# Air Quality + Sustainable Transportation Highlights

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration



**Prepared by the Office of Natural Environment** 

May / June

#### **Announcements**

# Updated National Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program Guidance

On June 2, 2023, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released updated NEVI Formula Program Guidance with an updated accompanying State Plan Template (which can be downloaded from FHWA's NEVI webpage) and updated Questions and Answers (Q&As). The NEVI Formula Program provides dedicated funding to States to strategically deploy EV charging infrastructure towards establishing an interconnected network to facilitate data collection, access, and reliability. The Program Guidance details that each State will be required to submit an annual update to their EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan that describes how the State intends to use its apportioned NEVI Formula Program funds in accordance with the guidance. The next round of updates to State Plans must be submitted to the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation no later than August 1, 2023. Among other updates, the updated Q&As address how North American Charging Standard (NACS) connectors can be appropriately incorporated into electric vehicle charging infrastructure. For more information, visit the FHWA's NEVI webpage or contact Diane Turchetta, William Stein, or Suraiya Motsinger.

#### Alternative Fuel Corridors: Request for Nominations

The Round 7 (2023) Request for Nominations (RFN) for Alternative Fuel Corridors was released on May 18, 2023, with a due date of June 21, 2023. The RFN provided State and local officials the opportunity to nominate Alternative Fuel Corridors for designation. Eligible technology/fuel types are electric vehicle charging, hydrogen, propane, and natural gas. New to Round 7 was the designation of Freight Electric Vehicle (EV) Corridors. FHWA proposed using the National Highway Freight Network as the preliminary designation and provided State and local officials the opportunity to recommend changes to this proposed designation. For more information visit FHWA's Alternative Fuel Corridor webpage, or contact William Stein or Diane Turchetta.

## Final Report for FHWA (Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator) MOVES3 Sensitivity Analysis

The FHWA added a final report to its <u>MOVES3 Sensitivity Analysis webpage</u>. The report is a companion to the dashboard of results posted previously and is intended to provide stakeholders from state and local agencies with information that could inform prioritizing collection of local data for use as inputs to MOVES.

The final report also includes appendices with details on MOVES Run Specifications, Scenario Development, Post-Processing, MOVES Definitions, and Complete Inventory Sensitivity Results. The results of this sensitivity testing may be of interest to those using MOVES to model on road emissions of criteria pollutants, air toxics, and greenhouse gases. For more information about the analysis, contact <u>David Kall</u>.

# Addressing Resilience to Climate Change & Extreme Weather in Transportation Asset Management

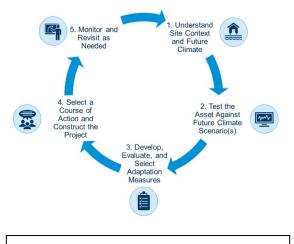
FHWA published a new <a href="https://handbook">handbook</a> designed to help transportation practitioners incorporate natural hazard resilience into transportation asset management. This handbook provides approaches, strategies, and examples of addressing risks related to extreme weather and climate change in asset management.

An appendix is also provided that includes case studies on a series of State Department of Transportation pilots on incorporating resilience into asset management. For more information visit <a href="#FHWA Asset Management page">FHWA Asset Management page</a> or contact <a href="Elizabeth Habic">Elizabeth Habic</a>.



Source: Addressing Resilience to Climate Change & Extreme Weather in Transportation Asset Management Handbook

#### Pavement Resilience: State of the Practice Report



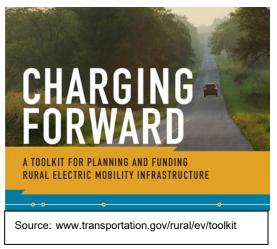
Source: Pavement Resilience Report

FHWA released the <u>Pavement Resilience</u>: <u>State of Practice report</u> that provides an examination of pavement resilience and describes the state of knowledge, practice, and future needs based on two FHWA-sponsored peer exchanges and documents on climate and resilience.

The manual was developed to support transportation agencies in adopting a proactive Geohazards and Climate Change Resilience approach. The links to the manual and peer exchange report are listed below.

- Geohazards, Extreme Weather Events and Climate Change Resilience Manual
- Peer Exchange Report Geohazards and Climate Change Resilience

#### U.S. DOT Releases Rural Electric Mobility Infrastructure Toolkit



The U.S. DOT released a Rural Electric Vehicle (EV) Toolkit as a resource to help a variety of rural community stakeholders scope, plan, and identify ways to fund electric mobility charging infrastructure for broader public or private use. The toolkit focuses on infrastructure for light-duty electric passenger vehicles, but also addresses funding opportunities & planning considerations for other types of electric vehicles and devices, including micromobility, transit and school buses, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, and agricultural equipment such. For more information visit the U.S. DOT Rural EV Toolkit

#### page

#### **EPA Posts Draft Version of MOVES4**

EPA has posted a draft version of MOVES4 to the MOVES GitHub site with the plan to release the official MOVES4 model (MOVES4.0.0) later this year, along with full documentation and guidance on how MOVES4 should be used. EPA's MOVES is a state-of-the-science emission modeling system that estimates emissions for mobile sources at the national, county, and project level for criteria air pollutants, greenhouse gases, and air toxics.

