



NADO NEWS

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A Publication of the National Association of Development Organizations

Registration Now Open for Two NADO Conferences

National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference

Registration is now open for the 2011 National Rural Transportation Conference, to be held August 24 – 26 in Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.nado.org/training> to learn more and register.

As the nation's only annual event focused on training for the nation's regional transportation planning and economic development professionals, state department of transportation planning staff, and local officials, the conference offers incomparable learning and networking opportunities with peers from other states. In addition, with the conference being held in Washington, DC, several federal agency representatives will participate in conference events.

The National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference is sponsored by the Appalachian Regional Commission, Development District Association of Appalachia, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, National Association of Development Organizations and RPO America, and other planning partners.

2011 EDFS Conference Set for August in Washington, DC

You can now register for the 2011 EDFS Conference which is scheduled for August 22 – 25 at the Marriott Metro Center in Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.nado.org/training/> for online registration, the preliminary agenda, details about the conference and hotel. Conference topics will include meeting the financing needs of small businesses, building borrower credit, collection and recovery/loan workouts, working with growth companies, loan fund consolidation, microloan funds, building loan fund capacity, accountability and due diligence, marketing the RLF and several plenary sessions, including the ever popular federal program updates. We are also looking into one or two mobile workshops to local projects of interest. The hotel is offering a rate of \$170 single or double. Please contact NADO Deputy Executive Director Laurie Thompson at lthompson@nado.org or 202.624.5948 if you have any questions.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Appropriations Subcommittee Approves CJS Appropriations Bill

On July 7, the House Appropriations Committee approved the FY2012 Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations bill which funds the Department of Commerce (including the Economic Development Administration), the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics

and Space Administration (NASA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and other related agencies. The bill is scheduled to be considered by the full Appropriations Committee on July 13. A corresponding committee report, which typically contains specific programmatic funding levels and directives for the agencies, is expected to be released next week.

In total, the legislation contains \$50.2 billion in funding. This is a reduction of \$3.1 billion or 6 percent below last year's level, and \$7.4 billion or 13 percent below the President's request for these programs. This total is also 3 percent below the pre-stimulus, pre-bailout level of 2008. Several highlights of the bill include:

Department of Commerce: The bill contains \$7.1 billion for the Commerce Department, a reduction of \$464 million or 6 percent below FY2011, and \$1.7 billion or 19 percent below the President's request. This includes funding for the following agencies:

- **Economic Development Administration (EDA):** The bill includes \$258 million in funding for the EDA, \$26 million below FY2011 levels and \$67 million below the President's request. This includes \$5 million in grant funding to attract U.S. jobs that have gone to other countries back into the U.S., and \$5 million in loan guarantees to help advance innovative manufacturing technologies.
- **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST):** NIST is funded at \$701 million in the bill, which is \$49 million below FY2011 levels and \$300 million below the President's request. Within this total, core research activities to help advance U.S. competitiveness, innovation, and economic growth are increased by \$10 million above FY2011 levels. In addition, funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program, which provides training and technical assistance to U.S. manufacturers,

is maintained at last year's level of \$128 million.

- **Grant Programs:** The bill includes a total of \$1.7 billion for various grant programs, which is \$1.1 billion below last year's level and \$1.3 billion below the President's request. Within the total, Violence Against Women programs and Missing and Exploited Children programs are funded at last year's levels. Byrne Justice Assistance Grants are funded at \$357 million, a decrease of \$73 million below FY2011 levels.
- **National Science Foundation (NSF):** The legislation funds NSF at \$6.9 billion, the same as last year's level and \$907 million below the President's request. Within this funding, NSF's core research is increased by \$43 million to enhance basic research that is critical to innovation and U.S. economic competitiveness.
- **Department of Justice (DOJ):** The bill funds DOJ at \$26 billion, a decrease of \$1 billion below the FY2011 level and \$2.4 billion below the President's request.

For the subcommittee draft text of the legislation, please visit:

http://appropriations.house.gov/UploadedFiles/CJSFY12_SUBC_xml.pdf.

