



Transportation Friday

An electronic newsletter concerning regional transportation issues

Friday, May 4th, 2018

Volume 26, Number 5

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The TIGER grant is replaced by BUILD (\$1.5B) July 19th Deadline; see Funding Opportunities. Who was awarded TAP? See Mobile MPO Updates. Tomorrow the Bankhead is open to pedestrian and cyclists, and it is CREEKFEST; see *In The News*. **There will be a Mobile MPO meeting on May 23rd, TCC/CAC ON May 9th; please mark your calendars.**

This week's *Just For Fun* is all Star Warsy....

Have a great weekend!

Check out [ALGO Traffic](#) before you travel!

Anthony Johnson, Monica Williamson, Tom Piper, and Kevin Harrison, PTP

www.mobilempo.org  check us out on FACEBOOK

Mobile MPO Updates

Mobile Urban Area TAP Funding

The City of Prichard submitted a request for sidewalks and ADA crosswalks around the perimeter of Ella Grant Elementary School for the amount of \$199,941.20 (Federal)

Mobile County submitted a request for construction of ADA compliant curb ramps at various locations within the unincorporated areas of Mobile County for the amount of \$200,000.00 (Federal).

The following FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program have been selected and approved by the ALDOT Director and the Governor

- City of Prichard: ADA Compliance Project
- City of Mobile: Mobile Greenway- Three Mile Creek Segment 6 North
- Town of Mt. Vernon: Sidewalk Improvements Along Od Military Rd
- Town of Elberta: Downtown Streetscape Improvements
- City of Bay Minette: Dobson Avenue Sidewalks

The following Projects from South Alabama were not selected, but are automatically be considered for the next round of funding, which has a May 1st deadline.

- Baldwin County Commission: County Road 1 Sidewalk Extension
- City of Brewton: Sidewalk Improvements along Hwy 31
- Escambia County Commission: Sidewalk Improvements
- City of Gulf Shores: Sidewalk Improvements
- Mobile County Commission: Sidewalks along Cottage Hill Road and Leroy Stevens Road

MEETINGS

The Mobile MPO will meet on May 23rd, and the TCC/CAC Advisory Committee will meet on May 9th. Also, the Mobile MPO web site has had a makeover. Please let us know what you think <http://mobilempo.org/>

There are several items on the agenda. The Long Range Transportation Plan needs to be modified (at Summer meeting) to accurately portray the I-10 Mobile River Bridge in terms of a considered toll, environmental justice considerations, and the bicycle/pedestrian component. This will be discussed at the meetings but will not happen until later this summer. Also, we will be discussing a draft 2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and there are some revisions to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). We will be continuing our discussion of performance measures, and we must adopt a resolution supporting a Transit Asset Management Performance Measure for the WAVE Transit. Finally, the Southern Rail Commission will be present (5/23/18) to briefly bring the MPO up to date on the status of the initiative to return passenger rail to the Gulf Coast.

The Mobile MPO's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met at the GM&O Building this Wednesday. Mr. Edwin Perry with ALDOT was on hand to give an update on Bike/Ped accessibility over the Mobile River. The meeting focused heavily on discussing the inclusion of Bike/Ped facilities on the proposed I10 Mobile River Bridge. The committee voted to amend the Bike/Ped section of the Long Range Transportation Plan to include: a detailed description of a Belvedere on the I-10 Mobile River Bridge; Bike/Ped Facilities on the Cochrane-Africatown Bridge; and Value Added Options. The Value Added Options include: a 12 foot wide shared use path on the I-10 Mobile River Bridge; a 12 foot wide shared use path from the Cochrane-Africatown Bridge to Beauregard Street; a shared use path from

the Cochrane-Africatown Bridge to Battleship Memorial Park; an elevator and stair tower on the east main span pier of the I-10 Mobile River Bridge; and connecting the Bike/Ped path from the Battleship Memorial Park to the Eastern Shore. Also discussed were upcoming road projects that will include bike/ped facilities, including the Dog River Loop of the Crepe Myrtle Trail in the Bike/Ped section of the Long Range Transportation Plan, and the TAP Grants that were received by the Mobile MPO this past Tuesday. The LRTP will be modified later this summer, and will include a Value Added Option "D" to account for the connection to Daphne as part of the Bridge Project.

