

Human Environment Digest

September 11, 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.

Contents:

- [Bicycle/Pedestrian](#)
- [Economic Development](#)
- [Livability](#)
- [Public Involvement](#)

Bicycle/Pedestrian



Fall 2014 Pedestrian Forum Newsletter Now Available

The FHWA's Office of Safety released the [latest "Pedestrian Forum" newsletter](#). The newsletter showcases several recently released reports by the FHWA that are intended to help States and localities develop safe and improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

Economic Development



FTA Announces Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a [Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)](#) for \$19.98 million in [Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development \(TOD\) Planning funding](#). The Pilot Program for TOD Planning assists local communities integrate land use and transportation planning with transit capital investment by offering funding from the FTA's Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program. Proposals must be submitted by 11:59 PM ET on November 3, 2014, through the [Grants.gov website](#).

Treasury and Transportation Departments Host Infrastructure Investment Summit

The [US Department of Treasury](#) and [US Department of Transportation](#) hosted a [summit](#) in Washington, DC on September 9th, to discuss strategies for increasing investment in transportation infrastructure as well as other sectors. The meeting brought together professionals from all backgrounds to examine innovative ways to finance infrastructure that will help States, localities, the nation promote economic growth and job creation. This Summit was held as part of [President Obama's Build America Investment Initiative](#).

Livability



Impacts of Climate Change and Variability on Transportation Systems and Infrastructure: The Gulf Coast Study, Phase 2, Task 3.1: Screening for Vulnerability

The *FHWA* released the [vulnerability assessment component](#) of a larger, multi-year study of potential climate impacts on the transportation system in Mobile, Alabama. As part of the Gulf Coast Study, the report details the methodology and findings of the vulnerability screening.

FHWA Publishes the Summer 2014 Highways and Climate Change Newsletter

This issue of the [Highways and Climate Change newsletter](#) examines the events and reports released during summer 2014 related to climate change and the transportation system. FHWA's Office of Planning, Environment, and Realty prepares this newsletter every quarter to highlight past and future events, and news in the transportation and climate change fields.

Public Involvement



Vote for Your Favorite of the 10 Finalists for the America's Transportation Awards Competition

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), AAA, and the US Chamber of Commerce [announced the 10 finalists for the Seventh Annual America's Transportation Awards](#). The projects were judged on three categories: Under Budget, Best Use of Innovation, and Quality of Life/Community Development. The top 10 projects will compete for the Grand Prize Winner, selected by a panel of experts, and the People's Choice Award, selected by the public. Voting is open through October 24 and individuals are allowed to vote up to 10 times per day at this website: <https://americatransportationawards.org/>.