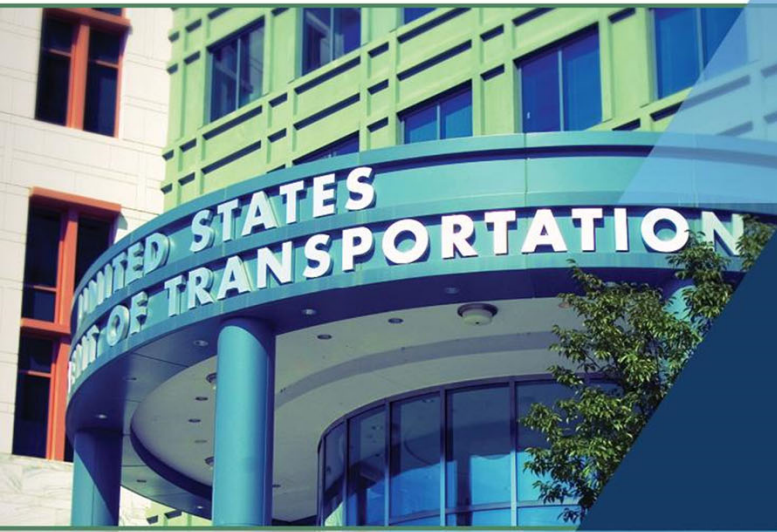




**U.S. Department of Transportation**



## RESEARCH PARTNERS:

Transportation Knowledge Infrastructure

<https://doi.org/10.21949/1529309>

**AASHTO RAC Summer Meeting  
25 July 2023, Chattanooga TN**

Mary Moulton <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1791-068X>  
Digital Librarian, National Transportation Library  
[mary.moulton@dot.gov](mailto:mary.moulton@dot.gov)





# About the National Transportation Library (NTL)

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

Established in 1998 by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> 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

**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).





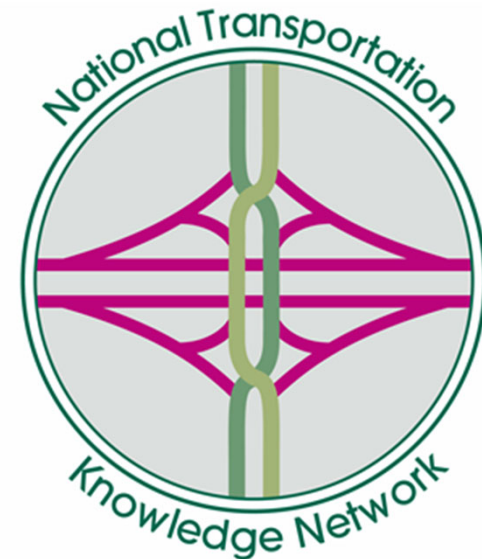
# The National Transportation Knowledge Network

<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.

We collaborate to expand, improve access to, and preserve the domain of transportation knowledge.

