



Transit Office Newsletter

Creating a better travel experience with viable and reliable options to driving for residents and visitors of Florida.



Transit News

Local/State News

Transportation | Planning | Exchange



Join us in celebration of National Community Planning Month as we **"FOCUS ON COMMUNITY"**

Friday, October 7
8:30am – 10:30am



www.fdot.gov/planning/transplex
No Registration Fee

October is National Community Planning Month and to celebrate, TransPlex (Transportation, Planning, Exchange) will host a webinar with a "Focus on Community." The webinar will feature a dynamic group of panelists led by FDOT Assistant Secretary for Strategic Development, Brad Thoburn. Click [here](#) to register.

The annual Rail~Volution conference focuses on the interplay of transit, connected mobility options, land use, and development in building great places to live. Join practitioners, leaders, and advocates from communities across the United States and Canada. Share best practices, real-world solutions, and innovative approaches to the challenges that face cities and regions of every size.



The conference will be in downtown Miami, where development is booming alongside existing and new transit. See projects firsthand and meet the people harnessing innovation to make mode shift more attractive and working to expand options for the most vulnerable. Click [here](#) to register.

[Florida awards more than \\$68 million for electric buses](#)

The funding is part of the state's Volkswagen settlement distribution and will help agencies in 13 counties purchase 227 electric transit vehicles.

[How Miami's new linear park is using 'community-centered technology' to bridge the digital divide](#)

The park will feature walking trails, biking infrastructure, and local art while also providing approximately 250,000 residents and 9 million transit users with free and contiguous high-speed internet.

[Hillsborough transportation tax vote challenged in court](#)

The suit seeks to prevent voters from considering the referendum as presented on Nov. 8, contending the ballot fails the state requirement for a simple and narrow

[PSTA awarded \\$18 million for electric buses](#)

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) awarded \$18 million to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) as part of the government's

question on the proposed 30-year, 1% sales tax for transportation.

settlement with Volkswagen (VW) over claims the company violated the Clean Air Act. The money given to PSTA is the second largest amount given to a transit agency in Florida and will be used to purchase electric buses.

Safety

[NOW AVAILABLE: FTA PTASP TAC](#)

[Update: August 2022](#)

The latest Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Update is available. This issue focuses on using a safety risk register to document Safety Risk Management and Safety Assurance activities.

Technology

[Low Ridership: Solve a Real-World Issue with Real-World Tech](#)

Transit crimes are on the rise, putting fear in the hearts of riders. The consequence: low ridership across the board. This is a catch 22, as increased ridership is a key deterrent of crime. The more people milling about, the lower the crime rates.

Funding

[FTA All Stations Accessibility Program Application Period Extended to 10/7](#)

The main purpose of the ASAP Program is to providing funding to States (including territories and Washington, D.C.) and local governmental authorities to help finance capital projects to upgrade the accessibility of legacy rail fixed guideway public transportation systems (e.g., subway, commuter rail, light rail) for persons with disabilities, including those who use wheelchairs, by increasing the number of existing stations or facilities, such as outdoor light-rail boarding and alighting areas, that are fully accessible.

[FTA Administrator Fernandez Announces Funding for 3 Transit Agencies](#)

These announcements are part of the Biden-Harris Administration's Building a Better America Tour that Secretary Pete Buttigieg kicked off in Tampa, Fla.

Mobility

[For 2-Wheel Commuters in LA, 'Bikepooling' Brings Safety in Numbers](#)

A UCLA project that uses an app to organize group rides aims to promote car-free transportation for Los Angeles residents.

[New tools can operationalize equity in 239 e-scooter and bike share programs across the U.S.](#)

A team of researchers has collected documentation about equity requirements from 239 shared micromobility programs across the U.S. and compiled all the data into an online dashboard, which city officials can use to find what other similar-sized cities are doing. Equity efforts in one city may pave the way for expanded opportunities in another.

[Guaranteed basic mobility pilot offers near-unlimited transit access to 50 Pittsburgh residents](#)

Up to 50 low-income residents in Pittsburgh will receive widespread multimodal transportation access to bikes, e-scooters, public transit, and car-sharing services during a yearlong pilot program intended to study the benefits of closing mobility gaps in a neighborhood with limited public transit options, the city announced last week.

[States Work to Fill Gaps with Branded, Subsidized Intercity Bus Services](#)

A handful of states are connecting long-ignored rural areas and smaller locales with publicly overseen, multi-line services with their own unique branding. Eno's Thomas J. O'Bryant Fellow Ethan McLeod has more on these intercity bus efforts.

Misc.

[15 states should be prioritized for EV infrastructure, EV Council report suggests](#)

EV purchasing forecasts, demographic data and other factors can help the U.S. optimize EV charger deployment where demand will be greatest, the report states. The high-population states of Florida, New Jersey, New York and Texas are seeing strong growth in EVs, making them the second priority, it states.

[OP-ED: Female innovators in transportation pushing the sector forward](#)

Women in transportation continue to make a measurable impact, paving the way toward an exciting new age for the transit sector.

[State NEVI plans raise concerns about EV charging infrastructure rollout](#)

Electric grid capacity, plus sourcing and funding mandates, are some of the states' worries about the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure program.

Resources

[Webinar: New Technical Assistance for Low/No Grant Recipients \[Current and Future\]](#)

Join FTA's webinar on Thursday, September 15 from 3:00-3:30pm EST to learn more about how to access the technical assistance. The webinar will be followed by a 20-minute question-and-answer session to solicit feedback from industry stakeholders on topics of interest in clean fleet conversions.

[Collect, Create, Classify, Curate: Enhancing and Integrating Planning and Emergency Management Capabilities](#)

Effective knowledge management systems can address these barriers among agencies and levels of government and serve as a plan integration tool for Planning, Emergency Management, Transportation, Public Works, and other departments. Join the Smart Growth Network as Deepa Srinivasan, Andrew Estrain, and Ashley Samonisky of Vision Planning and Consulting outline how new technologies such as Machine Learning (ML) can be used to create a modern collaborative workspace, encourage vertical and horizontal integration among levels of government, and improve the efficiency of task and workflow assignments, across disciplines and across agencies.

[Rebuilding Ridership and Enhancing the Customer Experience: An Australia/New Zealand/United States Exchange](#)

Join for a live webinar with key public transport leaders from Australia, New Zealand, and the United States to discuss how they are transforming the customer experience to attract former and new riders.



[FTA Public Transit Events](#)

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