

DECEMBER 2022 | WWW.AZLTAP.ORG | 602-712-4050



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- ▶ 2023 Virtual Information Session
- ▶ Industry News from FHWA & Local Aid Support
- ▶ Local Innovation Spotlight - Mesa Traffic Control Trailer Module
- ▶ 2023 Announcements & Upcoming Training/Webinars
- ▶ Winter Road Safety Tips

GET ON OUR MAILING LIST

If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter mailing list, send an email to Technical Training at Ttraining@azdot.gov

SAVE THE DATE! AZ LTAP Virtual Information Session

AZ LTAP will be hosting a **VIRTUAL** information session on **Thursday, January 19, 2023 from 9:30am to 11:30am**. This session is open to anyone employed within the local public agencies and council of governments who would like to learn more about what the local technical assistance program has to offer. This is an opportunity to ask questions, hear from our partners like the FHWA, meet our team and learn about all that we have in store for 2023! Click [HERE](#) to RSVP now!

If you have questions, please reach out to Jendayi Edmeade at Jedmeade@azdot.gov.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.AZLTAP.ORG TO STAY UP TO DATE ON TRAINING & NEWS!

FHWA Awards Six Tribal Technical Assistance Program Cooperative Agreements to Support Native American Communities' Access to Federal Funding, Improve Safety, and Economic Opportunity

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today announced cooperative agreements re-establishing regional Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) centers. The centers will assist Tribal communities as they seek to access \$3 billion in Tribal Transportation Program Funding made available by President Biden's infrastructure package, as well as additional Federal funding opportunities.

FHWA's move from a centralized technical assistance model – headquartered in a single, centralized location under a two-year pilot program – back to a regional technical assistance model responds to the input of Tribes gathered in 13 listening sessions over seven months, and input from Tribal stakeholders through a Federal Register Notice Request for Information. These conversations illuminated the diversity of needs across the wide range of geographic, topographic, and climate conditions that exist across Indian country.

The regional centers will ultimately serve the 12 Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regions and associated Tribes and meet the transportation training and education needs of Native American communities, building skills and expertise to ensure the safety and maintenance of Tribal roads.

TTAP centers are established to deliver the Tribal component of FHWA's Local Technical Assistance Program to Tribal communities...

To read the full announcement from FHWA, click [HERE](#).

Excerpt taken from article published on Nov. 30, 2022 on the US DOT FHWA website.

FHWA Launches Mobile App for Guidance



Geosynthetics Installation for Road and Maintenance Projects

The Mobile App is a collaborative effort between the FHWA and the Geosynthetics Materials Association to provide handheld, quick and easy access to information on the various types and functions of geosynthetic materials for use in road construction and maintenance projects.

The Mobile App features include specification requirements and site inspection guidance for walls, slopes, pavement, erosion control and drainage. It also features quick searches, key terms, notes tracker, bookmarks, checklists, share documents, and informational videos. For more information, click [HERE](#).

via FHWA Local Aid Support (Dec 5, 2022)

FHWA Announces Final Rule to Reduce Roadway Fatalities in Dark Conditions by Improving Visibility with Retroreflective Pavement Markings

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced a final rule that will improve safety for all road users by ensuring that pavement markings are made more visible in dark or low light conditions.

Under the final rule, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) will provide a new minimum standard for pavement marking “retroreflectivity” effective September 6, 2022.

Retroreflective material reflects light more effectively back to the observer, making pavement markings that include them brighter and more easily seen in dark conditions. The rule is also expected to help reduce crashes by enhancing the ability of advanced driver assistance and autonomous vehicle technologies to identify pavement markings more readily.

“FHWA’s number one goal is to reduce highway fatalities and serious injuries wherever and whenever they occur,” Acting Federal Highway Administrator Stephanie Pollack said. “This rule will save lives by helping those traveling see pavement markings more clearly and know what lies ahead, especially in darkness and other instances when visibility is critical.”

