



# Transportation Friday

An electronic newsletter concerning regional transportation issues

Friday, March 18, 2016

Volume 17, Number 10

## In This Issue

- MOBILE MPO UPDATES
- PROJECTS LET MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- LEGISLATIVE UPDATES
- FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
- JUST FOR FUN
- IN THE NEWS
- TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

## Recently Completed Planning Studies

- Destination 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan
- Toole Design Non-Motorized Mobility Study for Downtown Mobile
- 2016 Unified Planning Work Program
- 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program
- Origin Destination Study Using Cell Phones

## Contact Us

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**BIG NEWS!** This morning ALDOT Launched [www.ALGOtraffic.com](http://www.ALGOtraffic.com) (see In The News) There are webinars coming up next week on how to complete applications for TIGER Grants, Recreational Trails Grants, Fastlane Grants (See *Funding Opportunities*), and there is lots of interesting *Transportation Research* going on. Every one of us needs to be behind Senate Bill 267 (see *Legislative Updates*), tomorrow is the Azalea Trail Run so look out for closed streets and runners (See *in the News*) and this week's *Just For Fun* will keep you off the roads...

Have a great weekend!

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



[www.mobilempo.org](http://www.mobilempo.org) check us out on FACEBOOK

## Mobile MPO Updates

### MPO FUNDING

The Mobile MPO apportionment was increased with the passing of the new FAST ACT Transportation Funding Bill. The per capita amount was \$6.8 Million per year under the bill MAP-21. That has been increased to \$7.1 million per year, which equates to being able to program almost \$9 million per year once the 20% local match is included. Our Attributable funding schedule has been moved around a bit; however, even though we had an increase in potential funding, we are still negative in terms of budgeting projects in year 2020 and 2021.

### FTA 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities)

The Mobile Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the Designated Recipient for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 *Urban Area Funding* for the Mobile Urban Area. We are well underway with this program, and have already purchased our first vehicle for Mercy Life. Congratulations to all that have been awarded. We are working diligently to get all procurements completed as fast as possible. We will most likely advertised in April for the new call for projects for the FTA 5310 Urban Program. Our funding under the FAST ACT has been increased to \$314,000 annually.

### ADA TRANSITION PLANS

The FHWA has required that every city and county in the state have an ADA Transition Plan, and Urban Areas will have a one year deadline (July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016). Each City in the Mobile MPO Study Area and Mobile County now has an appointed ADA Coordinator which creates a nine member ADA Subcommittee of the MPO. The inventory is complete for all urban local governments within the Mobile MPO, and the consultant is now working with the ADA Coordinators on the text of each of the ADA documents, grievance procedures, and the potential for a full ADA Transition plan, not just Public Rights of Way. The deadline for Mobile County and the cities within the Mobile MPO to have an adopted ADA Transition Plan for public Rights of Way, is July of this year.

*(for areas outside the boundaries of an MPO, ALDOT is working on a time line for you, and you will not follow the same timeline as the Urban areas)*

## Projects Within Region Let March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Mobile County

for constructing the Intersection Improvements (Grade, Drain, Base, Pave, Additional Lanes, and Utilities Relocation) on CR-70 (Tanner Williams Road) at CR-523 (Eliza Jordan Road) west of Mobile. Length 0.367 mi.

for constructing the Widening, Resurfacing, Guardrail Replacement, and Traffic Stripe on CR-33 (Dawes Road) from the junction of CR-32 (Three Notch Road) to the pavement joint 350 feet south of the intersection of Scott Dairy Loop Road South in Dawes. Length 1.864 mi.

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

### **Baldwin County**

No projects scheduled to be let at this time.

### **Escambia County**

for constructing the Resurfacing and Traffic Stripe on SR-3 (US-31) from the pavement joint just south of the Escambia County Line (MP 81.196) to the junction of SR-12 (US-84) near Evergreen. Length 11.673 mi.

[What's Under Construction?](#)

## **Legislative Updates**

### **Alabama House committee OKs six-cent gas tax increase**

[Brian Lyman](#), *Montgomery Advertiser* 9:48 a.m. CDT March 17, 2016

An Alabama House committee Thursday approved a bill that would raise the state gas tax by about six cents a gallon, with the hopes of generating more money to fund road and bridge projects.



**Average retail gasoline prices in Montgomery fell another 1.9 cents per gallon during the past week and have fallen 22 cents in the past month.** (Photo: Advertiser file)

"We are facing issues with our infrastructure that will become a crisis if we don't do something," said Rep. Mac McCutcheon, R-Huntsville, the sponsor of the bill, told the House Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure Committee.

