



U.S. Department of Transportation



The Transportation Knowledge Infrastructure

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AASHTO Summer RAC Meeting, 25 July 2022

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About the National Transportation Library (NTL)

<https://transportation.libguides.com/NTLsubjects>

Established in 1998 by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), the National Transportation Library (NTL) provides access to:

- Digital collections
- Data services
- Reference and research services
- Knowledge Networks

NTL is an open access digital repository. All items are in the public domain and available for reuse without restriction.



NTL's Legislative Mandate



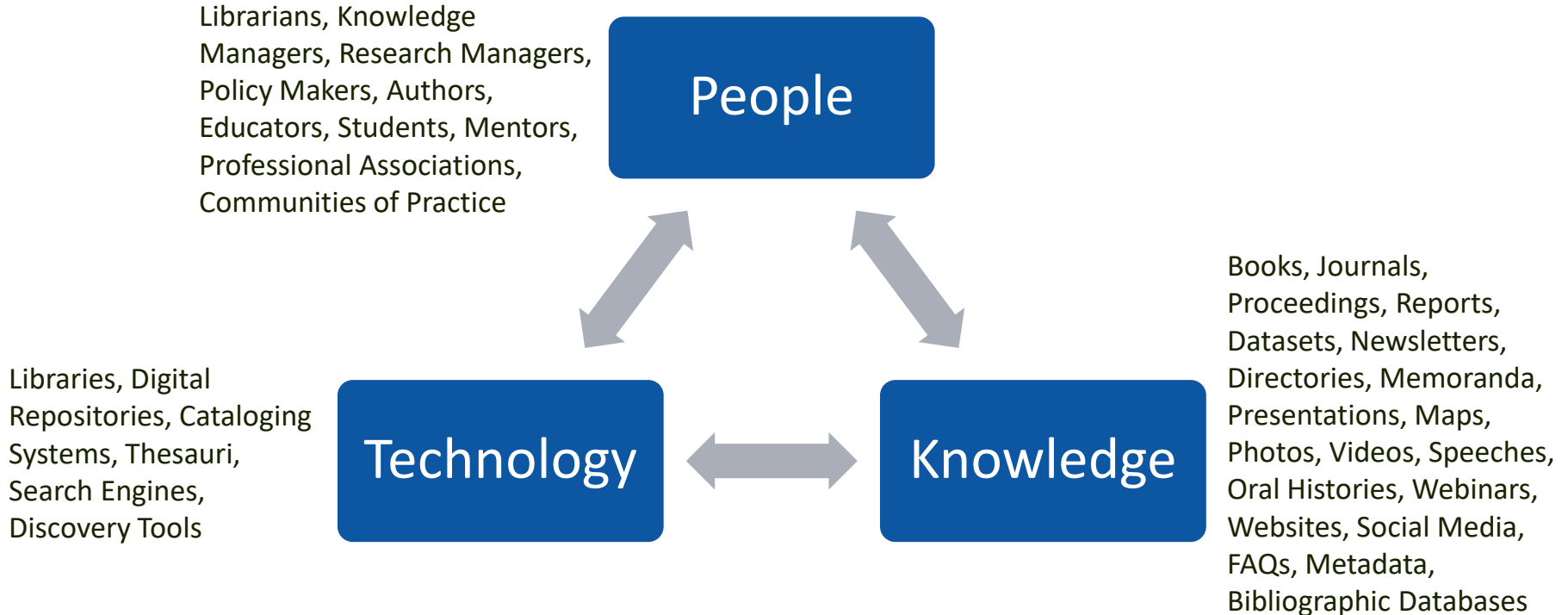
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49 U.S.C. 6304(a)(8), Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, 2012

To support the information management and decision making needs of transportation officials at the Federal, State, and local levels, there is established in the Bureau a National Transportation Library which shall coordinate efforts among, and cooperate with, transportation libraries, information providers, and technical assistance centers, in conjunction with private industry and other transportation library and information centers, **with the goal of developing a comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network** that supports the activities described in section 6302(b)(3)(B)(vi).

What is a Knowledge Network?