NEW SARPC Transportation Video



[HERE](#)

Want to know what other SARPC departments do?

[Planning and Community Development](#)

[Area Agency on Aging](#)

[Employment and Economic Development](#)

US 45 Feasibility Study

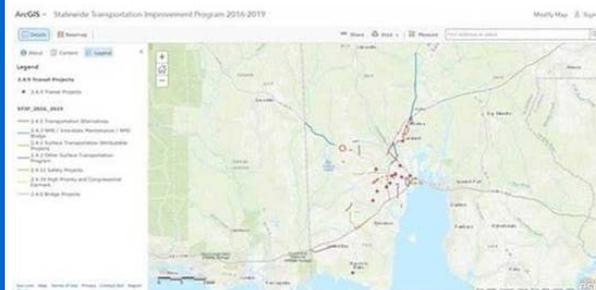
We recently had the kick off Advisory Committee meeting held at the GM&O Building. The project consultants Volkert and CERM gave a short presentation on the goals of the project to a selected list of stakeholders that make up the Advisory Committee. There was a discussion about project expectations and public involvement at the meeting. The next meeting will be the week of May 14th-18th. We are trying to lock down a location and date now. If you are interested in serving on the Advisory Committee, please contact Kevin Harrison.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) NOW ONLINE

The TIP represents a four year program (2016-2019) for improvements in the various transportation systems located within the Mobile study area as identified in the Mobile MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the twenty-five year plan for the Mobile Urban area [Destination 2040](#). The LRTP establishes the transportation programs that are needed to meet travel demand by the study year and study area. LRTP projects that become funded are moved into the TIP and submitted to the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), where they are programmed into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). For MPO projects, TIP project selection is based on priorities established by MPO member governments and the availability of funds through the Surface Transportation Attributable program. For other projects, ALDOT has discretion of project funding based on availability of funds from various types of funding categories. Most often, projects in the TIP are derived from the LRTP. The TIP guides ALDOT in its annual allocation of funds for transportation improvements and becomes a part of the STIP.

ArcGIS Online is now being utilized by MPO staff to map all federally funded surface transportation projects within our area. Check it out.

2016-2019 E-TIP [HERE](#)



Mobile MPO 101

Here are a couple of great videos that were produced by our counterpart in Birmingham (Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham). The videos are a summary of the MPO planning process and are below:



Funding a Project with an MPO: <https://vimeo.com/210829210>



Inside an MPO: <https://vimeo.com/210825997>

[HERE](#) are the slides and presentations of the Mobile MPO 101 training.

Stay UP To Date on the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project: <http://mobileriverbridge.com/>

This critically important, high-priority transportation project will involve constructing a new six-lane bridge across the Mobile River to increase Interstate 10's capacity and replace the existing four-lane Bayway with an eight-lane facility at an elevation above the 100 year storm surge event to reduce traffic headaches for thousands of commuters each day by saving motorists time.

The Wallace Tunnel currently averages 75,000 vehicles per day, reaching up to 100,000 vehicles during the peak tourism season. With almost double the daily traffic originally anticipated for the crossing, heavy congestions and longer travel times impact motorists, businesses, and the quality of life in the region. ALDOT expects this project to:

- **Reduce travel time between Mobile and Spanish Fort/Daphne.**
- **Increase reliability in travel times and accessibility to jobs, educational facilities, medical services, and recreational activities.**
- **Facilitate access to/from major industries and freight destinations in Mobile and Baldwin Counties and provide hazardous material vehicles a direct route away from the downtown district.**
- **Take all efforts to preserve and protect the Mobile Bay so that generations to come can enjoy the view and natural beauty from the bridge.**

Hyperlinks within the advisory:

Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project: <http://mobileriverbridge.com/>

ALDOT's mission is to provide a safe, efficient, environmentally and economically sound transportation network across Alabama. For further information, visit www.dot.state.al.us.