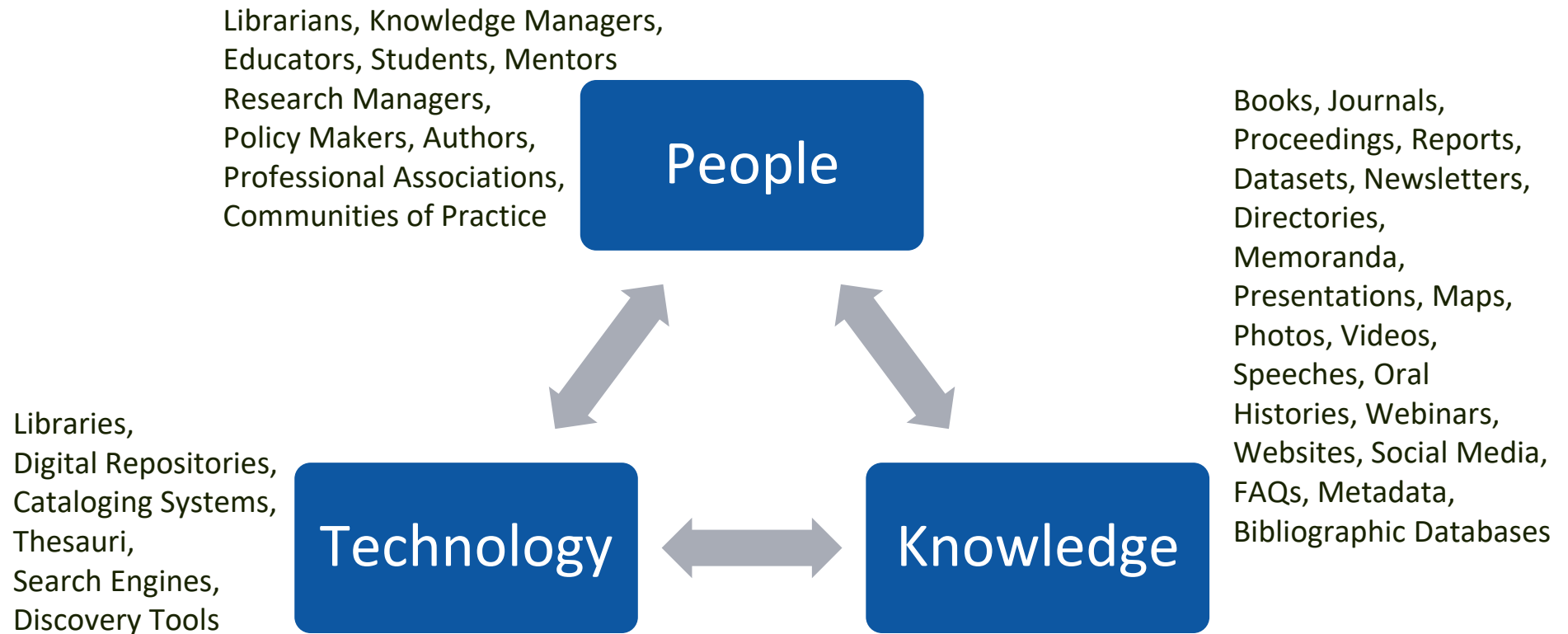
We coordinate with transportation research centers, transportation libraries, information providers, and technical assistance centers.





# What is a Knowledge Network?

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





# 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
- Indexed by internet search engines (Google, Google Scholar, Bing, Science.gov)

The screenshot displays the ROSA P website interface. At the top, it features the 'National Transportation Library' header with the 'rosap' logo and a search bar for 'Search ROSA P Collections'. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, Collections, Recent Additions, Public Access, Submit Content, Help, and About ROSA P. The main content area includes a 'Search our Collections' section with a dropdown for 'All Collections' and a search input field. A featured banner for 'Public Roads Magazine' highlights a 'Digitized collection of print volumes of Public Roads Magazine published from 1918-1994'. Below this are four featured items: 'Transportation Statistics Annual Report 2021', 'Pocket Guide to Transportation 2022', 'National Transportation Statistics', and 'Transportation Climate Change Clearinghouse'. The bottom section contains 'Quick Links' and 'Trending This Week' with various resource links and a 'View More' button.





# ROSA P and Public Access

<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.

**Plan to Increase Public Access to the  
Results of Federally-Funded  
Scientific Research Results**  
Version 1.1



**December 16, 2015**

**U.S. Department of Transportation**



# White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Public Access Update (2022-08)

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/08-2022-OSTP-Public-Access-Memo.pdf>

“Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research” 2022-08-25  
White House OSTP memo

- All federal agencies with **any amount of R&D** should make research results (research project information, publications, datasets, etc.) discoverable and useable to the general public, to the greatest extent possible, **freely and without embargo or delay.**
- Promote research transparency and **integrity.**
- Greater **coordination** between OSTP and departments and agencies.

Benefits of Public Access illustrated by the COVID-19 pandemic research sharing and more rapid development of vaccines and treatments.

- Federally funded researchers need to take next steps to make more timely research application the norm.

Memo drafts began in June 2022

OSTP gathered feedback from federal departments and agencies through:

- National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Subcommittee on Open Science (SOS) representatives.
- Direct contact with research directors.

DOT had many substantive comments on successive drafts. Some were adopted in whole or in part.