The state's gas tax, a combination of three different levies and a pump inspection fee, stands at 18 cents a gallon. The bill will add another excise tax, based on an average of the existing state taxes in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee. McCutcheon said that would increase the tax six cents, to 24 cents. Diesel fuel taxes would go up about six cents.

A companion bill, sponsored by Sen. Gerald Dial, R-Lineville, would create a Transportation Safety Fund that would direct money from the project to county infrastructure projects. The bill would ban the use of the money for personnel, equipment purchase or "construction of buildings not related the road and bridge construction." The committee approved Dial's bill.

Alabama's gasoline tax has not increased since 1992, and supporters of the tax increase say the tax is unable to keep with the state's infrastructure needs. The tax brought in \$413.9 million in fiscal year 2015, and is mainly split between the Alabama Department of Transportation and the counties.

"Alabama's road and bridge needs vastly outweigh the revenue created by a funding system that hasn't changed in almost 25 years," Tony Harris, a spokesman for ALDOT, said in a statement Tuesday. "While ALDOT isn't leading this effort, we support and appreciate the members of the Legislature seeking to provide more funding."

Gas prices [have been rising](#) after hitting lows not seen in years over the winter. But overall prices are expected to remain low relative to historic averages throughout the year.

Rep. Will Ainsworth, R-Guntersville, voted against the measure Thursday, saying that government cuts could generate revenue for infrastructure needs.

"I'm not in favor of the hardworking people of Alabama paying more taxes," he said. "This is a tax on everyone. McCutcheon's bill includes adjustments to the tax that would take effect in 2019, 2023 and 2027, depending on how the regional average of gas taxes fared. The Legislature could vote to stop the adjustments. Counties and municipalities would only be able to raise local gas taxes by two cents a gallon, and only after a referendum.

The bill also assesses a \$100 fee for electric and alternative fuel passenger vehicles and \$150 for commercial vehicles. An amendment approved by the committee would exclude hybrid vehicles.

The legislation now goes to the House of Representatives. A vote could come early next month.

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## **\$439 million in BP settlement money could go back to Gulf Coast (Senate Bill 267)**

<http://www.fox10tv.com/story/31410190/439-million-in-bp-settlement-money-could-go-back-to-gulf-coast>

MOBILE, AL (WALA) -

A bill gaining traction in the Alabama Senate could bring BP settlement money back to the Alabama Gulf Coast, and it would be used for three major highway expansions.

Senate Bill 267 proposes to reallocate \$439 million from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Settlement to Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

That money would be used to expand Highway 98, the Baldwin Beach Express, and Rangeline Road.

Extensions of Rangeline Road and the Beach Express would allow for easier access to the Alabama beaches, which were widely affected by the spill.

The bill also aims to lower insurance premiums by as much as 50 percent by appropriating \$50 million of the \$439 million to the Strengthen Alabama Homes Fund for "residential property owner grants to retrofit insurable property to resist loss due to hurricane, tornado, or other catastrophic wind events."

Senator Bill Hightower wrote the legislation.

"I was very pleased that 100 percent of the committee in the senate voted it out of committee, so there are even people in the state that recognize that we really need to do something in Mobile and Baldwin County, because we received most of the damage through the BP Oil Spill," said Hightower.

He's worked with the governor on the initiative, as well.

"We've been working together on that, we'll see what comes out of that," said Governor Robert Bentley when asked about that bill at an event in Mobile on Monday.

The bill now has to pass the senate before it can go to the house.

To read the entire bill, [click here](#).

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## **Funding Opportunities**

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### **U.S. Transportation Secretary Foxx Announces \$500 Million in Eighth Round of TIGER Funding (Due April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016)**

WASHINGTON –Today, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced \$500 million will be made available for transportation projects across the country under an eighth round of the highly successful Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) competitive grant program.

"The TIGER program funds vital transportation projects that provide real benefits to communities all across the country. Every year, we see hundreds of compelling applications that have the potential to improve people's access to economic opportunities, make people safer, and improve their well-being," said Secretary Foxx. "I am proud that for seven rounds, TIGER has been able to make a valuable contribution to improving our nation's transportation infrastructure, and I look forward to this year's competition."

Like the first seven rounds, FY 2016 TIGER discretionary grants will fund capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure and will be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the nation, a metropolitan area, or a region.

The 2016 TIGER grant program will continue to make transformative surface transportation investments by providing improvements over existing conditions. The grant program will focus on capital projects that generate economic development and improve access to reliable, safe and affordable transportation for communities, both urban and rural.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, does not provide dedicated funding for the planning, preparation, or design of capital projects; however, these activities may be funded as part of an overall construction project. Continue [HERE](#)

### **How to Compete for TIGER Grants – Rural and Tribal**

March 22, 1:30 – 3:30 PM ET

On February 23, 2016, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced the availability of \$500 million for transportation projects across the country under an eighth round of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) competitive grant program. TIGER applications are due April 29, 2016. This is an explanatory [webinar](#) on how to apply for TIGER funding and is intended for all applicants.

