



Transportation Friday

An electronic newsletter concerning regional transportation issues

Friday, July 27th, 2018

Volume 27, Number 4

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Contact Us

<http://www.mobilempo.org>

transportation@sarpc.org

Kevin Harrison, PTP

Director of Transportation

kharrison@sarpc.org

See *Funding Opportunities* below as August 10th is the deadline for applications to SARPC for the STATE FTA 5310 Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities funding for areas outside of the Mobile Urban area. If you are in the Mobile Urban Area ([Are You?](#)) the call for projects will be out in a couple of weeks. A US 45 Feasibility Study Public Input Meeting is August 1st, please see *Mobile MPO Updates*. This week's *Just For Fun* will have you transformed; and check out the Whistler Bike Trail ride and Transit Awareness day coming up in *In The News*. 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

This week, SARPC Executive Director John F. "Rickey" Rhodes and SARPC Transportation Director Kevin Harrison met with Mr. Vince Calametti, ALDOT SW Region Engineer, and Mr. John Cooper, the Director of the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). Rep. Chris Pringle was present as well, however had another engagement prior to the photo. There was a lot of discussion concerning projects, future projects, funding, and lack of funding.

In early 2019, SARPC will be hosting another South Alabama Highway Funding Conference. We appreciate ALDOT taking time from their busy schedule to meet with us, and discuss the potential for this conference. The conference will be a great way educate some of our newly elected officials and legislators, hear from some of our tenured elected officials, and discuss funding for future road projects. We will keep you posted.



US 45 Feasibility Study

The next public input meeting for the US 45 Feasibility Study will be August 1st at the City of Prichard Council Chambers in City Hall from 5:30 to 7:00PM. June 28th was the first public meeting for the US 45 Feasibility Study, and was held at Leflore High School. The meeting was well attended by nearly 70 people. Mobile City Councilman Levon Manzie was on hand to guide the meeting and answer questions. Nick Amberger, the City of Mobile Engineer was also present and assisted in answering questions posed by the public. Mr. Drew Davis with Volkert and Mr. Clifton Lambert with CERM presented the attendees with preliminary ideas developed in previous Advisory Committee meetings. These included road diets, sidewalk

improvements, bike lanes, and roundabouts at key intersections. The presentation, maps from the meeting, and comment form are available on our website [HERE](#).



Tom Piper
Senior Transportation
Planner
tpiper@sarpc.org

Monica Williamson
Transportation Planner
mwilliamson@sarpc.org

Anthony Johnson
Transportation Planner
ajohnson@sarpc.org

South Alabama Regional
Planning Commission
110 Beauregard St
Mobile, Alabama 36602
(251) 433-6541

FREIGHT

The South Alabama Regional Planning Commission will be housing a South Alabama Freight Forum (SAFF). This forum will meet probably twice a year, and talk about freight issues in terms of our surface infrastructure. We want to know what the problems are, and develop solutions. This will also be an opportunity to inform the freight community about various surface infrastructure projects like Water Street, the I-10 Mobile River Bridge, etc.; we will keep you posted.

As most of you know, the Mobile MPO has been trying to update its freight plan as an element to the Long Range Transportation Plan. We purchased data from INRIX to give a snap shot of where trucks are coming from and going to. In the travel demand modeling world, this is an important piece of information. To help validate the truck data, we are working with APM Terminals to try and nail down where the container trucks are coming from and going to. One day a quarter, APM Terminal will have on-board tablets for drivers to answer a series of questions in terms of where they came from, where is their return trip, if they came in from outside of Mobile County, which direction did they come from, etc; the data is exciting and interesting. Below is a flow map from the survey data in terms of container trucks going to the container terminal at Choctaw Point. Click the link for the survey results:

<http://www.mobilempo.org/freightplanning.html>

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](#)

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](#)

Stay Up To Date on the Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project:

<http://mobileriverbridge.com/>

Recent Scheduling Changes This Week for Mobile

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

Project : 100068535 Federal aid number : STPMB 4918 County : MOBILE

Project Description : ADDITIONAL LANES WITH REALIGNMENT ON CR-56 FROM 0.28 MILE WEST OF ELIZA JORDAN ROAD TO SNOW ROAD

Urban Area : 067 MOBILE

Target Start Date : 11/4/2022

Engineers Estimate : \$9,900,000.00

Project : 100068534 Federal aid number : STPMB 4918 County : MOBILE

Project Description : ADDITIONAL LANES WITH REALIGNMENT ON CR-56 FROM 0.28 MILE WEST OF ELIZA JORDAN ROAD TO SNOW ROAD

Urban Area : 067 MOBILE

Target Start Date : 10/1/2021

Engineers Estimate : \$1,000,000.00

Project : 100068533 Federal aid number : STPMB 4918 County : MOBILE

Project Description : ADDITIONAL LANES WITH REALIGNMENT ON CR-56 FROM 0.28 MILE WEST OF ELIZA JORDAN ROAD TO SNOW ROAD

Urban Area : 067 MOBILE

Target Start Date : 9/1/2021

Engineers Estimate : \$1,500,000.00

Project : 100068532 Federal aid number : STPMB 4918 County : MOBILE

Project Description : ADDITIONAL LANES WITH REALIGNMENT ON CR-56 FROM 0.28 MILE WEST OF ELIZA JORDAN ROAD TO SNOW ROAD

Urban Area : 067 MOBILE

Target Start Date : 10/1/2019

Engineers Estimate : \$1,300,000.00

Projects in Region Let July 27th, 2018

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

None at this time

MOBILE COUNTY

For constructing the Bridge Replacement and Approaches on Dunlap Drive over Pinto Pass in Mobile. Length 0.085 mi.

The Bracket Estimate on this project is from \$719,667 to \$879,593 .

BALDWIN COUNTY

None at this time

[What's Under Construction?](#)

[Project Status](#)

Legislative Updates

LOT Coalition Letter on Senate Appropriations

The Local Officials in Transportation (LOT) Coalition, of which NARC is a member, sent a letter to House and Senate appropriators this week outlining specific funding requests for the fiscal year 2019 bill. These include receding to the House bill on additional STBGP funding at \$3.8 billion, keeping BUILD Grant funding at \$1.5 billion as it was last year, and meeting or exceeding last year's funding level for transit grants. The Senate is currently debating a mini-bus collection of four appropriations bills, including the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, & Related Agencies (THUD) appropriations bill. A vote is expected next week. Progress in the House has slowed, and today is the last day the House will meet until September 4, so additional action will have to wait until September.

Shuster Releases Plan to Transform America's Infrastructure

This Congress, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) worked to gather input from and build consensus amongst his Republican and Democratic colleagues, the administration, and stakeholders on an infrastructure package designed to meet the challenges of a 21st century transportation system. Today, Shuster released a legislative discussion draft reflecting that input.

Chairman Shuster released the following statement along with the discussion draft:

"The 2016 presidential campaign shined a spotlight on America's crumbling infrastructure. Since election day, the American people have waited for action by their federal elected representatives, and I am just as frustrated as they are that we have yet to seriously consider a responsible, thoughtful proposal. That is why I have released a discussion draft that reflects input from Members on both sides of the aisle, as well as a broad group of infrastructure stakeholders interested in building a 21st century infrastructure for our country.

"This discussion draft does not represent a complete and final infrastructure bill. It is meant to reignite discussions amongst my colleagues, and I urge all Members to be open-minded and willing to work together in considering real solutions that will give America the modern day infrastructure it needs.

"Over the coming weeks and months, I look forward to additional input from my Republican and Democratic colleagues in order to prepare a bill for congressional consideration."

Click [here](#) to read the discussion draft text, Chairman Shuster's vision statement for the proposal, a section-by-section summary, and more.

New gas tax bill could raise funds for road improvements

By Alan Collins, Reporter

BIRMINGHAM, AL (WBRC)

Alabama drivers are already paying extra for gas this summer, but would they pay a few cents more if the money went to fixing roads and bridges?

"(The roads) are terrible. Holes everywhere," Patricia Pruitt said.

"It's bad to me. We got roads out there damaged. Potholes and stuff like that," said Gary Allen.

Association of County Commissions of Alabama says work is underway on another gas tax bill.