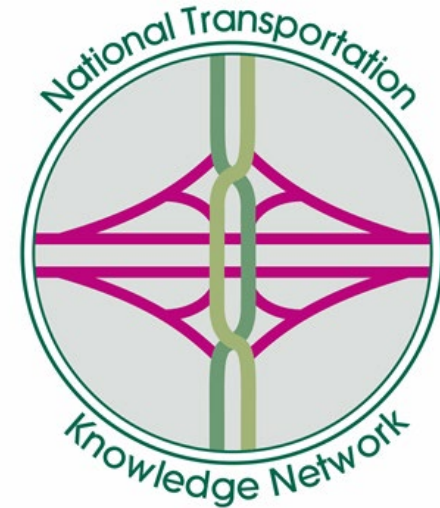
A social network of people and resources that supports collaboration and knowledge sharing



NTKN: The National Transportation Knowledge Network

<https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN>

The National Transportation Knowledge Network (NTKN) is a voluntary alliance of transportation organizations, which supports a network of transportation information professionals, who collaborate to expand, improve access to, and preserve the domain of transportation knowledge. The purpose of NTKN is to coordinate with transportation research centers, transportation libraries, information providers, and technical assistance centers to develop a comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network that supports the activities of its members.





ROSA P: NTL's Repository & Open Science Access Portal

<https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/>

Featured Content

- Bureau of Transportation Statistics Publications
- USDOT Public Access Collections
- Historic Special Collections

ROSA P is an open access repository

- Access to publications and digital data is free, immediate and permanent
- Content is available for anyone to use, download and distribute
- Internet search engines index and harvest the content from

The screenshot shows the ROSA P website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the U.S. Department of Transportation logo, the text 'National Transportation Library', and 'Bureau of Transportation Statistics'. Below this is a search bar with the text 'Search ROSA P Collections' and a dropdown menu set to 'All'. A navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Collections', 'Recent Additions', 'Public Access', 'Submit Content', 'Help', and 'About ROSA P'. The main content area features the ROSA P logo and a search section with a dropdown for 'All Collections', a text input for 'Enter keyword or phrase...', and an 'Advanced Search' link. A featured banner for 'Public Roads Magazine' shows a timeline from 1918 to 1994 and describes it as a 'Digitized collection of print volumes of Public Roads Magazine published from 1918-1994'. Below the banner are four featured items: 'Transportation Statistics Annual Report 2021', 'Pocket Guide to Transportation 2022', 'National Transportation Statistics', and 'Transportation Climate Change Clearinghouse'. At the bottom, there are sections for 'Quick Links' (including 'Stay Connected', 'Transportation Librarians Roundtable (TLR)', 'Digital Submissions', 'Ask-A-Librarian', 'NTL Twitter feed', 'Transportation Resources', 'Freight Data Dictionary', 'NTL Guides', and 'Public Access') and 'Trending This Week' (listing 'Update to Special Reports on Traffic Safety during the COVID-19 Public Health...', 'Transportation Statistics Annual Report 2020', 'Transportation-Markings Database: Railway Signals, Signs, Marks, Markers. P...', 'Use of Poisson Distribution in Highway Traffic. The Probability Theory App...', and 'Large School Bus Design Vehicle Dimensions'). A 'View More' button is located at the bottom right of the trending section.



ROSA P and Public Access



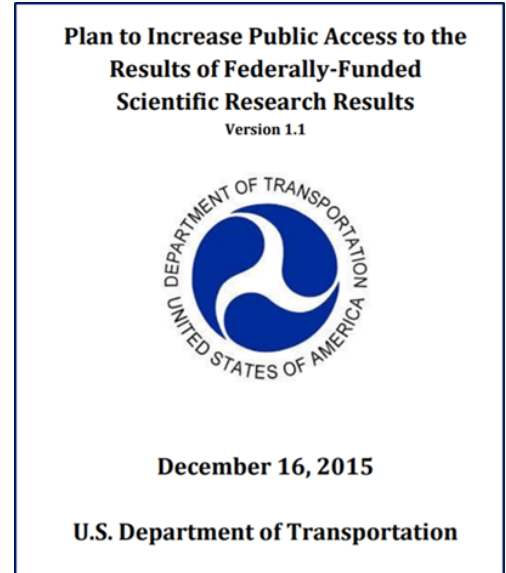
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<https://doi.org/10.21949/1503646>

Public Access means that the public has access to publications and digital data sets arising from federally funded scientific research programs. everyone is able to **freely search, download, and analyze** unclassified publications and digital data sets unless specifically precluded by privacy, confidentiality or other security concerns.