Until the official version of MOVES4 is available, reference MOVES3.1, the latest version of MOVES for regulatory purposes. For more information visit EPA's MOVES website and see Policy Guidance on the Use of MOVES3 for State Implementation Plan Development, Transportation Conformity, General Conformity, and Other Purposes.

# **Resources and Training**

# Air Quality Courses:

## NHI Free Air Quality Planning Web-based Course

The National Highway Institute (NHI) Air Quality Planning web-based training series is designed for transportation practitioners. It includes four modules: Clean Air Act Overview (FHWA-NHI-142068), State Implementation Plan (SIP) and Transportation

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Control Measure (TCM) Requirements and Policies (FHWA-NHI-142069), SIP Development Process (FHWA-NHI-142070), and Transportation Conformity (FHWA-NHI-142071). All courses are free. For more information, visit the NHI website and search "Air Quality Planning," or look for the specific course number. Please contact Karen Perritt at (202) 366-9066 with any questions or comments.

#### 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 George Noel.

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

FHWA's Resource Center Environment, Air Quality & Realty Team is available to offer EPA's MOtor Vehicle Emission Simulator MOVES and other trainings. Please contact Mike Roberts, for additional information or to discuss scheduling a training.

#### Training Available for PM Hot-spot Analysis

The FHWA Resource Center has developed a training course to cover the Particluate Matter (PM) hot-spot requirement under the transportation conformity rule. This three-day course provides detailed, hands-on instruction on how to complete a quantitative PM hot-spot analysis in accordance with EPA's guidance. The course is geared towards State and local agency staff who will be completing these analyses, as well as those who may be reviewing, approving, or otherwise assessing hot-spot analyses. Previous modeling experience is not necessary, although familiarity with MOVES and air quality dispersion modeling may be helpful. The course includes class discussion and numerous hands-on exercises, including a hypothetical project that will be carried through the course as an example of a quantitative PM hot-spot analysis. Contact <a href="Christopresser">Christopresser</a> if you would like to register for the Colorado training or have questions related to this training course.

#### **Resilience Courses:**

#### National Highway Institute (NHI) In-Person Resilience Course

NHI recently posted a new in-person course focused on planning and designing highway projects to be more resilient to changing climate conditions. It is a 2.5 day course in inland areas, or 3 day course in coastal areas, and includes material on climate science, tools and methods for assessing future conditions and addressing them in project development, and consideration in a range of engineering disciplines: inland flooding, costal hydraulics, pavements and geohazards. The target audience includes engineering, project planning and environmental staff; the series is also relevant to regional planners, asset managers, and others seeking to integrate climate change

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considerations into their practices. Fees related to the course would be eligible under the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Formula Program For more information about the NHI In-Person Resilience Course, please contact Robert Kafalenos.

In-person course: Addressing Climate Resilience in Highway Project Development and Preliminary Design (NHI 142085)

#### National Highway Institute (NHI) Resilience Training Courses

The National Highway Institute (NHI) recently released four one-hour web-based courses focused on resilience to climate change and extreme weather events. The four courses provide an introduction to past and expected future environmental conditions, future sea levels, climate datasets and modeling tools for temperature and precipitation change, system level vulnerability assessment, and methods for conducting project-level resilience assessments. The target audience includes engineering, project planning and environmental staff; the series is also relevant to regional planners, asset managers, and others seeking to integrate climate change considerations into their practices. Virtual courses (free):

- FHWA-NHI-142081 Understanding Past, Current and Future Climate Conditions
- FHWA-NHI-142082 Introduction to Temperature and Precipitation Projections
- FHWA-NHI-142083 Systems Level Vulnerability Assessments
- FHWA-NHI-142084 Adaptation Analysis for Project Decision Making

#### **Traffic Noise Courses:**

#### FHWA Web-Based TNM Training

FHWA created a <u>Traffic Noise Model (TNM) Playlist on its YouTube Channel</u>. These short-format 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.

#### **CMAQ Course:**

FHWA Web-Based Training on the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program

Several web-based CMAQ training opportunities are available on-demand on <a href="FHWA's CMAQ">FHWA's CMAQ</a> training website. This page includes CMAQ program training such as CMAQ Overview, the CMAQ Transportation Performance Measures and the CMAQ Annual Reporting/Public Access System. Training Information for CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit such as available tools and their associated webinars along with CMAQ Toolkit Video Series are available on the <a href="CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit website">CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit website</a>. For questions, please contact <a href="Mark Glaze">Mark Glaze</a>, <a href="Karen Perritt">Karen Perritt</a> or <a href="Eddie Dancausse">Eddie Dancausse</a>.

# **Conformity Course:**

#### FHWA Web-Based Transportation Conformity Training

Several web-based transportation conformity training opportunities are available on-demand from <a href="FHWA's conformity training website">FHWA's conformity training website</a> (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 <a href="David Kall">David Kall</a>.

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Past issues of the Air Quality and Sustainability Highlights are available on
FHWA's Air Quality website and Sustainability website

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