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### **Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Application Workshop**

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs is sponsoring a RTP application workshop on **Tuesday, March 22, 2016**, at the Center for Commerce, 401 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama in the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end by 12 noon. Participants can access the Center for Commerce parking deck from the South Decatur Street entrance by entering the code 3308#. Everyone interested in competing for RTP grant assistance during this funding cycle is encouraged to attend.

**Registration is required.** To register, please call Kim Martin at (334) 353-3151 or email her at [kim.martin@adeca.alabama.gov](mailto:kim.martin@adeca.alabama.gov) by Friday, March 11, 2016. Please provide the name(s) of the workshop attendees and the organization they will be representing. The maximum capacity for the meeting location is 100. Should registration exceed 100, a second workshop will be scheduled.

The workshop will be accessible to all persons. If you have a disability that requires special services, materials, or assistance, please notify Ms. Martin when you preregister. We look forward to working with you during the next funding cycle.

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### **USDOT Opens Applications for \$800 Million in New "FASTLANE" Freight Grants Program**

The U.S. Department of Transportation [began soliciting applications for \\$800 million in freight project grants for fiscal 2016](#) that were authorized in the FAST Act, setting in motion the process for state departments of transportation and other agencies to tap this new funding program.

"Our nation needs a strong multimodal freight system to both compete in the global economy and meet the needs of consumers and industry," Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said in announcing the grant applications Feb. 26. "We now have an opportunity to fund high-impact projects that address key challenges affecting the movement of people and freight."

Deputy Transportation Secretary Victor Mendez had told state agency CEOs at the AASHTO Washington Briefing on Feb. 24 to soon expect [that formal notice of funding opportunity](#), which would activate the initial round of what will be five years of freight-related competitive grants.

The department also issued a three-page [set of fact sheets](#) that sum up how the program works.

While state project planners knew the grant pool would be available under the new surface transportation law, they could not actively seek the funds until the notice was issued that opened applications and spelled out the details.

That notice also comes days after the department opened applications for [this year's separate TIGER infrastructure grants program](#), which provides a \$500 million grant pool in 2016 and can help fund a wider array of projects.

The FAST Act called the new program "Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects." The department is calling them FASTLANE grants, an acronym that stands for "Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies."

It is the first program in the USDOT's 50-year history that establishes broad, multiyear eligibilities for freight infrastructure projects including intermodal.

The USDOT announcement said FASTLANE applications will be due by 8 p.m. eastern time on April 14, and more information will be included in a series of webinars on the <https://www.transportation.gov/fastlanegrants/webinar-series>

Those eligible to seek the grants include state DOTs, metropolitan planning organizations, port authorities, tribal governments and other agencies. Eligible project categories, the notice said, include various freight-related types of work plus projects that add capacity and mobility to the interstate highway system in a national scenic area.

Of the \$800 million in available 2016 funding, 25 percent or \$190 million is reserved for rural projects and 10 percent or \$76 million for smaller ones. Over the five years of the FAST Act, the program will provide \$4.5 billion in project grants.

The USDOT said the FASTLANE grants will fund large projects equal to the lesser of \$100 million or a certain specified statutory percentage of the project state's fiscal 2015 apportionment that are eligible for a minimum award of \$25 million. Smaller projects below the minimum large-project size are eligible for awards of at least \$5 million.

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### **EDA releases FY 2016 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Funding Opportunity, announces new grant process to stream application process**

EDA recently released the Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) notice announcing the availability of funding through the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs. The Public Works program is designed to provide funding for design, construction, or renovation of critical public infrastructure needed to create or retain jobs in a locality. The Economic Adjustment Assistance Program provides resources for both design, construction and renovation as well as technical assistance to support long-term job creation/retention in cases of sudden and severe economic events.

This funding solicitation also announced that EDA is moving towards a two-step application process where applicants can submit a proposal at any time to determine alignment with EDA priorities before submitting a full application. This means there are **no longer any quarterly deadlines for the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs**. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact EDA's state representative to develop their project and EDA application. To learn more about EDA's grant programs and opportunities, please feel free to contact Diane Burnett at [dburnett@sarpc.org](mailto:dburnett@sarpc.org).

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### 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](#)

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## Just For Fun

This week there was [an article in AL.com](#) about an Alabama road in Dothan being on the list as one of the worst roads in the world. We would like to disagree.... Here are some dangerous roads from around the world!