US DOT's Public Access Plan applies to the following individuals:

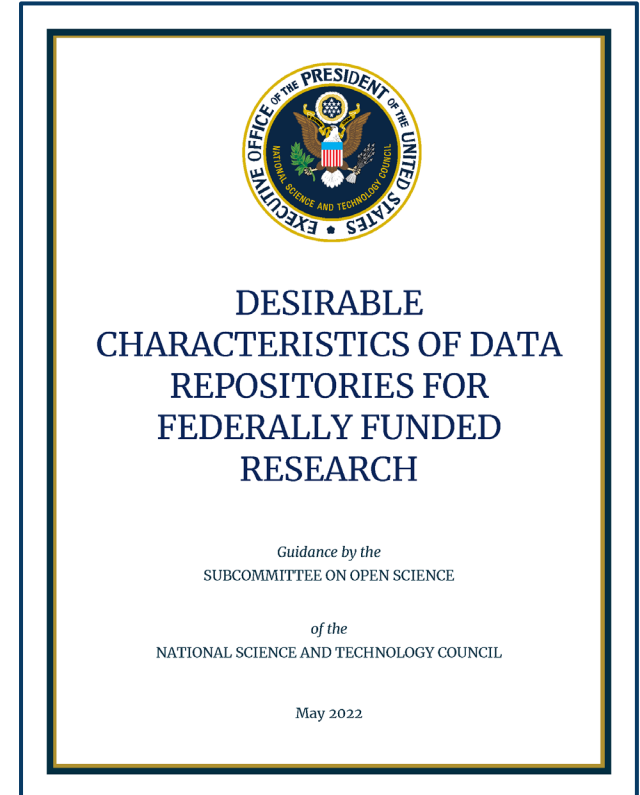
- All DOT employees, including full- and part-time employees; as well as support service contract employees, consultants and temporary and special government employees.
- Awardees from non-DOT organizations that publish Scientific Research material or compile Digital Data Sets resulting from research and development **programs conducted under a DOT grant, contract, or other agreement.**
- **USDOT's Public Access Plan** designates **ROSA P** as the repository for deliverables of sponsored research.





The Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research

- May 2022, White House NSTC Subcommittee on Open Science (SOS)
- Harmonize repository guidance across federal agencies.
- NTL and other DOT reps co-authored this document.
- This document can be found at the Persistent Identifier:
<https://doi.org/10.5479/10088/113528>
- The use of persistent identifiers (PIDs) for datasets such as Digital Object Identifiers (DOI); Handles; Archival Resource Key (ARK); or other PID is a Desirable Characteristic, as described in the guide.
- Not sure if your chosen repository uses PIDs, ask them, or contact Jesse Long jesse.long.ctr@dot.gov or Leighton Christiansen leighton.christiansen@dot.gov for guidance.



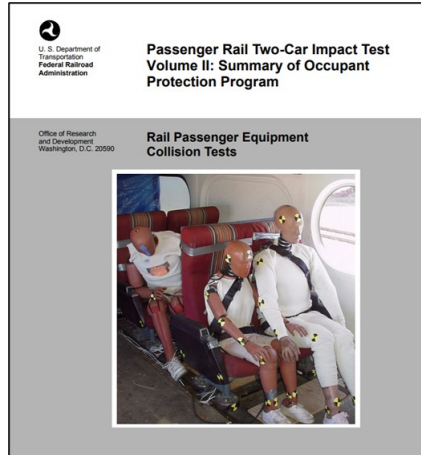
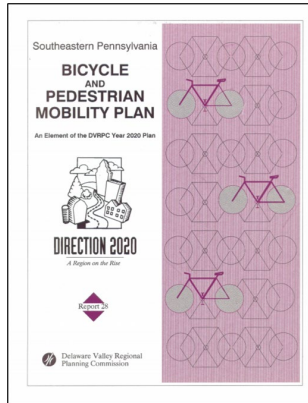
NTL Collection Policies