The MUTCD, the national standard for traffic control devices used on all streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel, currently requires that pavement markings be visible at night and that all markings on interstate highways be retroreflective but does not require a minimum level. By creating one, FHWA believes state and local transportation agencies can reduce the number of severe crashes that happen in dark, unlighted conditions and result in an annual nighttime fatality rate that is roughly three times the daytime fatality rate.

The final rule also requires state and local agencies or officials to implement a method within four years for maintaining pavement marking retroreflectivity at or above minimum levels. Pavement marking improvements are also eligible for up to 100 percent Federal-aid funding.

Today’s rule is the latest action taken by FHWA to reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries as part of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Roadway Safety Strategy unveiled earlier this year. A comprehensive update of the entire MUTCD is also required under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and work on that update, in the form of the 11th Edition of the MUTCD, is currently underway by FHWA and required to be completed by May 2023. The Retroreflective Pavement Markings final rule announced today (Revision 3 to the 2009 Edition of the MUTCD) will be included in the 11th Edition.

Originally published on Aug 11, 2022 by US FHWA, click [HERE](#) for more information.



Portable and Removable Traffic Control Trailer

ADOT often works with traffic control contractors, but it takes time for that contracted crew to show up, set up and take down barricades. ADOT also has to pay for the use of barricades, and for long-term closures — that can get pretty expensive. “It can be a frustrating process. It chews up a lot of our time waiting on the contractors,” said Mesa Maintenance Highway Operations Supervisor Jerry Turner.

“The sooner we can get barricades picked up, the sooner traffic can flow freely, which can reduce secondary accidents and allow commerce, citizens and visitors to get to where they’re headed as soon as possible,” he added.

To save time and money, Turner developed a way to improve the entire process. He and his crew built a portable and removable traffic control

module, allowing them to haul and deploy their own barricades for closures. The module holds more than 150 barricades and can be easily transferred to a trailer without unloading them. It also includes an arrow board and lights that are powered by a single, rechargeable battery. The traffic control module allows crews to cut out the middleman for a variety of closures. For emergency calls and long-term closures, ADOT crews can take care of it instead of having the barricade company do it.

“On State Route 87, we do a holiday corridor every Memorial Day. We close down Bush Highway because the traffic going to Saguaro Lake gets overwhelmed, causing backups on SR 87. Now, we are able to take the traffic control trailer out to any location, stage it, and when we get the word that we need to shut down the highway, we’ll be able to close it right there on the spot,” Turner said.



images courtesy of Mesa Maintenance Ops

“With the traffic control trailer, we are able to reduce response time. If there’s a natural disaster, a fire, flooding, a major traffic incident, anything that’s spur of the moment and will result in a longer closure, we’ll be able to handle it in a timely manner,” he added. The new module has already been successfully used for a right-lane closure so crews could repair a guardrail, and Turner expects it will get more use soon. He credits his crew — Brandon Bedoe, Robert Bimberg, Chris Weatherly, Mark Amaya, Steve Collins and Cody Sangster — for helping make his vision for the module a reality.

Originally published in the June 2022 issue of ADOT's Inside Lane, written by Ashley Richards (Senior Communications Specialist)



The Build a Better Mousetrap (BABM) national recognition program highlights locally relevant, innovative solutions and provides a platform to share innovations to everyday challenges that local and tribal transportation professionals encounter on local roads. To learn more about the program and to see past submission, please visit the [FHWA's Local Aid Support](#) website!

How to Submit an Entry

Download the [2022 Build-A-Better-Mousetrap Planning Guide](#), complete pages 7-11 and email the completed form to Technical Training at Ttraining@azdot.gov. Please remember to include photos and/or videos of your innovation! If you have questions or are unsure if your innovation applies, feel free reach out!

What are the four BABM entry categories?