Recent Scheduling Changes This Week for Mobile

The target start date or project engineers estimated amount has changed for the following :

Project : 100061588 (CN)
Federal aid number : BR 0013 (601)
County : MOBILE
Project Description : CULVERT REPLACEMENT, BIN 5715, SR-13 (US-43) OVER STEELE CREEK
Old Target start date : July 27, 2018
New Target start date : September 28, 2018

Region Let April 27th, 2018

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

None at this time

MOBILE COUNTY

- For constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, Sidewalk, Curb & Gutter Installation, and Traffic Stripe on SR-16 (US-90) at the Illinois Central Railroad Crossing (MP 31.246) west of the I-165 Interchange to MP 34.207. Length 2.840 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$1,665,560 to \$2,035,684.
- For constructing the Bridge Deck Replacement (Partial) on Airport Boulevard over I-65 in Mobile. Length 0.052 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$2,350,712 to \$2,873,092.
- For constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on SR-13 (US-43) from the Cedar Creek Bridge south of Mt Vernon to the Washington County Line. Length 5.607 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$1,785,404 to \$2,182,160.

BALDWIN COUNTY

- For constructing the Median Barrier Protection (Cable Guiderail Installation) on I-10 from the SR-181 Interchange in Daphne to the Perdido River Bridge and on I-65 from MP 75.500 to MP 105.500. Length 55.994 mi. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$2,360,529 to \$2,885,091.
- For the Maintenance Dredging of Little Lagoon Pass in Gulf Shores as indicated in the plans. The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$1,078,113 to \$1,317,693.

[What's Under Construction?](#)

[Project Status](#)

Legislative Updates

Letter from Senate Appropriations to Secretary Chao

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Chairman Susan Collins (R-ME) and Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-RI) sent a letter to Secretary Chao regarding the BUILD grant Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) announcement. They applauded the program's \$1.5 billion funding level but expressed concern over changes USDOT made to the grant program. Their primary concern is the use of non-federal revenue for investment as merit criteria for evaluating applications. They state that "holding transportation agencies responsible for raising revenue is simply unrealistic and detrimental to this grant program." The lawmakers are also concerned that the look-back period punishes states that have raised their own gas tax prior to January 1, 2015 — as Maine and Rhode Island have done. They close the letter by urging the removal of unnecessary barriers to funding infrastructure projects going forward. Letter is [HERE](#).

Will the President's Infrastructure Plan Attract Private Investors?

Questions remain as to whether some of the plan's components will draw the needed private sector funds to get projects off the ground. Patricia Kirk | May 04, 2018

Despite numerous attempts in the past 18 months to highlight a proposed plan to offer state and local governments nearly \$200 billion in funding to stimulate a goal of \$1.5 trillion in infrastructure projects nationally, the Trump administration has failed to generate buzz and momentum for its vision. Moreover, questions remain as to whether some of the plan's components will draw the needed private sector funds to get projects off the ground.

The overall architecture of Trump's plan marks a major change in the federal government's traditional role in funding infrastructure, passing off the financial burden to state and local governments and ultimately private investors, with less project funding coming from federal coffers.

Half of the plan's funds, or \$100 billion, are devoted to a new "Incentives Program," with approval authority divided among the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers. These agencies will competitively award the funds. In reviewing competing projects, the agencies will apply evaluation criteria 70 percent of which will pertain to the project's ability to secure new, non-federal revenue sources.

According to Fred Springer, an attorney at the Florida law firm of Bryant Miller Olive, which specializes in assisting public entities in financing infrastructure projects, this requirement would make it harder to access federal funds for infrastructure. "Private investors will require a return on investment," Springer says. "A project that generates a significant revenue stream may attract private investment, but many infrastructure projects do not generate revenues."

There are other mechanisms to boost a project's credit-worthiness, such as federal loan programs. An example is TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act), a federal loan program that provides partial funding loans to infrastructure projects that expand the economy or can transform a community. Examples of projects that meet TIFIA criteria include the D.C. Metro system, which initiated the city's urban renewal process, and the Port of Miami Tunnel, which segregates port traffic from passenger vehicles, improving cargo movement from the Port, while reducing traffic congestion for other vehicles. Continue [HERE](#).

