

Human Environment Digest

December 18, 2014

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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Bicycle/Pedestrian



New York Governor Cuomo Announced \$70 Million in Funding for 68 Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

Governor Andrew Cuomo [awarded \\$70 million to fund](#) 68 bicycle, pedestrian, and multi-use path projects in New York. Using Federal Highway Administration funding from the Transportation Alternatives program, the projects will promote walking and biking across the state.

FDOT Secretary Recognized for Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Efforts

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District One [Secretary Billy Hattaway](#) was recognized by Governing magazine for his bicycle and pedestrian safety efforts. Since taking his position in 2011, Hattaway has led the State's bicycle and pedestrian safety initiative and helped develop the first-ever statewide bicycle and pedestrian strategic safety plan.

Alliance for Biking and Walking's Streetside December Issue

The [December issue of Streetside](#), the *Alliance for Biking and Walking's* monthly newsletter, is now available. This issue highlights recent bicycle and pedestrian safety efforts by transportation leaders and provides an overview of bicycle and pedestrian results in the November elections.

U.S. Bicycle Route System Reaches 8,000 Miles

The *Adventure Cycling Association* and the *American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)* approved the designation of [1,253 new miles of U.S. Bicycle Routes](#) this week. With these new additions, the U.S. Bicycle Route System now encompasses 8,042 miles in 16 States and the District of Columbia.

Community Impact Assessment



NYSDOT Releases Interstate 81 Urban Design Report

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) released a report in November presenting [urban design considerations](#) and goals for the remaking of Interstate 81 (I-81). I-81 runs through Central New York and along Syracuse's downtown. Integral to this project is the integration of bicycle facilities and understanding Syracuse's vision for a bicycle network.

Economic Development



Connecting Low-Income People to Opportunity with Shared Mobility

Living Cities and the *Institute for Transportation and Development Policy* released a report, "[Connecting Low-Income People to Opportunity with Shared Mobility](#)." This report examines the different shared mobility technologies, such as bike-shares, car-shares, and ride-shares, and the ways these new opportunities are assisting low-income populations access jobs and school.

Livability



Secretary Foxx Supports Road Diets

In November, the *Federal Highway Administration* (FHWA) released a "[Road Diet Informational Guide](#)" to help cities determine whether or not a road diet is a good choice for a particular situation. This week, Secretary Foxx wrote about why [road diets are a priority](#) for USDOT and re-emphasized the importance of this road design in improving safety and congestion.

Smart Growth America Selects Recipients of Free Technical Assistance

Smart Growth America announced the [14 communities selected](#) to receive free technical assistance in 2015. The recipients attend technical workshops on aspects of smart growth development and strategies to achieve their livability goals.

Partnership for the National Trails System Reports on Special Youth Programs

The *Partnerships for National Trails System* used the Autumn 2014 issue of its quarterly newsletter, "[Pathways Across America](#)," to report on its special youth programs. The Partnership cites the importance of engaging youth in the future preservation and use of trails.