The bill could resemble a bill from last year. That bill would raise the tax on gas and diesel four cents the first year. Then a year later would raise another two cents. With an option to raise another three cents five years later, some drivers say they agree with the tax increase.

"How quick can they fix some of those holes because holes tear up your vehicle," Pruitt said.

But others want more accountability of the tax dollars already going to Montgomery.

"I'm trying to figure out with all of the money, all of the billions of dollars being generated, where is all the money going to?" Allen said.

There no question there is a demand for improving roads and bridges across Alabama but many lawmakers believe even with that it's still going to be an uphill fight for the gas tax in the state legislature.

Senate Continues Consideration of Transportation Funding Bill

A fiscal 2019 transportation funding bill that would call attention to concerns livestock haulers have raised about electronic logging devices is included in a legislative package under consideration in the Senate.

The appropriations leadership has the transportation bill, which also would fund programs at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, with legislation that would fund the departments of Interior and Agriculture as well as the Environmental Protection Agency and financial services agencies.

On July 26, the bill's sponsors were accepting amendments from colleagues to pave the way for passage. Senate floor managers have yet to indicate when they intend to schedule final votes on the legislation.

Last month, the appropriators approved the \$71.4 billion transportation measure by 31-0 vote. Under the bill, DOT would receive \$26.6 billion in discretionary spending.

The bill was amended in committee to include a provision that would direct DOT to communicate with trucking and agriculture executives, federal policymakers and the Department of Agriculture to address concerns the livestock-hauling industry has raised about ELDs.

Senate funding leader Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) has emphasized the bills are free of controversial provisions and non-germane policy attachments that have triggered partisan opposition in prior years.

"We are today debating both of these appropriations bills and more on the Senate floor," Shelby said July 24. "What changed was the mindset of appropriators on both sides of the aisle who embraced a willingness to sacrifice partisan [policy] riders and priorities outside the committee's jurisdiction for the good of the process. ... This approach has yielded meaningful results thus far."

Overall, the transportation bill includes \$1 billion for BUILD infrastructure grants, formerly TIGER grants, while the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration would be provided \$667 million.

The House's version goes further by proposing to deny funding through fiscal 2019 for the enforcement of the ELD rule on livestock haulers. Responding to such concerns, meanwhile, Congress passed a fiscal 2018 funding bill signed by President Donald Trump that directed FMCSA not to enforce the ELD rule for agriculture-related transportation through Sept. 30.

The ELD rule effective Dec. 18, 2017, requires carriers to equip commercial vehicles with the devices to electronically track drivers' hours of service.

The Heritage Foundation, a conservative Washington-based think tank, is critical of the Senate legislation for providing funding for "failed, wasteful, and inefficient programs that do not meet the standard of the core constitutional responsibilities of the federal government" as well as continuing to prop up the Highway Trust Fund. The fund, which DOT uses to assist states with infrastructure projects, is headed toward insolvency in the coming years.

"Congress should take steps this year to address the chronic spending problem plaguing the [Highway Trust Fund]. It should leverage every legislative opportunity to end the irresponsible and unsustainable practice of trust fund bailout," the group wrote July 25.

To schedule consideration for the funding bills, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) stripped the chamber of its traditional August break. Besides the fiscal 2019 funding bills, McConnell's team plans to consider policy bills on aviation, water programs, immigration and military defense. They also are reviewing the qualification of Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court, Brett Kavanaugh.

Trump has pressed House and Senate leaders to advance separate funding bills, instead of merging the measures into a massive 12-bill "omnibus." Trump signed the fiscal 2018 "omnibus" earlier this year.

Funding Opportunities

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements

On July 19, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program that includes more than **\$318 million in grant funding** from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018. **Applications for funding under this solicitation are due no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT, September 17, 2018.** To view the NOFO, visit <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P1120>. FRA plans to provide web-based training and technical assistance to applicants to address questions – see CRISI webinar info section below.

- The CRISI grant program directs much needed critical investment to rural America. By directing at least 25 percent of available funds towards rural communities, the USDOT/FRA is able to safely connect and upgrade rural America's rail infrastructure.
- In addition, selection preference will be given to projects with a 50-percent non-federal funding match from any combination of private, state, or local funds. USDOT/FRA will also consider how well the project aligns with key USDOT/FRA objectives including supporting economic vitality; leveraging federal funding; preparing for life-cycle costs; using innovative approaches to improve safety and expedite project delivery; and holding grant recipients accountable for achieving specific, measurable outcomes.