<https://ntl.bts.gov/policies/collection-development>



NTL acquires the following types of digital works

- Digital objects provided by the content creators or owners (a digital object is a unit of information, usually a file)
- Digital copies of physical objects, digitized at the request of NTL



NTL collects across all modes of transportation and related disciplines

- Sources of materials include USDOT, state DOTs, local and tribal road agencies, university transportation agencies, and other transportation organizations
- Legacy content is collected if it is of historical or national significance
- ROSA P currently contains about 60,000 digital objects

NTLDigitalSubmissions@dot.gov

ROSA P contains digital works submitted by content creators or owners, and digital copies of physical media digitized at the request of NTL.

- Submissions must comply with NTL's Collection Development & Maintenance Policy
- Submissions must be 508 compliant to the greatest extent possible, any items requiring remediation will be returned to submitter
- SPR funded reports that are not 508 compliant will be archived but not published in ROSA P
- Weekly report of items added to ROSA P are sent to TRB, links added to TRID records

<https://transportation.libanswers.com/>

NTL Reference Librarians provide services for the transportation community and general public. Specific services are:

- Basic research assistance with Bureau of Transportation Statistics publications and data products
- Assistance with access to information resources in ROSA P
- Referrals to operating administrations within US DOT



NTKN Resource Guides

<https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKNguides>

The Springshare platform for NTKN Resource Guides is provided by the National Transportation Library. NTL provides training and administers password access for guide creators and editors. NTKN participants create and maintain guides on a variety of topics related to transportation. Guides are reviewed annually for broken links and outdated information.

Examples of popular guides:

- State DOT Organizational Charts <https://transportation.libguides.com/statedotorgcharts>
- Connected Vehicles Technology <https://transportation.libguides.com/connected>
- US State DOT Wildlife Crossing Structures <https://transportation.libguides.com/WildlifeCrossing>
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and Systems <https://transportation.libguides.com/uav>

NTKN Communities of Practice

<https://transportation.libguides.com/cop>

“Communities of Practice are groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems, or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis.” (Wenger et al., 2010)

NTKN currently sponsors 3 Communities of Practice (CoP):

- Cooperative Digitization Community of Practice
- 508 Accessibility Community of Practice
- Library Advocacy Community of Practice

Meeting information for all CoP’s can be found on the KM Calendar

- https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN_Calendar



INTERACTION

COMMUNICATION

COLLABORATION

NTKN Cooperative Digitization Community of Practice

<https://transportation.libguides.com/cop>

The Cooperative Digitization CoP is lead by Mary Moulton, Digital Librarian at NTL.

- Digitization is the practice of converting information into digital, machine-readable format. Digitization is vital for long term preservation of important collections and for making them widely accessible. This Community of Practice meets to discuss collection development, cataloging, digital rights, promotion, contracting and best practices for digitizing transportation collections. Participants will also focus on eliminating duplication of effort.
- Recent meeting topics have included: web archiving, using web archives for research, statements of potentially harmful content and reparative description, and migrating non-print documents to an archival digital format.
- Meeting information for all CoP's can be found on the KM Calendar https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN_Calendar
- Next meeting: September 13 from 3:00 – 4:00 EST. All are welcome!

NTKN 508 Accessibility Community of Practice

<https://transportation.libguides.com/cop>

The 508 Accessibility CoP is lead by Enid White, Research Manager at Wyoming DOT.

- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC § 794d) requires that when United States federal government agencies develop, procure, or maintain electronic and information technology (EIT), that it is accessible to persons with disabilities. This community of practice is committed to raising awareness within the transportation-research community with regard to Section 508 and its implications pursuant to the USDOT Public Access Plan.
- Recent meeting topics have included: making accessible tables, assessment of CommonLook PDF for accessibility checking and remediation.
- Meeting information for all CoP's can be found on the KM Calendar
https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN_Calendar

NTKN Library Advocacy Community of Practice

<https://transportation.libguides.com/cop>

The Library Advocacy CoP is lead by Jennifer Herron, Librarian at Michigan DOT.

- Current work is focused on creating a Transportation Library Advocacy LibGuide to provide background information on Transportation Libraries, Transportation Libraries statistics, and roles/professional competencies of Transportation Librarians, and storytelling/demonstrating value information.
- The Guide will also share public awareness materials submitted to help other librarians promote their transportation library services.
- Meeting information for all CoP's can be found on the KM Calendar
https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN_Calendar
- Next meeting: August 9th, 3:00 – 4:00 EST. All are welcome!
- Join Transportation Library Advocacy LinkedIn Group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12567702>

Transportation Librarians Roundtable

<https://transportation.libguides.com/TLR>

The Transportation Librarians Roundtable (TLR), a monthly web conference series, is an initiative of the National Transportation Library (NTL), co-sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Transportation Research Board (TRB), and the Special Libraries Association's Transportation Division.

- Meeting information for all CoP's can be found on the KM Calendar
https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN_Calendar
- We are currently featuring TLR series of sessions focused on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA). The next TRL is on Thursday, August 11, and features Kelsey Flynn and Tim Creagan speaking about "Helping Patrons by Making Content and Services Accessible."

NTKN Transportation Librarian Mentoring Program

<https://transportation.libguides.com/mentoring>

The NTKN Mentoring Program applies to new librarians and those who are just new to transportation librarianship.

The program aims to match experienced transportation librarians with people new to the field. The objectives of this mentoring program include:

- Helping new transportation librarians understand the field
- Providing introduction to experts
- Helping them make connections within the field
- Having someone to answer questions, give advice
- Providing lists of resources useful to the job
- Providing education about specific topics

TPF-5(442) Update

Transportation Research and Connectivity Pooled Fund



OKLAHOMA
Transportation



TRANSPORTATION
research and connectivity



OKLAHOMA TRANSPORTATION
LIBRARY

Lead state/organization: Oklahoma Department of Transportation – Oklahoma Transportation Library

1. Develop a toolkit of recommendations and best practices for transportation research organizations that do not have a transportation librarian.
2. Partner with the NTKN to analyze effectiveness of libguides, identify gaps in coverage, and survey the needs of DOTs.
3. Develop a white paper analyzing the current condition of transportation information infrastructure, including review of pertinent knowledge management resources.
4. Develop a cooperative digitization project among members, in partnership with the NTL, to convert copies of older materials to digital formats, as well as providing Section 508/ADA compliance support for digital documents.
5. Enhance communication between group members (hold annual pooled fund meeting in conjunction with the AASHTO RAC conference).

TPF-5(442) Latest Updates



Added New Mexico and South Dakota as members.

- Membership includes CA, ID, IL, MO, NC, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WI, WY

Commitments increased to \$1,000,000.

Extended completion date from March 2023 to March 2025

Completed Resource Guides drafts on the following topics:

- Electric Vehicles
- Equitable Access to Transportation Systems
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology and Applications
- Literature Searchers and Literature Reviews for Transportation Research Projects
- Managing Research Data for Public Access
- Research Implementation Toolbox

Completed drafts of:

- White Paper on the future of transportation libraries
- Toolkit for non-librarians in managing transportation research resources
- Section 508 guidance document for research reports

Funded travel for members to attend AASHTO conference.

Ongoing projects throughout the life of the pooled fund include:

- Digitization of member materials.
 - So far, over 500 unique items (over 10,000 pages) have been digitized, with materials going as far back as 1895.
- Ongoing Section 508 support.
 - Members will receive Section 508 training, remediation for their research reports, and model documents to help build up their own Section 508 training programs.
- Other projects as identified by pooled fund members.

Questions?





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Contact

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