Here are some dangerous roads!





## In the News

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### ALDOT Launches ALGOtraffic.com to Give Drivers Road and Traffic Info Before They Go

**MONTGOMERY**– Today the Alabama Department of Transportation launched ALGOtraffic.com to help motorists plan their route on Alabama highways before they hit the road. ALGOtraffic.com is a website that consolidates up-to-the minute traffic information, road conditions and work zone updates in one convenient location.

“We are pleased that ALDOT now has a new tool in ALGOtraffic.com to improve the safety and reliability of Alabama’s transportation network,” said Allison Green, Drive Safe Alabama coordinator with ALDOT. “The features we’re providing can help travelers avoid congestion and have a safer drive to their destinations.”

The home screen for ALGOtraffic.com is a map of Alabama where users can zoom into Birmingham, Mobile or Montgomery maps for road information specific to those areas. Additional features and geographic coverage will be added to ALGOtraffic.com during 2016.

From the menu on the left side of the screen, users can select which details they want to see, including:

- Traffic cameras
- Electronic highway information signs
- Incident information
- Road construction updates
- Highway travel speeds

ALDOT asks motorists to use ALGOtraffic.com responsibly. Drivers should “know before you go!” by checking traffic conditions before leaving for their destination. Motorists should never text, tweet, or use a mobile device while operating a vehicle.

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](http://www.dot.state.al.us).

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### Mobile United and other local groups to host the third Crepe Myrtle Trail Bike Ride along Mobile Bay

Contacts: Katherine Pitman, Executive Director or Casi Callaway, Chair, Natural Resources Comm.  
Mobile United and Executive Director, Mobile Baykeeper  
Phone: 251.432.1638 Phone: 251-433-4229  
Email: [kpitman@mobileunited.org](mailto:kpitman@mobileunited.org) Email: [Callaway@MobileBaykeeper.org](mailto:Callaway@MobileBaykeeper.org)

#### When and Where?

- WHEN: Saturday, April 2, 2016; 8:00 a.m. registration; 8:30 a.m. ride
- WHERE: Starts at Arlington Park, 1814 15<sup>th</sup> Street South, Mobile

MOBILE, Ala. -- The Crepe Myrtle Trail Bike Ride, presented by Mobile United, is planned for 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2016, beginning in Arlington Park near downtown Mobile. This event offers an historic opportunity to ride the Mobile Bay-side of the Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley.

This ride is special because it is the only time during the year that people on bikes have access to the proposed Crepe Myrtle Trail. Thanks to the Mobile Airport Authority, the USA Foundation and Mobile Area Water & Sewer Service, for access to the Brookley by the Bay and Airport property, and other portions of the trail are granted for the event.

Fun and educational talks about the Crepe Myrtle Trail and other important environmental topics will be featured during this fun event. While the ride is free and open to the public, **registration is required**. To register before the event online, visit [www.crepemyrtleride.com](http://www.crepemyrtleride.com) through March 31, 2016. Registration will also be available starting at 8:00 am on the morning of the ride.

The 185+ participants who took part in the 12-mile group ride last year said it was a unique experience that offered beautiful views of Mobile Bay. The ride is expected to run from 8:30 to 11 a.m. \*No training wheels will be allowed.\* Children should be experienced riders and be able enough to ride the full 12 miles in potentially warm weather. Helmets are strongly encouraged for adults and required on riders under 16.

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.

This ride is made possible by Mobile United, Delta Bike Project, Alabama Coastal Foundation, Keep Mobile Beautiful, Mobile Airport Authority, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Mobile Baykeeper, Partners for Environmental Progress (PEP), Dog River Clearwater Revival, Mobile County Health Department, Bicyclemobile.org, Downtown Mobile Alliance, USA Foundation, Mobile County Sheriff's Office, National Park Service, Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS), The Peninsula of Mobile, Brookley By the Bay, the City of Mobile, Wrico Signs and other partners.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. on the day of the ride at Arlington Park. For more information, call Casi Callaway, Chair of Mobile United's Natural Resources Committee at 433-4229 or Katherine Pitman, Mobile United Executive Director, 432-1638.

#### Bike Ride info:

COST: Free, with required registration [www.crepemyrtleride.com](http://www.crepemyrtleride.com)

LENGTH: 12 miles

SPEED: Beginner friendly pace, 8-12 mph

WHEN: Saturday, April 2, 2016; 8:00 a.m. registration; 8:30 a.m. ride

WHERE: Starts at Arlington Park, 1814 15<sup>th</sup> Street South, Mobile

DIRECTIONS: From I-10, south on Broad Street for 0.8 miles, then left into Arlington Park

Notes: No training wheels allowed. T-shirts are \$20 before the event and \$25 on April 2.