CRISI Webinar Info

The FRA will host webinars on **August 8, 2018**, to aid eligible entities seeking funding. Those interested in participating can **register** at <https://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P1117>, and FRA encourages participants to submit questions in advance.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and NOAA announced a partnership to restore, increase and strengthen natural infrastructure to protect coastal communities, while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife. In its inaugural year, the National Coastal Resilience Fund will invest up to \$30 million in the restoration or expansion of natural features such as coastal marshes and wetlands, dune and beach systems, oyster and coral reefs, mangroves, forests, coastal rivers, as well as barrier islands that help minimize the impacts of storms, rising sea levels and other extreme events on nearby communities and infrastructure.

Proposals are due August 7, 2018, and the full Request for Proposals can be found here:

<http://www.nfwf.org/coastalresilience/Pages/2018rfp.aspx>

There will be a RFP overview webinar on July 11th.

The focus of the FY18 National Coastal Resilience Fund is on "shovel-ready" restoration and green infrastructure projects. The non-federal match requirement is 1:1. The new partnership will focus investments on projects that have been prioritized in existing community or regional resilience plans. Priority will be given to:

- Implementation of design-ready restoration projects that enhance resilience and reduce risk
- Planning and design projects to position communities for future implementation
- Projects that demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative approaches to enhance coastal resilience with natural infrastructure

In partnership with NOAA, NFWF will establish the National Coastal Resilience Fund and administer the program, as authorized by Title IX of the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act. Both organizations will jointly establish criteria to review proposed projects for funding.

Note: Unfunded applications to the FY17 and FY18 Coastal Resilience Grants program will not be considered for the new grant program. OCM or NFWF will be contacting previous applicants to inform them of the new funding availability and to encourage them to consider applying should the objectives of the new announcement align with their interests.

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Heidi Stiller

NOAA Office for Coastal Management - Gulf Coast

[263 13th Ave S; Office #303](#)

[St. Petersburg, FL 33701](#)

[Office: 727.209.5969](#)

Cell: 850.728.1810

Heidi.Stiller@noaa.gov

Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program FY 2018 Notice of Funding

(deadline August 6th, 2018)

Date Posted: 6/21/2018

Date Closed: 8/06/2018

Opportunity ID:

FTA-2018-005-TPM-BUS

Grant Program:

[Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program](#)

Opportunity Announcement PDF:

[Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program FY 2018 Notice of Funding](#)

Details:

06/21/2018. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Solicitation of Project Proposals for the 5339(b) Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program (Bus and Bus Infrastructure Program). The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of approximately \$366.3 million of Fiscal Year 2018 funds for buses, bus facilities, and bus equipment. Synopses and full announcement will be posted on Grants.gov as opportunity [FTA-2018-005-TPM-BUS](#). Proposals must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov website by **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on August 6, 2018.**

Summary: The purpose of the Bus and Bus Infrastructure Program is to assist in the financing of buses and bus facilities capital projects, including replacing, rehabilitating, purchasing or leasing buses or related equipment, and rehabilitating, purchasing, constructing or leasing bus-related facilities.

Eligible Applicants: The Bus and Bus Infrastructure Program provides funds to designated recipients that allocate funds to fixed route bus operators, and to states, and local governmental authorities that operate fixed route bus service.

Link and Instructions for attaching the supplemental form to the SF-424: All applicants must complete the [supplemental form](#) and attach it to their submission in GRANTS.GOV.

Dates: An applicant must submit a proposal electronically by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on 8/6/2018. Any agency intending to apply should initiate the process of registering on the GRANTS.GOV site to ensure completion of registration before the submission deadline. [Sign up](#) for email updates -- enter your email address and choose the "Bus and Bus Facilities (5339)" category -- to receive more details.

For Further Information Contact: For information on this NOFO for the Bus and Bus Infrastructure Program, contact [Mark G. Bathrick](#), Office of Program Management, 202-366-9955, or consult our [applicant FAQs](#).