For a summary table comparing the bill with last year's level and the President's request, please visit:

http://appropriations.house.gov/UploadedFiles/FY_2012_CJS_Summary_Table.pdf.

More Details of Surface Transportation Reauthorizations Released

This week, both the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure took steps closer to introducing their surface transportation reauthorization bills. Senate EPW Chairman Barbara Boxer (D-

CA) has now said that in order to maintain existing funding levels, the Committee will introduce a two-year, \$109 billion measure. This would mean an additional \$12 billion in additional funding would be needed; from where has not yet been decided.

House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman John L. Mica (R-FL) also released information on the House's long-term surface transportation reauthorization measure at a public "roll out" on July 7. Chairman Mica's bill is expected to be a six-year, \$230 billion measure. This bill would give states considerably more input over things such as project approval and where to spend federal dollars. Both the House and Senate measures are likely to consolidate federal highway programs from about 70 down to 30. No legislative text was released but a link to the details discussed at the press conference can be found at <http://www.transportation.house.gov/news/PRArticle.aspx?NewsID=1337>.

Further complicating the differences between the House and the Senate bills is the April passage of H. Con. Res. 34, the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Resolution, which limits the amount of money spent on new transportation projects to what is currently in the Highway Trust Fund. This results in a 36 percent reduction in transportation spending and could potentially cause a loss of 500,000 highway jobs and 140,000 transit jobs. Also important to note is that the last surface reauthorization, SAFETEA-LU (P.L. 109-59) was authorized for \$286.5 billion and President Obama's FY2012 budget request was for a \$556 billion six-year reauthorization measure.

We expect both the House and Senate bills to contain substantial and substantive changes to statewide Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) planning. NADO has been working to voice our priorities and recommendations to both chambers.

Democratic Members of Transportation Committee Respond to Roll out

Immediately following Chairman Mica's press conference, Democratic leaders of the Committee, led by Ranking Member Nick Rahall (D-WV), held a press conference to respond to the House Republican roll out of the surface transportation reauthorization bill. Details from the Democrat's press conference can be found at <http://democrats.transportation.house.gov/press-release/committee-democrats-respond-republican-surface-transportation-proposal>.

Federal Highway Administration Releases State-by-State Impact of Cuts to Highway Infrastructure Investment

On June 7, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released a table showing the state-by-state impact the House-passed budget plan would have on cuts to highway infrastructure investment. A copy of the table is attached to this edition of *NADO News*.

House Appropriations Subcommittee Approves FY2012 Interior-Environment Spending Bill

On July 6, the House Appropriations Committee released the subcommittee draft of the FY2012 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill, which was subsequently marked up in the Interior-Environment Subcommittee. The bill provides \$27.5 billion in spending, a reduction of \$2.1 billion below last year's level of \$29.5 billion and \$3.8 billion below the President's budget request of \$31.2 billion.

Department of the Interior: The bill provides \$9.9 billion in spending for the Department of Interior, a \$720 million reduction from current spending and \$1.2 billion below the President's FY2012 request.

- The Bureau of Land Management would receive \$1 billion, a decrease of \$63 million from the current year.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): The bill provides \$7.1 billion in spending for EPA, a reduction of \$1.5 billion from FY2011 levels. The cuts to EPA programs include:

- The Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund would receive \$1.5 billion (down \$1 billion from the \$2.4 billion they received in FY2011). These programs help fund state and local water infrastructure improvements nationwide.
- Regulation of greenhouse gases would be cut \$46 million
- EPA regulatory programs would be cut \$76 million
- Grants for state implementation of environmental programs would be cut \$102 million
- Numerous restrictions to agency water policies related to coal mining in Appalachia would be included as well

FEDERAL NEWS AND NOTES

USDA Rural Development asks for input on Program Administration

On July 7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development convened a stakeholder outreach webinar to discuss rural development priorities for the Administration's FY2013 budget and the 2012 Farm Bill. They have asked for input on how Rural Development can enhance program administration and delivery to ensure that rural communities are able to access the critical programs and resources that Rural Development has to offer. If you have input or suggestions that you would like NADO to submit, please contact NADO Associate Legislative Director Jen Walsh (jwalsh@nado.org or 202.624.8467). A copy of

the presentation from the webinar is attached to this edition of *NADO News*.