# Public Access, DOT Actions & Your Input

## Actions

1. DOT submitted draft plan to OSTP in 2023-02
2. DOT opened Request for Information, DOT-OST-2023-0045, on 8 specific questions around public access in order to get the broadest possible feedback, on March 23, 2023:  
[federalregister.gov/d/2023-06373](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-06373)
3. Public Comments submitted by deadline of May 10 can be read at Regulations.gov:  
<https://www.regulations.gov/docket/DOT-OST-2023-0045/comments>
4. DOT is analyzing comments and updating draft for internal feedback.
5. New DOT plan will be out no later than 2024-12-31

## Your Input

1. You may still submit comments by email to [public.access@dot.gov](mailto:public.access@dot.gov)
2. The sooner the better.
3. We would also like to hear from sunseting UTCs their experience with the existing Public Access Plan.
  - What worked well?
  - What did not work well?
  - Where is more guidance needed?
  - Other comments.





# NTL Digital Submissions

[NTLDigitalSubmissions@dot.gov](mailto: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
- State Planning & Research (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
- Weekly Twitter spotlight on one new addition, with link to the full list





# NTL Collection Policies

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

Project 2158 | July 2023

**SJSU** SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

**MTI** MINETA TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

Investing in California's Transportation Future:  
2022 Public Opinion on Critical Needs

Asha Weinstein Agrawal, PhD  
Hilary Nixon, PhD



MINETA TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE [transweb.sjsu.edu](http://transweb.sjsu.edu)

## 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



# NTL Digital Submissions



U.S. Department of Transportation

## Form DOT F 1700.7

- Report No. (1.)
- Government Accession Number (2.)
- Recipient's Catalog Number (3.)
- Title and Subtitle (4.)
- Report Date (5.)
- Performing Organization Code (6.)
- Authors (7.)
- Performing Org. Report Number (8.)
- Performing Org. Name/Address (9.)
- Work Unit Number (10.)
- Contract or Grant No. (11.)
- Sponsoring Agency Name/Address (12.)
- Type of Report/Period Covered (13.)
- Sponsoring Agency Code (14.)
- Supplementary Notes (15.)
- Abstract (16.)
- Key Words (17.)
- Distribution Statement (18.)
- Security Classification (of this report) (19.)
- Security Classification (of this page) (20.)
- Number of Pages (21.)
- Price (22.)

TECHNICAL REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			
1. Report No.: cmr15-003	2. Government Accession No.:	3. Recipient's Catalog No.:	
4. Title and Subtitle: Improvement of research report distribution and access and promotion of more effective use of Technical Report Documentation Page, USDOT Form 1700.7		5. Report Date: September 30, 2014	
7. Author(s): Lawrence E. Decina, MS LIS, Tia Mastromatto, MA, & Sandra Tucker, MS LIS, MA		6. Performing Organization Code:	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address: TransAnalytics, LLC 336 West Broad Street Quakertown, Pa 18951		8. Performing Organization Report No.:	
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address: Missouri Department of Transportation Research, Development and Technology PO Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102		10. Work Unit No.:	
15. Supplementary Notes: Research conducted as part of Transportation Library Connectivity and Development Pooled Fund Study		11. Contract or Grant No.: TPF-5(237) ; TRyy1127	
16. Abstract: This report covers two studies: (Part A) Improvement of research report distribution and access process improvement of State Planning and Research (SPR) funded reports; and (Part B) Promotion of more effective use of the Technical Report Documentation page (TRDP) (USDOT Form 1700.7). Research methodology for Part A involved: telephone survey to SPR report recipients on FHWA directive list concerning what they receive and their practices; an electronic survey to State DOT Libraries concerning their distribution and publishing practices; and the development of distribution instructions for State DOT librarians. Part B involved: literature review documenting origins of TRDP and similar documentation pages; a canvass of State DOT and transportation subject database librarians on current practices regarding the TRDP; and a random selection of published TRDPs from TRID and NTL to identify current TRDP practices. Results for Part A concluded that all State DOT libraries surveyed (n=21) distribute SPR reports to TRID and NTL. Most distribute to NTIS; but only half distribute to the remaining recipients on the FHWA directive letter. The majority of the State DOT Libraries surveyed have an alert system; catalog SPR-funded reports from their DOT; use group email distribution lists; and store SPR-funded reports on an internal server. About half of the libraries assign a permanent URL. Results for Part B identified that the 1972 TRDP and 1975 instructions are the current information available for completing the TRDP. The most populated fields on the TRDP are: title, author, abstract, keyword, report date and number, performing and sponsoring organization. There is inconsistency regarding the completion of all other fields. Recommendations for Part A: State DOT libraries should continue to distribute SPR-funded reports to TRID, NTL, and NTIS to maintain discovery and preservation of transportation research. State DOT libraries should maintain their current distribution and preservation practices, and make reports available to researchers and practitioners within three months of report completion and approval. Recommendations for Part B: A universal TRDP with an instruction sheet should be made available at a central and easily accessible location. This will improve consistency in completion of page. Updating the current 1975 instructions is recommended to clarify ambiguity in certain fields. Inclusion of URLs and use of Transportation Research Thesaurus are recommended with reservations.		13. Type of Report and Period Covered: Final Report (March 2014-September 2014)	
17. Key Words: report distribution; report access; technical report documentation page; Form DOT F 1700.7		14. Sponsoring Agency Code:	
19. Security Classification (of this report): Unclassified		18. Distribution Statement:	
20. Security Classification (of this page): Unclassified		21. No of Pages: 100	
		22. Price:	