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### FHWA Guidance Allows State DOTs to Tap \$1.15B in 2016 Formula-Based Freight Funds

The Federal Highway Administration issued formal implementing guidance Feb. 29 that allows state departments of transportation to begin drawing on \$1.15 billion for this year that was [apportioned to them for freight-related projects](#) under the new FAST Act.

That funding stream is the first infusion of money for the new National Highway Freight Program. The five-year highway authorization law also provides \$1.1 billion for this program in fiscal 2017 that begins Oct. 1; then it will grow in the final three years of the FAST Act to \$1.2 billion, \$1.35 billion and \$1.5 billion.

The NHFP funding is also a much larger amount of freight-directed money than the U.S. Department of

Transportation will award this year under its separate \$800 million competitive grant program for freight projects. It opened the process Feb. 26 for would-be applicants to seek those grant funds.

Another benefit to state DOTs of their larger NHFP freight funding stream is that the money is apportioned to them under the same formula as their regular highway program allocations from the Highway Trust Fund. State agencies can plug this funding into their construction plans for the coming year as long as the projects it supports meet NHFP eligibility requirements.

While they knew that money was coming ever since President Obama signed the FAST Act into law Dec. 4, states still needed the formal FHWA guidance to be able to tap it and know its program details. Along with the implantation guidance, the agency posted a series of [questions and answers about the program](#).

"Most of the increased highway program funding in the FAST Act was directed into the National Highway Freight Program and the competitive freight grants," said AASHTO Executive Director Bud Wright. "With both of those accounts now activated, state agencies will soon be using those funds to make important infrastructure improvements that will strengthen the economy and make highways safer."

The FHWA said that after subtracting a set-aside amount as required in the FAST Act for a Metropolitan Planning Program, it estimates states will receive more than \$1.14 billion this year.

The guidance document spells out which types of road miles qualify for freight project spending, and what types of projects are eligible. "Eligible projects shall contribute to the efficient movement of freight on the NHFN, and be identified in a freight investment plan," the notice said.

Some examples of how state DOTs can spend the NHFP funds are for road projects that separate passenger vehicles from commercial trucks, or for the flyover bridges that eliminate rail crossings by lifting road traffic over train tracks. Others could be truck-only highway lanes, truck parking facilities, electronic screening and border security technologies.

The project list includes more traditional road and bridge capacity projects as well, if they address highway freight bottlenecks and improve truck movement.

States can also use up to 10 percent of the NHFP funds to improve cargo flow in and out of freight intermodal, marine port or freight rail facilities.

## Transportation Research

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### Health in Transportation Corridor Planning Framework

A new [FHWA framework](#) is designed to help transportation agencies incorporate health into corridor planning studies. The guide includes step-by-step instructions and examples from state DOTs, MPOs, and local transportation agencies. FHWA is hosting a [webinar](#) on March 22 to describe the framework in more detail.

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### Building Healthy Places Toolkit

The Urban Land Institute (ULI) released [Building Healthy Places Toolkit: Strategies for Enhancing Health in the Built Environment](#) to provide guidance on creating healthy, vibrant communities. The toolkit builds on previous ULI efforts, including the [Building Healthy Places Initiative](#) and [Healthy Corridors Project](#).

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### How to Compete for TIGER Grants – Rural and Tribal

March 22, 1:30 – 3:30 PM ET

On February 23, 2016, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced the availability of \$500 million for transportation projects across the country under an eighth round of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) competitive grant program. TIGER applications are due April 29, 2016. This is an explanatory [webinar](#) on how to apply for TIGER funding and is intended for all applicants.

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### 2016 FASTLANE Grant Program Webinars

[How to Compete for FASTLANE Grants](#) – March 17, 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET

The FAST Act established the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP) program to provide Federal financial assistance to projects of national or regional significance. The FASTLANE program (see earlier article for more details) is authorized at \$4.5 billion for fiscal years 2016 to 2020, including \$800 million for fiscal year 2016. FASTLANE applications for 2016 funding are due April 14, 2016. This is an explanatory webinar on how to apply for FASTLANE funding and is intended for all applicants.

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### USDOT Launches National Transit Map Initiative

USDOT has launched a new [initiative](#) asking transit agencies to voluntarily allow them to collect data from their websites to create a [National Transit Map](#). This map will display important information such as stops, routes, and schedules for all participating transit agencies and will be used to identify gaps in access to public transportation. The first version of the National Transit Map will be released this summer.

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[See the Future of Transportation](#)