

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

Prepared by the Office of Natural Environment

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Announcements

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program Funds

On November 15, 2021, the President signed into law the <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL</u>), enacted as the infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), (Pub. L. 117-58) which established a new National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program. The NEVI Formula Program will provide dedicated funding to States to strategically deploy EV charging infrastructure and establish an interconnected network to facilitate data collection, access, and reliability.

<u>Program Guidance for the NEVI Formula Program</u> was released on February 10, 2022. The Program Guidance details that each State will be required to submit an EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan (State Plan) that describes how the State intends to use its apportioned NEVI Formula Program funds in accordance with this guidance. State Plans must be submitted to the new Joint Office of Energy and Transportation no later than August 1, 2022.

For more information, visit the FHWA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law webpage.

February 10, 2022: Request for Nominations (RFN) for Alternate Fuel Corridors (AFC)

FHWA released a <u>Request for Nomination (RFN) for Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs)</u> on February 10th. The 2022/Round 6 Request for Nominations for Alternative Fuel corridors is a critical step in the designation process and has even greater importance since designations are now tied to the NEVI Formula Program funding. For EV charging corridors, FHWA encourages nominations that focus along Interstate corridors, but nominations may also be submitted elsewhere on the National Highway System (NHS). This RFN covers all types of alternative fueling, including hydrogen, propane, CNG and LNG. Please contact <u>Elizabeth Habic</u> with any questions.

Update to FHWA's Traffic Noise Model (TNM 3.1) and Tools

Based on insightful user feedback, FHWA released an update to the Traffic Noise Model as version 3.1 (TNM 3.1). The model and associated documentation (updated TNM Fact Sheet, FAQs, User's Guide and Technical Manual) are available for download on the TNM 3.1 homepage.

Improvements made to TNM 3.1 include the creation of an installer and removal of the database saving structure by shifting to an XML-based saving, importing, and exporting scheme. Projects can now be imported with map projections and adjustments. The Barrier Design Table was also enhanced to allow filtering and sorting of results.

The FHWA held a webinar with information on the changes made to TNM in February. This webinar was recorded and posted <u>here</u>. Additionally, a training video was updated to showcase features and functions and can be found <u>here</u>. Please contact <u>Aileen Varela-Margolles</u> or <u>TNMHelp@dot.gov</u> for assistance.

FHWA Adds a New Electronic Open-Road Tolling Tool to the CMAQ Calculator Toolkit

The FHWA is pleased to announce the recent posting of a new tool to the <u>CMAQ Emissions</u> <u>Calculator Toolkit</u>. This new Electronic Open-Road Tolling Tool is designed to calculate air quality benefits for projects which include conversion of traditional full-stop or rolling-stop toll plazas to free-flow facilities with overhead gantries. This is the second tool in a series developed specifically to address the use of Vehicle to Infrastructure (V2I) technology in transportation projects. Any questions or requests for additional information should be addressed to <u>Mark</u> <u>Glaze</u>

DANA Tool Data Updates and New Training Materials

The FHWA recently updated input data included with the Database for Air Quality and Noise Analysis (DANA) tool to include 2020 TMAS and HPMS data. The new data is included in the Unpack_DANA_DATA.zip file in the download section at the top of the DANA tool webpage. In addition, two new training videos are available in the DANA Tool and TNMAide video series. The series now includes videos on "DANA Tool Overview", "TNMAide Overview", and "DANA Tool for MOVES County Level Inputs." Finally, a recording of the release webinar for the DANA Tool and TNMAide is now available. Please see the Training section of the DANA tool webpage. Please contact DANAhelp@dot.gov with questions about the DANA tool or TNMHelp@dot.gov with questions about TNMAide.

Moving to Complete Streets

FHWA released <u>The Moving to Complete Street Design Model: A Report to Congress on</u> <u>Opportunities and Challenges</u> detailing the agency's commitment to advance widespread implementation of the Complete Streets design model to help improve safety and accessibility for all users. The report identifies five overarching opportunity areas that will inform FHWA as it moves ahead with its efforts to increase the proportion of federally funded transportation projects that are routinely planned, designed, built and operated as Complete Streets. The Report to Congress, the <u>Complete Streets Transformations</u> guide and other material on the new FHWA Complete Streets webpage, <u>Complete Streets</u> | FHWA (dot.gov).