Form DOT F 1700.7 (08/72)





# NTL Digital Submissions

## Transportation Library Connectivity and Development Pooled Fund Study TPF-5 (237)

Improvement of Research Report Distribution and Access and Promotion of More Effective Use of Technical Report Documentation Page, USDOT Form 1700.7

<https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/view/dot/28294>

### Recommendations:

- Make a universal, accessible TRDP with an instruction sheet available at a central location
- Update 1975 instructions to clarify ambiguity in certain fields
- Allow inclusion of URLs and use of Transportation Research Thesaurus



# NTL Digital Submissions



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

## Technical Report Documentation Page Gaps

### Current:

- Multiple versions of the form, original is not 508 accessible
- No explicit entry for identifiers (ORCID or DOI)
- Does not accommodate multipart submission
- Does not support tracking and NTL cataloging workflow

### Future:

- Official form is 508 accessible
- Form provides space and instructions for ORCID or DOI's
- Form can be used for multipart submissions
- Data from form is entered directly into NTL cataloging workflow, allows for tracking and resubmission
- Submissions are routed to appropriate team for processing





# NTL Digital Submissions

## NTL Web-Based Submissions

### NTL piloted a web submissions form in 2020

- ~ 20 Participants from USDOT, UTC's and State DOT's
- Fields map to TRDP, allowing information to be copied and pasted into the web form

### Recommendations

- Include additional “enhanced” fields:
  - Identify programs
  - Identify government laboratory
  - Research Hub number
- Require verification (checkbox) for resubmission, SPR funding, and acknowledgement of 508 accessibility





# 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>

## Recent LibGuides:

- US DOT History: [https://transportation.libguides.com/usdot\\_history](https://transportation.libguides.com/usdot_history)
- Transportation and Climate Change Clearinghouse: <https://transportation.libguides.com/TCCC>







# NTKN Communities of Practice

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

## Cooperative Digitization Community of Practice

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.

## 508 Accessibility Community of Practice

Lead by Michael Molina, Oklahoma Transportation Library

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.

## Library Advocacy Community of Practice

Lead by Jennifer Herron, 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.





# 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 TLR's can be found on the KM Calendar [https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN\\_Calendar](https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN_Calendar)
- NTL issues certificates at the end of the year for anyone who attends 10 or more sessions, for attendees to document their participation.





# NTL Ask A Librarian & FAQs

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

**NTL Reference Librarians provide services for the transportation community and general public via web form, chat and phone. Specific services are:**

- Basic research assistance with Bureau of Transportation Statistics publications and data products, such as airline traffic and financial data
- Assistance with access to information resources in ROSA P
- Referrals to operating administrations within US DOT and other government or non-government organizations
- Social media outreach
- In-depth research for the Secretary's Office and other DOT personnel





**U.S. Department of Transportation**



# Contact

Mary Moulton

National Transportation Library

[mary.moulton@dot.gov](mailto:mary.moulton@dot.gov)