CATEGORY	DEFINITION	APPLICATION & EXAMPLE
Innovative Project	Any solution that addresses any or all phase(s) of the “project” life cycle - Planning, Design / Engineering, Construction, Operations, and Maintenance. This project shall introduce new ideas and be locally relevant, original, and creative in thinking.	Any or all phase(s) of the “project” life cycle - Planning, Design/Engineering, Construction, Operations, and Maintenance. Example: The Hopper , Jones County, IA
SMART Transformation	A locally relevant, significant change in any transportation activity or process that is SMART, “Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time bound,” in nature that results in improved efficiencies.	Any transportation process, practice, or procedure. Example: ADA Ramp Inspections Tracker , Seminole County, FL
Bold Steps	Any locally relevant, high-risk project or process showing a breakthrough solution with demonstrated high reward.	Any transportation project or process. Example: Road Electric Training System (RETS) , Illinois Tollway
Pioneer	A locally relevant, product/tool that is among the first to solve a maintenance problem with a home-grown solution.	Any product/tool; maintenance solution in nature. Example: Recessed Lane Indicator , Independent Highway District, ID

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO STAY UP TO DATE ON TRAINING & NEWS!

**REGISTER
NOW!**

The following list of *pre-scheduled* trainings are open for registration to all transportation employees within the local public agencies. To register yourself or your employees, please complete the Enrollment Request Form and email it to Technical Training at Ttraining@azdot.gov. Registration closes 1 week before the training date.

UPCOMING LTAP TRAINING**LTP0011 - Introduction to Survey & Grade Checking**

January 11-12, 2023 | 7:30 AM - 4:30PM

HRDC Building 1130 N. 22nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009

TCH1114 - Flagger - ATSSA Certified Training

January 11, 2023 | 8AM - 12PM

HRDC Building 1130 N. 22nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009

TCH1168 - ATSSA Work Zone Traffic Control Technician

January 12, 2023 | 8AM - 5PM

HRDC Building 1130 N. 22nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009

LTP0115 - (Virtual) Effective Communications

January 12, 2023 | 8AM - 12PM

Virtual via WebEx

LTP0117 - (Blended) Safety in the Workplace I

February 09, 2023 | 7AM - 4PM

Virtual via WebEx / HRDC Building

LTP0011 - Introduction to Survey & Grade Checking

February 15-16, 2023 | 7:30 AM - 4:30PM

HRDC Building 1130 N. 22nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009

LTP0011 - Introduction to Survey & Grade Checking

March 15-16, 2023 | 7:30 AM - 4:30PM

HRDC Building 1130 N. 22nd Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009

RUTGERSCenter for Advanced Infrastructure
and Transportation**NJLTAP – Design of ADA Curb
Ramps and Pedestrian Access
Routes (Webinar)****When: December 20 - 22, 2022****Time: 10:00 am–12:00 pm****Registration Required: [Link to Register](#)**

This training is designed to ensure that pedestrian facilities and access routes, in particular curb ramps, along our roadways are properly designed and constructed for all individuals, including those with disabilities.

This training was developed to provide information and good practices for those involved in the design and maintenance of curb ramps and pedestrian facilities, and for those individuals that ensure the compliance to applicable accessibility laws and guidelines.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO STAY UP TO DATE ON TRAINING & NEWS!



STAY SAFE THIS WINTER WITH THESE ROAD SAFETY TIPS!

- You and your vehicle must be prepared for driving in wintry conditions, including snow, ice and freezing temperatures.
- Plan your travel route in advance.
- Notify someone of your route, destination and projected arrival time.
- Fill your fuel tank and try to keep it at three-quarters full. Running out of gas — especially in a remote location — is extremely dangerous during winter conditions.
- Visit Arizona Traveler Information, download the AZ 511 app or dial 511 for updated road and weather conditions.

Originally published by ADOT ([link](#))

Stay in the Know!

The best way to keep up to date on upcoming training, webinars and news from our partners like FHWA, NHI and AASHTO is to sign-up for our weekly newsletter, TappingIn! If you'd like to get on our newsletter listserv, you can go to our website and sign-up (click [HERE](#)) or email Technical Training at Ttraining@azdot.gov.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Everyone here at the Arizona Local Technical Assistance Program would like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season! We appreciate your continued reliance on our team to provide you with the technical training and support needed to ensure our transportation systems remain safe, efficient, and effective for all Arizonans!

Your AZ LTAP Family