Secretary Perry Announces Funding for Advanced Vehicle Technologies Research

Energy Secretary Rick Perry recently announced \$68.5 million in funding through the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for early-stage research of advanced vehicle technologies. Projects selected through this Vehicle Technologies Office funding opportunity will address one of five topics, including batteries and electrification, technology integration, and co-optimization of engines and fuels. The goals of this opportunity are to improve transportation efficiency and reliability by enhancing economic growth and enabling affordable mobility. [HERE](#)

Funding Opportunities

U.S. Department of Transportation Launches BUILD Transportation Program, Announces \$1.5 Billion Notice of Funding Opportunity

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) today published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for \$1.5 billion in discretionary grant funding through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants program.

BUILD Transportation grants will replace the pre-existing Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant

program. As the Administration looks to enhance America's infrastructure, FY 2018 BUILD Transportation grants are for investments in surface transportation infrastructure and are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact. BUILD funding can support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports or intermodal transportation.

"BUILD Transportation grants will help communities revitalize their surface transportation systems while also increasing support for rural areas to ensure that every region of our country benefits," said Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

Projects for BUILD will be evaluated based on merit criteria that include safety, economic competitiveness, quality of life, environmental protection, state of good repair, innovation, partnership, and additional non-federal revenue for future transportation infrastructure investments.

To reflect the Administration's Infrastructure Initiative, DOT intends to award a greater share of BUILD Transportation grant funding to projects located in rural areas that align well with the selection criteria than to such projects in urban areas. The notice highlights rural needs in several of the evaluation criteria, including support for rural broadband deployment where it is part of an eligible transportation project.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 made available \$1.5 billion for National Infrastructure Investments, otherwise known as BUILD Transportation Discretionary grants, through September 30, 2020. For this round of BUILD Transportation grants, the maximum grant award is \$25 million, and no more than \$150 million can be awarded to a single State, as specified in the FY 2018 Appropriations Act. At least 30 percent of funds must be awarded to projects located in rural areas.

To provide technical assistance to a broad array of stakeholders, DOT is hosting a series of webinars during the FY 2018 BUILD grant application process. A webinar on how to compete for BUILD Transportation Grants for all applicants will be held on Thursday, May 24; a webinar for rural and tribal applicants will be held on Tuesday, May 29; and a webinar on how to prepare a benefit cost analysis for a BUILD application will be held on Thursday, May 31. All webinars will take place from 2:00-4:00 PM EDT. Details and registration information regarding these webinars will be made available at <https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants>. The Department will schedule additional webinars on these topics in June.

The deadline to submit an application for the FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants program is July 19, 2018.

[BUILD Grant Webinars](#)

May 24, [How to Compete for BUILD Transportation Grants – All Applicants](#)

May 29, [How to Compete for BUILD Transportation Grants – Rural/Tribal Applicants](#)

May 31, [Preparing a Benefit-Cost Analysis for a BUILD Application](#)

For 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grants, USDOT is offering a series of special topic webinars that delve into various aspects of the BUILD application process. These webinars are a great resource for anyone considering applying to BUILD this year or those preparing a BUILD application, as the webinars come from the funding source and share the expertise of USDOT to prospective applicants.

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grant programs

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program (FY 2017)

CRISI program: Applications are due no later than *5:00 p.m. EDT, June 21, 2018*.

More information on FRA's CRISI website: <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P1079>

Overview: This program will fund projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and reliability of passenger and freight rail. See the [FY 2017 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for more information.

Legislative Authority: This program was authorized in Section 11301 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Pub. L. 114-94 (2015); 49 U.S.C. § 24407. Funding under this program was made available by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, Public Law No. 115-31, Division K, Title I. **Amount:** \$65,232,400

Restoration and Enhancement Grants Program (FY 2017)

REG program: Applications are due no later than *5:00 p.m. EDT May 22, 2018*.

More information on FRA's REG website: <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P1081>

Overview: This program will fund operating assistance grants for initiating, restoring, or enhancing intercity rail passenger transportation. See the [FY 2017 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for more information.