USDA Now Accepting Rural Business Opportunity Grant Applications

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Business-Cooperative Service has announced the availability of \$2.5 million in FY2011 Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program funds. The RBOG program promotes sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs through provisions of training and technical assistance for business development, entrepreneurs, and economic development officials, and to assist with economic development planning. Of the available \$2.5 million, \$990,000 is reserved for projects benefiting Federally Recognized Native American Tribes in rural areas, and the remainder is unreserved. Grants of up to \$50,000 will be available for single-state projects, and grants of up to \$150,000 will be available for multi-state projects. Applications are due by August 1. Additional information is available at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-07-01/pdf/2011-16555.pdf>.

Rural Housing Service Now Accepting Housing Preservation Grant Applications

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service announced the availability of \$9.8 million in FY2011 Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program funds. Grants may be used to assist very low- and low-income homeowners repair and rehabilitate their homes, or to assist rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes repair and rehabilitate units if they are made available to very low- and low-income individuals. The application deadline is August 22. Additional information is available at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-07-07/pdf/2011-17109.pdf>.

NADO NEWS AND NOTES

Congratulations to the Winners of the NADO 2011 Innovation Award and Excellence in Regional Transportation Award

The NADO Research Foundation sponsors two annual awards programs, the Innovation Award and the Excellence in Regional Transportation Award. Congratulations to this year's recipients! The 2011 NADO Innovation Award winners will be honored at the Showcase Reception at NADO's [Annual Training Conference](#), to be held in Miami, Florida from October 8 - 11, 2011. The 2011 NADO Excellence in Regional Transportation Award winners will be honored at the Awards Reception at NADO's [National Rural Transportation Conference](#), to be held in Washington, DC from August 24 – 26, 2011. Both receptions will provide opportunities for all conference attendees to learn more about the winning projects in an informal setting. This year's awards recipients in each program are listed below.

Arizona

- Northern Arizona Council of Governments, *Business Assistance Center (BAC)*

California

- Sacramento Area Council of Governments, *Rural-Urban Connections Strategy*
- Sonoma County Economic Development Board, *Business Hall of Fame*

Colorado

- Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado, *Southwest Workforce Network*
- Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado, *STEM Internship Program*

Florida

- Central Florida Regional Planning Council, *Central Florida Region Economic Analysis and Disaster Resiliency Study*

- Florida Association of Regional Councils (submitted by Northeast Florida Regional Council), *Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program*

Georgia

- Atlanta Regional Commission, *Innovation Crescent*
- Coastal Regional Commission, *Coastal Communities for All Ages*
- Georgia Association of Regional Commissions, *GARC – ESRI Regional Enterprise License Agreement*
- Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, *Chestatee River Diving Bell Stabilization and Restoration Project*
- Middle Georgia Regional Commission, *Middle Georgia Regional Center EB-5*
- Northeast Georgia Regional Commission, *Shields-Ethridge Farm Interpretative Program*
- River Valley Regional Commission, *Pattern and Place Charrette Workshops*
- Southern Georgia Regional Commission, *Utilizing Web Mapping Services to Support Georgia's Boll Weevil Eradication Efforts*

Illinois

- Bi-State Regional Commission, *Quad City Interoperability Communication Network*

Indiana

- Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, *Community-Wide Brownfield Assessments*

Kansas

- Kansas Association of Regional Development Organizations, *Regional Industry Cluster Analysis and Innovation Networking*

Kentucky

- Bluegrass Area Development District, *2011 Magistrate District Reapportionment*
- Gateway Area Development District, *Bath County Agricultural Education and*