FTA 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities) Rural

(deadline August 10, 2018)

Tentative Schedule for the FY-2019 Grant Cycle Application [HERE](#)

Date	Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 8, 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program announcement and statewide dissemination of grant applications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 10, 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for applications to be submitted to the Regional Planning Councils (for coordination plan certification letter) • If Regional Planning Councils are applying for funding or closely involved with an applicant's application, this is the deadline for submitting applications directly to ALDOT (direct applications)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 17, 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for Regional Planning Councils to submit all other applications to ALDOT (endorsed applications)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection committee convenes to review applications and schedule site visits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Application to FTA via TrAMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards Announced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle Orders Placed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle Deliveries

This Section 5310 application is located on the website page listed below:

Alabama Department of Transportation

Local Transportation Bureau

Transit Section

1100 John Overton Drive

Montgomery, AL 36110

Telephone: (334) 353-6417

Fax: (334) 353-6451

E-mail: brookswi@dot.state.al.us

Website:

<https://www.dot.state.al.us/ltweb/transit/index.html>

Technical Assistance is available upon request.

[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

There is some local talk about DDIs ([Diverging Diamond Interchanges](#), and possible locations would be "I-10 and US181", "I-65 and Dauphin St"). But what the heck is a DDI? "WE ARE GOING TO BE TOO CONFUSED"!!! No, no you are not. They are actually pretty simple to navigate, and a DDI operates more efficiently. So, *Just For Fun*, let's look at some CRAZY INTERCHANGES from across the world. [HERE](#) is the video, with some catchy 1970s game show music.

Gravelly Hill Interchange, Birmingham, England

Gate Tower Building, Osaka, Japan



Judge Harry Pregerson Interchange, Los Angeles, CA

Nanpu Bridge, Shanghai, China



Springfield Interchange, Springfield, VA

Oyamasaki Interchange, Osaka, Japan



Yan'an Interchange, Shanghai, China

Magic Roundabout, Swindon, England



In the News

ALDOT to begin widening State Road 181 in Baldwin County

By: [WKRK Staff](#)

BALDWIN COUNTY, Ala. (WKRK) -- The Alabama Department of Transportation will begin a major road widening project on State Road 181 expected to start August 6, 2018, expected to be completed in three years.

ALDOT says the project will include installing 3.9 miles of two additional lanes from south of SR 104 north of Fairhope, to south of CR 64 in Belforest along the existing SR 181. The project will also consist of utility relocation as well as clearing, placing drainage, paving, striping and installing traffic signals.

When the project is complete, SR 181 will be a four-lane divided highway from SR 104 North to US 31. ALDOT says the existing lanes will become the two southbound lanes and the newly constructed lanes will be the northbound lanes.

ALDOT warns to expect occasional, restricted lane closures during this project, but there will be no lane closures between 6:30-8:30 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. Drivers are encouraged to slow down and use caution in the work zone.

The \$19.9 million dollar contract awarded to Ammons and Blackmon, is expected to be complete by spring 2021.

Royal Street in downtown Mobile Closing between St. Louis and St. Michael

In order for Alabama Power to perform upgrades to its underground service lines, Royal Street between St. Louis and St. Michael streets will need to be closed for three weeks beginning Monday, July 30th. The road will remain closed overnight as well as during the day. Access to the Automobile Hotel Parking Garage will be available.

ALDOT updates I-10 Bayway Bridge Project

By: [Debbie Williams](#)

FOLEY, Ala. (WKRK) -- [The Bayway Bridge Project](#) is full steam ahead but it will still be years before motorists will get any relief from the chokehold that section of the interstate has on the I-10 corridor.

It will still be at least 2025 before the Bayway Bridge Project is finished but the project manager says it continues to progress.

Speaking at a chamber event in Foley Project Director Matt Erickson says the price tag for the project now stands at 2 billion dollars and will include a 6 lane bridge and the Bayway will be completely replaced and ten feet higher than it is now.

Once the project is finished, there will be a toll system in place that should be in the three to six dollar range per trip. But, there won't be a toll booth. Transponders and the pay-by-plate system will most likely be used.

