

Human Environment Digest

April 3, 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.

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Bicycle/Pedestrian



FHWA Office of Safety Published Winter 2014 Pedestrian Forum

The Winter 2014 issue of the Pedestrian Forum was recently released. This volume compiles articles and reports relating to pedestrian safety during the Winter of 2013-2014. Some topics include the Economic Benefits of Safer More Sustainable Streets, Costs of Bike/Ped Countermeasures Report and Webinar, and FHWA's New Winter Sidewalk Maintenance Guide.

Monitoring Bicyclist and Pedestrian Travel and Behavior Circular

TRB's new circular chronicles and identifies new bicycle and pedestrian data monitoring techniques and technologies. It also highlights ongoing projects that are enhancing the field of monitoring active transportation data.

Economic Development



Minnesota Releases Report on Equitable Growth

PolicyLink and the USC Program for Environmental and Regional Equity (PERE) released a report detailing equitable policy opportunities that will respond to the growing economic opportunities and diversity in Minnesota. Increasing connectivity and transportation access through sustainable growth was highlighted in their recommendations.

Health



FHWA's Health in Transportation Working Group 2013 Annual Report

The Health in Transportation Working Group was established in 2012 to address FHWA's policy and programmatic impacts on health, such as air quality, noise, safety, and active transportation. The 2013 Annual Report summarizes the activities, accomplishments, and recommendations of the Health in Transportation Working Group.

Livability



Measuring Sprawl 2014

In 2002, Smart Growth America released their first edition of Measuring Sprawl. This 2014 update analyzes the 2010 census data for 221 metropolitan areas and 994 counties throughout the United States. The Sprawl Scoring Index was created by examining four main factors: development density, land use mix, activity centering, and street accessibility.

Complete Streets in the Southeast: A Tool Kit

The AARP, Smart Growth America, and the National Coalition for Complete Streets worked together to create the Complete Streets in the Southeast: A Tool Kit. It is both a research report and a how-to-guide, walking readers through the important steps to implementing safe, convenient, and comfortable transportation options.

Transit 2013, Volume 3

TRB's Transportation Research Record released Transit 2013, Volume 3, which consists of 17 papers discussing various aspects of transit. From implementation to operations and from facility maintenance to vehicle selection, the 17 papers included in this volume provide an overview of a wide range of transit topics.

Policy Scenarios for Achieving Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets

The Mineta National Transit Research Consortium developed a report detailing different policy scenarios that will help achieve a 50 to 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. They evaluated pricing, land-use, and transit policies and assessed their effect on greenhouse gas reduction.

Public Involvement



NCDOT Public Engagement Toolkit

On Thursday, April 10, 2014 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM EST, North Carolina Department of Transportation will host a webinar introducing their new public engagement toolkit as well as asking for input on how to enhance the experience of its users. Please email bilottocm@pbworld.com or call 404-364-2651 for more information.