Updated EPA Guidance: Using MOVES3 in Carbon Monoxide Analyses

EPA's updated guidance, <u>Using MOVES3 in Project-Level Carbon Monoxide Analyses</u>, is now available. This guidance was originally released in 2010 and has been updated over time with new versions of the MOVES model. This guidance can be applied when using MOVES3 to complete any project-level quantitative CO analysis, including hot-spot analyses for transportation conformity determinations, completing NEPA analyses, and assessing near-road air quality in communities with environmental justice concerns. For more information about transportation conformity for projects and hot-spot analyses, click <u>here.</u>

Story Map Highlights Resilient Transportation Approaches

NOAA scientists co-developed a <u>story map</u> on supporting resilient coastal roads in California, highlighting insights from a <u>unique partnership</u> between the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The Coastal Commission and Caltrans continue to expand their work with other stakeholders to address the threats and uncertainties that climate change poses to shoreline communities, industries, and economically and environmentally valuable coastal resources. It is the intention of this story map to serve as an example of what can be achieved when infrastructure and environmental agencies work effectively and to share resources relevant to transportation planning.

Events

TRB Conference on Sustainability and Emerging Transportation Technology

March 15-18, 2022. The Transportation Research Board (TRB) conference on Sustainability and Emerging Transportation Technology (SETT) will be held in Irvine, California in March 2022. The conference will focus on how academic, policy-makers, the private sector, non-profit organizations, and others can work together to shape new mobility solutions to benefit all users of our transportation systems. <u>Register for the TRB SETT conference today</u>!



Resources and Training

Resolving "Log4j" Security Warnings in MOVES3

The EPA has become aware of a problem with a JAVA file that is included in all current versions of MOVES. MOVES does not actually use the file, but it is likely to be flagged as a security risk during IT security scans. To avoid this, remove the file from your MOVES folders. Versions of the jar file "log4j" have been identified as a "critical" security risk. For more information, click <u>here.</u>

If you have any questions, please send an email.

INVEST (Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool) Training

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has developed a semester-long curriculum to help college students and transportation professionals understand and apply its Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool (INVEST). INVEST is a free, flexible tool that helps practitioners, planners, engineers, and other professionals assess the sustainability of transportation plans, programs, and projects. The curriculum, designed to teach transportation sustainability concepts and best practices, consists of lectures, informational videos, case studies, quizzes, and exams, and can be taught as a single course or on a modular basis. The downloadable curriculum materials and more information about the sustainability rating tool are available on the INVEST website.

CMAQ Applicability Table Fact Sheet

The <u>CMAQ Applicability Tables Fact Sheet</u> has been posted. It contains second performance period background and summary information on the CMAQ related performance measures for traffic congestion and the on road mobile source emissions including State DOT's and MPO's applicability.

FHWA Resource Center Environment, Air Quality & Realty Team Training Activities

FHWA's Resource Center Environment, Air Quality & Realty Team is available to offer MOVES and other trainings. Please contact <u>George Noel</u>, for additional information or to discuss scheduling a training.

FHWA Web-Based Transportation Conformity Training

Several web-based transportation conformity training opportunities are available on-demand from <u>FHWA's conformity training website</u> (under "Web-based Training"). This page includes a new webinar recording for "Introduction to MOVES3 for Non-Modelers." The target audience for these training materials are FHWA staff and State and local transportation partners (MPOs and State DOTs) who are either new to or would like a refresher training on the conformity process. For questions, please contact <u>David Kall</u>.

FHWA CMAQ 101 Training

FHWA posted a <u>22-minute YouTube video on the CMAQ program</u>. The video provides a basic introduction to the program, how CMAQ funds are distributed to States, and the types of projects eligible for the CMAQ program. For more information about the CMAQ program, please contact <u>Mark Glaze</u>.

FHWA NEPA Air Quality Analysis for Highway Projects

The FHWA Resource Center Environment, Air Quality & Realty Team periodically conducts a series of training sessions on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Air Quality Analysis for Highway Projects. The training includes sessions on project-level applications appropriate for managers and practitioners, as well as hands-on sessions intended for modelers. If you are interested in this training, please contact <u>George Noel</u>.

FHWA Web-Based TNM Training

FHWA has created a <u>Traffic Noise Model (TNM) Playlist on its YouTube Channel</u>. These shortformat videos demonstrate how to install TNM, complete basic tasks in the software, and provide details on specific features. Additional videos will be added throughout the year. Additional TNM Training materials are available on the <u>FWHA Noise Training Website</u>. For technical assistance with TNM please contact <u>TNMHelp@dot.gov</u>.

NHI No Cost Highway Traffic and Construction Noise Course

FHWA's Planning, Environment, and Realty office and the National Highway Institute (NHI), in cooperation with the Resource Center and Division Offices, have updated and launched a web-based Traffic Noise Training Course. This on-demand, web-based training was a previously multi-day, instructor-led course. This course is now available on the NHI website at no cost and provides a comprehensive overview of all aspects of the highway traffic noise program. The courses are available on the <u>NHI website</u> by searching for "highway noise" and locating course codes 142086 – 142094.

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> Please e-mail <u>Victoria.Martinez@dot.gov</u> with suggestions for future issues Past issues of the Air Quality and Sustainability Highlights are available on FHWA's <u>Air Quality website</u> and <u>Sustainability website</u>

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