Legislative Authority: This program was authorized in Section 11303 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Pub. L. No. 114-94 (2015); 49 U.S.C. § 24408. Funding under this program was made available by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, Public Law No. 115-31, Division K, Title I. **Amount:** \$4,796,500

Section 5307, 5310, and 5311: Using Non-DOT Funds for Local Match

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [Administration for Community Living](#) (ACL) has worked with the [National Aging and Disability Transportation Center](#) to clarify the ability of grantees to use Older Americans Act Title IIIB Supportive Services Funds to match Federal Transit Administration (FTA) programs. These FTA programs include Urbanized Area Formula Grants (Section 5307), Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and People with Disabilities (Section 5310), and Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Section 5311). This information has been publicized [HERE](#).

FHWA Offers New Funding for Innovative Demonstration Projects

New funding is available from the Federal Highway Administration's Accelerated Innovation Deployment Demonstration program to encourage the transportation community to adopt proven innovations. [Funding](#) or the AID Demonstration program, launched in 2014 as part of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, was continued by the 2015 [Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act](#). Since AID Demonstration was introduced, FHWA has provided more than \$43 million for 61 awards.

Under the program, funding of up to \$1 million may be awarded for projects that use proven innovations in any project phase, including planning, financing, operation, structures, materials, pavements, environment and construction. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through Grants.gov, the federal government's website for information on funding opportunities. For more information on the AID Demonstration program, contact [Ewa Flom](#) of the FHWA Center for Accelerating Innovation.

The FHWA continues the Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration authorized within the Technology and Innovation Deployment Program (TIDP) under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The AID Demonstration provides incentive funding for any project activities eligible for assistance under title 23, U.S.C. in any phase of a highway transportation project between project planning and project delivery including planning, financing, operation, structures, materials, pavements, environment, and

construction that address the TIDP goals. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) published on September 1, 2016 (<https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-21063>) requests grant applications and provides selection criteria, application requirements, and technical assistance with Grants.gov during the grant solicitation period.

Link to Additional Information: [FHWA Center for Accelerating Innovation Grants page](#)

Industrial Access Road and Bridge

Industrial access funds are intended to provide adequate public access to new or expanding distribution, manufacturing and industrial firms. The industry must be committed to new investment and the creation of new jobs. The new access must be on public right of way for public use (state, city or county) and the project sponsor (city or county) must maintain the completed facility unless the facility consists of turn lanes, crossovers, etc., that are located on state highways. Industrial access funds are limited to construction, construction engineering and inspection costs. The project sponsor is responsible for all preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation costs.

Prior to the date the qualifying (new or expanding) project is "placed in service," the sponsoring entity or its local development agency must notify the Alabama Department of Commerce of its intent to claim the incentives under Section 41-9-202.1, Code of Alabama 1975. Effective October 9, 2008, the Industrial Access Road and Bridge Corporation application submittal should include the notification acknowledgment letter from the Secretary of Commerce. For more info, see [HERE](#)

To stay up to date on all of the many grants that are available click [HERE](#) or type www.grants.gov in your browser.

Just For Fun

It is May the 4th, 2018, and since it is so cheeky to say "MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU" from the movie *Star Wars*, it is National Star Wars Day. I am sure some schools in America today have 5th and 6th graders dressed like Han Solo, Princess Leia and Ewoks (characters from the movie).

We actually had an Ewok stop by the MPO office and said "I'm interested in seeing.....the TIP". Kevin said "Sure thing—but why the little pause?" "Dunno," says the Ewok. "I've had them all my life."

Speaking of bad jokes, these variable message sign operators must not be Trekkies, but Star Wars fans. So *Just For Fun*, have a good weekend and May the Fourth be with you.



In the News

Bankhead Tunnel open for pedestrians, cyclists Saturday

Updated 8:38 AM; Posted 8:35 AM



The Alabama Department of Transportation opened Mobile's Bankhead Tunnel to pedestrians and cyclists for a few hours on the morning of Saturday, July 30, 2016, and people turned out in droves to take advantage of the rare opportunity. The previous Saturday, ALDOT reported that 707 people took advantage of the opportunity. ALDOT reported via Twitter that this time around, "1,089 participants traveled through Bankhead this morning! 568 peds & 521 bikes." (Lawrence [Specker/LSpecker@AL.com](mailto:Specker@AL.com))

By [Lawrence Specker](#)

lspecker@al.com

Mobilians will have a chance to walk, run or bike through the Bankhead Tunnel on Saturday, as the Alabama Department of Transportation begins a series of recreational closures.

