA). The purpose of the peer review was to help SEFTC in calibration and validation of its new regional travel model. A report that captured the proceedings is now available online.

Three New Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Case Studies Available

As part of the Climate Change Adaptation Case Studies series, three new Federal Transit Administration (FTA) case studies were published. Chicago Transit Authority, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority were each assessed for their vulnerability of transit agency assets and services to climate change.

FTA Issues Guidance on Americans with Disabilities Act

The *Federal Transit Administration* (FTA) published its guidance to recipients and subrecipients of FTA financial assistance necessary to carry out provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The guidance explains existing ADA requirements and how to implement the requirements.