

FHWA Updates – March 2024

Congress Approves Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Through March 8, 2024

On February 29, 2024, the House and the Senate passed a [continuing resolution](#) to approve appropriations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 through March 8, 2024. Now the bill moves to the President for signature into law.

FHWA Publishes Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Highway Safety Improvement Program

On February 21, 2024, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register [[89 FR 13000](#)] to update the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) regulations under [23 CFR Part 924](#). The NPRM addresses provisions in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (also known as the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” (BIL)) and reflects current agency priorities and state-of-practice. The comment deadline is April 22, 2024. FHWA is hosting an informational webinar on Monday, March 4. The registration information is available [here](#).

FHWA Extends Comment Period for NPRM on National Performance Management Measures

On February 13, 2024, FHWA published a notice in the Federal Register [[89 FR 10018](#)] to extend the comment period to March 12, 2024 for the NPRM [[89 FR 4857](#)] on the National Performance Management Measures. On January 25, 2024, FHWA proposed non-substantive changes throughout [23 CFR Part 490](#) to provide increased clarity, and substantive changes to three subparts:

- Subpart A—General Information, which applies to all of the regulations throughout part 490;
- Subpart B—National Performance Management Measures for the Highway Safety Improvement Program; and
- Subpart E—National Performance Management Measures to Assess Performance of the National Highway System.

FHWA Announces \$1.25 Billion in Available Funding for Safe Streets and Roads

On February 21, 2024, FHWA [announced](#) the availability of \$1.25 billion in funding through the [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#) discretionary grant program. The SS4A program is focused on improving roadway safety for all users by reducing and eliminating serious injury and fatal crashes through comprehensive safety action plans and their subsequent implementation. The SS4A program provides funding for two types of grants: Planning and Demonstration Grants and Implementation Grants. The application deadlines for Planning and Demonstration Grants are April 4, 2024; May 16, 2024; and August 29, 2024. The application deadline for Implementation Grants is May 16, 2024. More information is available at [Grants.Gov](#).

FHWA Announces \$150 Million in Available Funding for Congestion Relief Program

On February 21, 2024, FHWA [announced](#) the availability of \$150 million in funding through the [Congestion Relief Program](#). The vision for the Program is to fund operational improvement projects that increase the effectiveness of existing transportation system capacity, improve and integrate travel modes other than single-occupant vehicles, and give travelers sufficient motivation to use those modes or to avoid peak-period travel. Eligible applicants include a State, Metropolitan Planning Organization

(MPO), city, or municipality, carrying out a project in an urbanized area with a population greater than 1,000,000. The application deadline is April 22, 2024.

FHWA Announces \$30 Million in Available Funding for Prioritization Process Pilot Program

On February 22, 2024, FHWA announced the availability of \$30 million in funding through the [Prioritization Process Pilot Program \(PPPP\)](#). The PPPP provides funding to develop and implement a publicly accessible, transparent prioritization process for the ranking and selection of projects for inclusion in short-range and long-range transportation plans. Eligible applicants include MPOs that serve a Census delineated urban area with a population of over 200,000, and States. The application deadline is May 1, 2024. FHWA is hosting an informational webinar on Thursday, March 7. The registration information is available [here](#).

FTA Announces \$1.5 Billion in Available Funding to Modernize Buses and Bus Facilities

On February 8, 2024, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) [announced](#) the availability of approximately \$1.5 billion in funding through the [Low- or No-Emission \(Low-No\) Program](#) and the [Buses and Bus Facilities Program](#). Approximately \$1.1 billion is available through the Low-No Program, and approximately \$390 million is available through the Buses and Bus Facilities Program. The application deadline for both programs is April 25, 2024.

Application Deadlines Approaching for Other U.S. DOT Discretionary Grant Opportunities

Please be aware of the approaching application deadlines for the following discretionary grant opportunities from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT):

- [March 5 – Mobility Equity Research Initiative](#);
- [March 13 – Rural Autonomous Vehicle \(RAV\) Program](#); and
- [March 19 – Bridge Investment Program, Planning and Bridge Project Grants](#).

U.S. DOT Announces Complete Streets Artificial Intelligence Initiative for Small Businesses

On February 1, 2024, the U.S. DOT [announced](#) the [Complete Streets Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Initiative](#) for small businesses to leverage advancements in technology to improve transportation. The Complete Streets AI Initiative will be offered through the Department's Small Business Innovation Research Program, and will consist of a multi-phase effort to develop powerful new decision-support tools for State, local, and Tribal transportation agencies that assist in the siting, design, and deployment of Complete Streets. The Phase I solicitation is tentatively scheduled to open on March 11, 2024.

U.S. DOT Publishes Update to the Department's Equity Action Plan

On February 14, 2024, the U.S. DOT [announced](#) the 2023 update of the Department's [Equity Action Plan](#). The 2023 update outlines new actions the U.S. DOT is committing to across the following focus areas: (1) Wealth Creation; (2) Power of Community; (3) Proactive Intervention, Planning, and Capacity Building; (4) Expanding Access; and (5) Institutionalizing Equity.

FHWA Accepting Applications for Vision Zero Community Pairing Program

On February 13, 2024, the FHWA Office of Safety announced that FHWA is accepting applications for mentors, mentees, and peer organizations for the next cycle of the [Vision Zero Community Pairing](#)

[Program](#). The Program provides a platform among Vision Zero peers for sharing information and best practices, assessing strategies and actions, and forging beneficial learning relationships. The application deadline is March 15, 2024.

Resources on Economic Opportunity, Electric Vehicles, System Performance, Freight, and Statistics

The U.S. DOT recently published the following resources:

- [Investing in America: Best Practices to Expand Access to Jobs and Economic Opportunity Through Transportation Infrastructure Investments](#);
- [Community Charging: Emerging Multifamily, Curbside, and Multimodal Practices](#);
- [How Pavement and Bridge Conditions Affect Transportation System Performance](#);
- [National Peer Exchange on Freight Resiliency for Climate-Related Disruptions](#);
- [Pocket Guide for Transportation 2024](#); and
- [Transportation Statistical Annual Report 2023](#).

Webinars on Equity, Safety, Public Involvement, Resilience, and Transit-Oriented Development

Here is the registration information for some upcoming webinars and virtual meetings:

- [March 1 – Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity](#);
- [March 5 – E-Scooter and Micromobility Safety: Research, Tools, and Guidance](#);
- [March 6 – Meaningful Public Involvement in Transportation Decision-Making Virtual Training](#);
- [March 13 – E-Scooter and Micromobility Safety: Agency Case Studies](#);
- [March 20 – The Intersection of Risk, Resilience, and Performance Management](#);
- [March 25 – U.S. DOT Climate Change Center Webinar Series: Transit-Oriented Development](#); and
- [March 27 – FHWA Equity in Roadway Safety Webinar Series: Tools and Strategies for Equitable Design](#).