Erickson says the biggest issue continues to be funding but they are working on that too. "ALDOT is committed. It's a large project. There's a lot of processes that we have to continue to move forward including the environmental, the procurement, we have a short list of three different teams of developers and we are having a lot of good interaction with them. ALDOT is committed to staying on schedule."

Construction could start on the project as early as the year 2020.

City of Prichard Bike Tour and Ice Cream



AUGUST 4th, 2018



City of Mobile Enhances Three Mile Creek Trail

Mobile, Ala. -- The City of Mobile is installing new amenities along the existing Three Mile Creek Trail including picnic tables, grills, a fitness zone, benches, rest stops, security cameras, drinking fountains, pet stations and trail head signage. The current trail begins along the north side of Three Mile Creek starting from Tricentennial Park and continues on to West Ridge Road.

"These new amenities will encourage fitness, support recreation and educate our citizens on one of our most precious waterways," said Mayor Stimpson. "Our goal is to link neighborhoods, businesses and residents across Mobile. Within a mile radius of this segment alone, there are 69,000 residents, 900 businesses and 3 hospitals. Three Mile Creek was once Mobile's drinking water source before World War II, and now it can once again connect communities throughout the City of Mobile."

The City recently opened a kayak launch at Tricentennial Park to complement the trail and to provide waterfront access to citizens.

In April, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) awarded the City of Mobile \$555,092 to lengthen the existing Three Mile Creek Greenway westward to the University of South Alabama Medical Center. In March, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council voted to award the City \$9.7 million to further extend the twelve-mile greenway.

The Three Mile Creek Greenway Trail is a part of a larger effort to transform the City of Mobile by creating a network of biking and pedestrian paths throughout the community. This project will ease traffic congestion, provide additional avenues for citizens and guests to exercise and increase property values. The overall vision is to create a recreation path along Three Mile Creek for runners, walkers and cyclists that will connect the University of South Alabama, Langan Park, Downtown Mobile and Mobile Bay.

Annual Transit Awareness Day Celebration

On Sunday, July 29, 2018, 2:00p.m.- 6:00p.m. at the Harmon-Thomas Community Center, The Wave Transit System will host its Annual Transit Awareness Day Celebration.

The purpose of this event is to educate the community on the importance of both public and private transportation within the City of Mobile.

Please consider this your personal invitation to participate as a vendor at this year's celebration (See Attached). Note: Table and chairs will be provided

To confirm your participation please RSVP at 251-338-0100 or via email at galfred@thewavetransit.com.

Transportation Research

TREDPLAN-Regions Demonstration

July 31, 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

TREDPLAN is a new and unique system for evaluating and communicating the interrelationship between growth, and freight activity for regional planning using a fusion of data including county-level freight data. TREDPLAN-Regions offers a way to put the regional shifts in freight-economy in perspective by offering an intuitive model, which links models of freight and the economy together to allow for dynamic forecasting of activity and tracking of inter-industry freight shipments. It allows for the comparison of regions based on stratified market segments, by commodity, mode, and foreign trading partner and domestic sources. This webinar will demonstrate TREDPLAN-Regions.

Analysis of Congestion Scenarios in Long Range Plans Using Travel Forecasting Models

A recent FHWA report describes the process of developing, analyzing, and displaying results of a scenario forecasting process using travel demand models. It strives to inform MPOs and state DOTs on scenario building methods using the Travel Time Index (TTI) and regional long-range planning models, and includes a step-by-step section to produce calculations using a trip-based model and explores the question of “what would it take to not let congestion get worse?” [HERE](#)

Updated Report Tracks 209 Transportation Funding Bills in 39 States

by Carolyn Kramer

One-time funding measures, primarily bonds or general fund transfers, are the most popular type of state transportation investment legislation introduced since the start of 2018, according to the Transportation Investment Advocacy Center's™ (TIAC) latest tracking report.

Twenty measures to increase transportation infrastructure funding have been approved in 15 states, among a total of 209 bills considered in 39 statehouses tracked by TIAC.