Marketing Center Retail Store – The Kentucky Market Pavilion

- Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts, *Kentucky Water Resource Information System*
- Lake Cumberland Area Development District, *The Inn - Neighborhood Stabilization Project*
- Lincoln Trail Area Development District, *Fort Knox Realignment Infrastructure/Transportation Support*
- Northern Kentucky Area Development District, *NKADD Regional Brownfield Program*
- Pennyriple Area Development District, *Pennyriple Future*
- Pennyriple Area Development District and West Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, *Cadiz-Trigg County Career Solutions Center*

Massachusetts

- Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, *Merrimack Valley Priority Growth Strategy - The Regional Land Use Plan for the Merrimack Valley*

Michigan

- Northeast Michigan Council of Governments, *US 23 Heritage Route*
- Northwest Michigan Council of Governments, *Energy Efficiency for Local Units of Government*

Minnesota

- Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, *Ely Energy Action Plan - Comprehensive Plan Addendum*
- Region Five Development Commission, *Coordinated Government Service Delivery*

Mississippi

- Central Mississippi Planning and Development District, *Economic Development Strategy for the Highway 80 Corridor*

- Central Mississippi Planning and Development District, *The Rebirth of Downtown Pelahatchie*
- East Central Planning and Development District, *Healthcare for Rural Area*
- South Delta Planning and Development District, *B. B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center*
- South Delta Planning and Development District, *Electrical Lineman Training Program*
- Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District, *Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art - Gallery of African American Art*
- Three Rivers Solid Waste Management Authority (Three Rivers Planning and Development District), *Landfill (Methane) Gas To Electricity Project*

Montana

- Great Falls Development Authority, *Great Falls Montana Regional Diversification Project*

North Carolina

- Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments, *Summer Cruising - Teacher Enrichment Program*
- Land-of-Sky Regional Council, *Linking Lands and Communities in the Land-of-Sky Region*
- Mid-East Commission, *Focusing Community Assets for Economic Growth*
- Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments, *E3: Strengthening Manufacturing in North Carolina*
- Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, *Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin Priority Watershed Assessment: A GIS-Based, Objective Method to Determine Basinwide Priorities Using Public Data*
- Southwestern NC Commission and Land-of-Sky Regional Council, *WNC Communities / WNC Regional Livestock Market*
- Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments, *Adaptive Events*

- Western Piedmont Council of Governments, *Youth Gang Activity Assessment of the 25th North Carolina Judicial District*
- Western Piedmont Council of Governments, *Foreclosure Prevention-Neighborhood Stabilization*

Ohio

- Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, *BizNet Business Resource Network*
- Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission, *Franklin County LBRS*
- Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District and Ohio Mideastern Governments Association, *Connecting Appalachia Middle-Mile Fiber Optic Network*

Oregon

- Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, *Columbia Gorge Arts and Culture Alliance*
- Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc., *Southern Oregon Angel Investment Conference*

Pennsylvania

- SEDA-Council of Governments, *Community-wide (New Berlin) Energy Independence Initiative*

South Carolina

- Catawba Regional Council of Governments, *Lancaster County Search & Rescue GIS Program*
- Lower Savannah Council of Governments, *Workforce Transition Centers*
- SC Appalachian Council of Governments, *InfoMentum Online – Innovations in Online Mapping for Regional Economic Development*
- Upper Savannah Council of Governments, *Saluda Teacher Apartments Project*

South Dakota

- Planning and Development District III, *District III Regional Web Service*

Tennessee

- First Tennessee Development District, *Identifying Green Stormwater Infrastructure Needs in Rural Communities*
- Southwest Tennessee Development District, *REDI Digital Factory*

Texas

- Brazos Valley Council of Governments, *TexHealth Brazos Valley Multi-Share Plan*
- Capital Area Council of Governments, *Assessment of Growth & Development in the Capital Region*
- Houston-Galveston Area Council, *Community Enhancement Grants Program*
- South Plains Association of Governments, *In the Line of Fire*

Utah

- Envision Utah and Bear River Association of Governments, *Bear Lake Valley Blueprint*