According to information provided by ALDOT, the tunnel will be closed to vehicular traffic from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. Saturday, May 5. The department has been conducting the closings intermittently since summer 2016. Hundreds of people usually take the chance to traverse the tunnel, and crowds have topped 1,000.

The tunnel is about three-quarters of a mile long with a 6 percent grade at either end.

ALDOT has released a statement saying that it plans to open the tunnel to recreational use "every other Saturday morning for the next several weeks." The times of those events are subject to change "as ALDOT evaluates public involvement and traffic impacts.

As it refined its approach to the events, ALDOT added lane guidance to help avoid close encounters between fast-moving cyclists and pedestrians. Participants are encouraged to use safe speeds and be mindful of others.

There is also a 5k and fun run through the Bankhead tomorrow benefiting the Mobile Lions Club.

Sponsored by
Cunningham, Bounds Law Firm

Lion's Club of Mobile
Charity 5K thru The Bankhead Tunnel

SATURDAY May 5th • 8 A.M.
Starting at The Public Library

FINISH IS CAFE DEL RIO
Register at <http://lionsclubtunnelvision5k2018.eventbrite.com>

Backup cameras now required on all new cars in the US

Updated May 3, 1:37 PM; Posted May 3, 1:37 PM



Backup cameras are now required in all new cars made in the U.S. (Contributed photo/US DOT)

By [Leada Gore](#)

lgore@al.com

All new cars sold in the U.S. must now come equipped with backup cameras.

The U.S. Department of Transportation announced the camera requirement in 2014 but gave automakers several years to prepare. The federal regulation went into effect this week.

The cameras are designed to prevent back-over crashes by giving drivers better views of what's behind them. The cameras come on when a driver shifts a vehicle into reverse, projecting an image either in the dashboard or in a small display in the rearview mirror of the area behind the vehicle. The field of view includes a 10-foot-by-20-foot zone directly behind the car, according to DOT.

"It's important to remember that rearview video systems are not a replacement for mirrors or turning around to look; rather, they're an added safety tool for revealing hidden dangers," DOT said.

An average of 200 people are killed and more than 12,000 are injured in backover crashes, according to the DOT. Children under 5 years old account for 31 percent of backover fatalities each year, and adults 70 years of age and older account for 26 percent.



The fourth annual Creek Fest will take place at Mobile's Tricentennial Park on Saturday May 12, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a celebration of Three Mile Creek, which was the city's first source of drinking water.

The event will include a cane-pole fishing tournament for ages 16 and under, along with other family-friendly activities. Live music, food and kayak rides also will be part of the half-day event as the natural beauty of one of Mobile's historic waterways is showcased. Jason Smith, Chief Meteorologist with FOX Ten, will serve as the event emcee.

There also will be opportunities for area Boy Scouts to earn merit badges.

CREPE MYRTLE TRAIL RIDE 2018

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Mobile United and other local groups to host the 5th Crepe Myrtle Trail Bicycle Ride along Mobile Bay.

- **WHEN:** Saturday, May 19, 2018; 8:00 a.m. registration; 8:30 a.m. ride;
- **WHERE:** Starts at Arlington Park, 1814 15th Street South, Mobile
- **COST:** \$10 riders 13 and up until May 17th at midnight; \$15 day-of; Riders 8-12 are free.

The new date of the Crepe Myrtle Trail Bicycle Ride, presented by Mobile United, is Saturday, May 19, 2018. The Ride will begin in Arlington Park near downtown Mobile. This event offers an historic opportunity to ride the Mobile Bay-side of the Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley, and through the Peninsula of Mobile's Bayfront Road.

This ride is special because it is the only time during the year that people on bikes have access to this portion of the proposed Crepe Myrtle Trail. Thanks to the Mobile Airport Authority and the University of South Alabama Foundation for allowing access to the Brookley by the Bay and Airport property.