Other popular funding mechanisms introduced this year include:

- Allowing local transportation funding, 41 bills in 14 states.
- Providing non-fuel tax recurring revenue, including tolls, vehicle registration fees, and sales taxes, 36 bills in 17 states. Five bills in Kansas, Utah, Oregon and Connecticut were approved.
- Increasing state motor fuel taxes, 25 bills in 11 states. Only one state- Oklahoma- approved a measure to increase the state gas tax. Oklahoma's 5 cents-per-gallon increase goes to the Roads Fund, which frees up General Fund revenue to be used for education purposes.

- Establishing a study or task force to investigate the state’s current transportation funding system and make suggestions for improvements to create more sustainable revenue sources, 18 bills in 13 states.
- Altering electric and hybrid vehicle fees, 13 bills in nine states.

While many state legislatures have adjourned for the year, 12 are still in session, and several— including Maine and Mississippi— are considering special sessions to address unfinished transportation funding proposals. Ballot measures are also pending in Missouri, Colorado, Connecticut, California, and Virginia.

[Read](#) the report to see more details about what is happening in each statehouse.

State Transportation Funding Trends to be Explored at July 18 Workshop

by Carolyn Kramer

Dozens of states have taken action to address transportation funding shortfalls over the past several years. Join fellow transportation advocates in Washington, D.C., on July 18 to learn about recent transportation investment trends and methods from Dr. Alison Premo Black, chief economist with the American Road & Transportation Builders Association. Dr. Black will explore state legislation introduced since 2013, as well as state and local ballot measures from the last decade, in order to provide analysis on new and recurring themes. She will also look ahead to provide a preview of November 2018 ballot measures.

Register for the **5th Annual “National Workshop for State & Local Transportation Advocates”** to hear real-life challenges and success stories of state transportation funding campaigns. Learn what states have raised or are trying to raise new transportation revenue, why they are doing so, what revenue streams they are exploring, who the major players are, and campaign tactics and strategies. Transportation investment champions from around the country will share best practices, playbook secrets and other keys to success in advancing state and local legislative and ballot initiatives that boost transportation infrastructure investment.

Other sessions include:

- An update on federal transportation funding and efforts to permanently fix the revenue stream for the Highway Trust Fund;
- In-depth exploration of short- and long-term transportation funding techniques being explored by states;
- How states ‘set the stage’ for a transportation funding increase;
- Advice from state lawmakers on succeeding in your transportation funding campaign;
- Tips on uniting urban and rural interests in one campaign;
- And more!

The Workshop is being held in conjunction with ARTBA’s 30th annual “[Public-Private Partnerships in Transportation Conference.](#)”

Space is limited! [Register today](#) to reserve your spot, or view more information about the Workshop on [TIAC’s website](#).

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO): Transportation Partnerships for the 21st Century

This work will deliver a historical review and contemporary analysis of the institutional structures and performance of MPOs, producing conclusions and lessons learned that are relevant to current challenges. This research will address ways in which MPOs can respond more nimbly and effectively to rapidly changing transportation demands, conditions, and technologies. It will provide a range of strategies and tools drawn from cases and practice in order to better equip MPOs and MPO-state partnerships in planning, maintaining, and improving transportation systems for U.S. metropolitan areas and the economies reliant on those systems.

Staff Contact: Harlan Miller, 202-366-0847

NTI has scheduled the following course:

Course: **Transportation Planning Process**

Schedule: **Monday, July 23, 2018 – 8:30am – 4:00pm (Registration 8:00am)**
Tuesday, July 24, 2018 – 8:30am –4:00pm

Location: Pensacola City Hall (City of Pensacola Technology Resources Building)
222 W. Main Street
Pensacola, FL 32502
850-435-1603

Host: West Florida Regional Planning Council (wfrpc)

Strategic Transit Automation Research Plan

FTA has published its final [Strategic Research Transit Automation \(STAR\) Plan](#). The STAR Plan outlines an FTA research agenda for transit bus automation over five years and provides a framework for the transit industry to pursue transit bus automation. Additionally, it defines activities in the areas of enabling research, integrated demonstrations, and strategic partnerships. The plan focuses on stakeholder engagement, knowledge transfer, and technical assistance to ensure that complementary work being done by the public sector, private sector, and academia is effectively communicated and leveraged.

[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

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

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

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.