Vermont

- Rutland Regional Planning Commission, *Disaster Tabletops - Rutland Region Local Emergency Planning Committee*

Virginia

- New River Valley Planning District Commission, *New River Valley Green Infrastructure Network*

Upcoming Webinar: Rural-Urban Connections in the Sacramento Region

Sign up [here](#) for “Rural-Urban Connections in the Sacramento Region,” a free webinar to be held on Tuesday, July 12, from 2pm – 3:30 pm EDT. The NADO Research Foundation’s webinar will explore how the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) is incorporating sustainability principles into their regional planning processes. David Shabazian, Senior Planner with the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), will discuss the *Rural-*

Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS), a look at the region's growth and sustainability objectives from a rural perspective. Through the RUCS framework, SACOG is working with rural residents, businesses, and public agencies to form strategies that enhance the agriculture sector, rural economies, regional and local food systems, resource conservation, and regional sustainability. Raef Porter, Senior Research Analyst at SACOG, will demonstrate in real-time the interactive scenario modeling tools that SACOG is using to broaden understanding of how land use and transportation investments affect rural areas, agriculture production, and the region as a whole. Reserve your place for the webinar at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/552780427>.

New on Rural Transportation.org

New resources have been posted to NADO's www.RuralTransportation.org website this week:

- [Safety News: usRAP Moves Beyond Pilots](#)
- [Additional Upcoming Events Posted to Calendar](#)
- New Documents posted to the [Resource Library](#)
 - [Data for Regional Planning](#)
 - [Public Outreach and Engagement](#)

Visit www.RuralTransportation.org to access these and other resources. For more information on NADO's transportation programs, contact NADO Program Managers Carrie Kissel, at 202.624.8829 or ckissel@nado.org, or Kathy Nothstine, at 202.624.5256 or knothstine@nado.org.

Save the Date for DDAA Training Session

Mark your calendars now for the Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA)'s 2011 Employment Law Seminar, to be held September 18 – 20 at the Hotel Indigo in downtown Nashville, TN. The seminar is a two-day training session on employment law and practices led by three experienced and skilled

practitioners. Additional information on DDAA is available at <http://www.ddaa-idd.org/>.

Vote for Discussion Topics at the National Rural Transportation Conference

Join regional transportation professionals from across the nation at the National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference, August 24 – 26 in Washington, DC. This year, organizers are soliciting attendee input on small group discussion topics for a facilitated networking session. Submit your ideas and vote for topics online to shape the conference agenda. Visit <http://www.nado.org/training> to learn more and register.

Join NADO at the Loews Miami Beach October 8 – 11 for our 2011 Annual Training Conference (ATC)

NADO's 44th Annual Training Conference will be held at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel on historic Collins Avenue in South Beach October 8 – 11. Conference planning is in full swing, including final touches on a number of interesting and relevant mobile workshops, timely best practice sessions, numerous networking opportunities, thought-provoking plenary sessions and much more!

Don't miss this opportunity to catch up with your peers and learn about their relevant and replicable projects and initiatives, hear from national experts on regional development, participate in one of many interesting mobile workshops that will not only take you out of the hotel but across the causeway to the City of Miami and beyond.

You may register for the conference online by visiting http://www.nado.org/event-registration/?regevent_action=register&event_id=1&name_of_event=2011AnnualTrainingConferenceMiami. This link will also take you to the preliminary conference agenda. Visit <http://www.loewshotels.com/en/Miami-Beach-Hotel/GroupPages/NADO> for information about the Loews Hotel and to reserve your rooms online.

NADO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **[NADO Webinar: Rural-Urban Connections in the Sacramento Region](#)**
July 12, 2011: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EDT
- **[2011 EDFS Training Conference](#)**
August 22 – 25, 2011, Marriott Metro Center, Washington, DC
- **[2011 National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference](#)**
August 24 – 26, 2011, Marriott Metro Center, Washington, DC
- **[2011 Annual Training Conference](#)**
October 8 – 11, 2011, Miami Beach, FL

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