All riders are encouraged to register online at by midnight on Thursday, May 17th. On-site registration will be also available starting at 8:00 am on the morning of the ride.

Here are a few important details for 2018:

- Registration is \$10 for people ages 13 and up until May 17 at midnight; \$15 day-of registration fee; Children 8-12 are free (restrictions apply). Limited scholarships are available for riders unable to pay the registration fee. Please contact Mark Berte at mberte@joinACE.org before May 16 for more information about scholarships.
- No riders are allowed under age 8 unless in a trailer or tag-a-long. **Helmets and safety gear are required. No training wheels are allowed.** Children should be experienced riders and able to ride the full 10.6 miles in potentially warm and/or windy weather.
- The official turn-around spot is at McNally Park. The ride is expected to run from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Mobile United's Natural Resource Committee organized the inaugural ride in 2014 in an effort to draw awareness to the proposed Crepe Myrtle Trail Bike and Pedestrian Path. The Crepe Myrtle Trail is an integral part of the Mobile Greenway Initiative, a multi-use waterfront trail stretching from the University of South Alabama and Langan Park along Three Mile Creek to Dog River and eventually, Dauphin Island.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!! ALABAMA RECREATIONAL TRAILS LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Thursday, June 7, 2018
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Orange Beach Community Center
27235 Canal Road
Orange Beach, Alabama 36561

A fun and informative gathering for those who plan, develop, and manage recreational trails in Alabama.

[FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

Transportation Research

[WA TPM Guidance](#)

FHWA has published two resources to help state DOTs understand target setting. The second national performance measure regulation requires FHWA to determine the minimum bridge condition level for each state and whether a state DOT has made significant progress towards the achievement of its bridge condition targets. [FHWA Computation Procedure for the Bridge Condition Measures](#) is a new resource for states.

Additionally, the [Average Vehicle Occupancy Factors for Computing Travel Time Reliability Measures and Total Peak Hour Excessive Delay Metrics](#) resource provides average vehicle occupancy (AVO) factors for computing Travel Time Reliability measures and Total Peak Hour Excessive Delay (PHED) metrics.

[Focus on Freight: Article 3 – Delivering the Goods](#)

Freight tonnage across all modes is expected to increase by 50 percent by 2040, increasing pressure on transportation infrastructure and metropolitan areas in particular. This USDOT article outlines strategies to implement in preparation for the growth of goods movement and provides information on USDOT's activities in the topic area. One big freight challenge in metro areas is loading zone management. Strategies such as off-hour delivery and alternative pickup and delivery locations can help reduce loading zone congestion and insufficiencies. Safety concerns are also a priority and focusing on driver training and vehicle features can help increase safety for all modes. Overall, USDOT states that working together with local stakeholders and the freight industry will be essential to preparing for the future of freight.

[Identification of High Pedestrian Crash Locations](#)

This FHWA guidebook presents a process to help state and local agencies identify high pedestrian crash locations and includes a literature review, case studies, and other research needed to develop a five-step process.

[New ADA Sidewalk and Curb Ramp Compliance App](#)

Download it Today



<http://www.vueworks.com/sidewalks-and-curb-ramps-application/>

- Simple to Use
- Download from Apple Store or Google Play

- Collect information at your pace
 - Gathers ADA Compliance inventory and condition information
 - Location is automatically collected in GIS
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Transportation Dictionary

The USDOT released a searchable online dictionary that includes over 9,000 transportation terms and acronyms. The terms were collected from a variety of public and private transportation publications and databases. This dictionary presents over 9,000 terms and acronyms related to transportation. The terms and acronyms were obtained from various transportation publications and databases which exist within the federal government, private organizations, Canada and Mexico.

Search Tips

- Sources are listed in parenthesis after the definition.
- None of the searches are case sensitive. Searching for PEDESTRIAN will produce the same results as searching for pedestrian.
- The Dictionary searches for the word, phrase or acronym as it is entered and returns all records that match or contain that word, phrase or acronym. For example, searching for pedestrian will return records for pedestrian and pedestrian walkway.

Click [HERE](#) for the search engine.