



National Association County Engineers

A.R. Giancola, P.E. Executive Director
25 Mass. Ave NW Suite 580, Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 393-5041 Fax: (202) 393-2630
Email: nace@naco.org Web: www.countyengineers.org

NACE UPDATE

The almost bi-weekly newsletter for Board members, Committee Chairs, and Members
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(Note: Sources of information include the AASHTO Journal, NACo staff, Senate and House publications, the Federal Highway Administration, and other association news journals)

Listen to NACE President Chris Bauserman Discuss Critical Issues in the New Authorization of the Surface Transportation Program! Visit Our Local Roads Matter website!

Chris E. Bauserman, NACE President & County Engineer, Delaware County OH discusses the important issues associated with the next transportation authorization in this important PODCAST. To view his presentation visit the NACE Local Roads Matter Campaign site <http://countyengineers...org/LRM/index.html> (click on Social Media Center).

DEADLINE APPROACHING ON ROOM RESERVATIONS FOR NACE 2010 (MARCH 24th) - REGISTER NOW & RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW! NACE 2010 CONFERENCE LINKS

NACE 2010 conference information is now available on the NACE website:
www.countyengineers.org (under NACE Events).

Delegate & Guests can register on-line:

http://www.naco.org/NACETemplate.cfm?Section=NACE_Events&Template=/cffiles/nace/delegateapp.cfm

Exhibitors can register on-line:

http://www.naco.org/NACETemplate.cfm?Section=NACE_Events&Template=/cffiles/nace/exhibitapp.cfm

In addition to on-line registration and PDF files of brochures, see information on conference overview, travel, hotel, golf outing and more!

American Society of Civil Engineers magazine *Civil Engineering* has a great feature article on the construction of the Super Span of the Dallas Cowboys new stadium. To view the article go to the following link. http://pubs.asce.org/magazines/CEMag/2010/Issue_01-10/article1.htm

Highway, Transit Shutdown Ends with Enactment of One-Month Extension

The Senate approved a bill March 2nd to extend legal authority for the Highway Trust Fund for 30 days, sending the legislation to President Barack Obama, who has now signed the measure. The president's signature on HR 4691 <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d111:HR04691>:

ended a shutdown of the trust fund and the furlough of 2,000 U.S. Department of Transportation employees that occurred Monday after the fund's authority to spend money expired Sunday.

Senators approved the bill by a vote of 78-19

http://senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=111&session=2&vote=00032 after rejecting an amendment offered by Sen. Jim Bunning, R-KY, who dropped his days-long blockade of the bill in exchange for a vote on his amendment to pay for the \$10 billion bill with the closing of a tax loophole that has benefited the paper industry. The amendment failed on a budget point of order, with 43 senators voting in favor of the amendment and 53 senators voting against it.

http://senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=111&session=2&vote=00031

Bunning had held up the Senate's consideration of the package of 30-day extensions arguing that the measures were not paid for. In addition to extending Highway Trust Fund authorization, the measure also extends several other provisions of law that expired including additional unemployment benefits for Americans who have run out of the standard six-month jobless payments and boosting Medicare reimbursement payments for doctors.

The House is expected to debate HR 2847 <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d111:HR2847>: , a jobs bill amended by the Senate to include a 10-month Highway Trust Fund authorization extension, \$19.5 billion in additional General Fund revenue to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent into next year, restoration of highway funding this year to \$42 billion from a reduced level of \$30 billion, and additional federal support for states and municipalities who want to issue Build America Bonds to finance infrastructure construction.

White House Authorization Principles Due Out

The White House has announced that it will be releasing its principles and outline for the next transportation authorization within the next 90 days, according to U.S.-DOT Secretary Ray LaHood. NACE will be monitoring these priorities as they become available and disseminate them to our members as soon as possible. [Click here to read the article.](#)

House Approves 10-Month Extension, Returns Bill to Senate

The House of Representatives approved an amended job-creation bill March 4th that would extend Highway Trust Fund authorization until Dec. 31, deposit \$19.5 billion of general revenue into the Highway Trust Fund, restore this fiscal year's highway funding to \$42 billion from \$30 billion, and offer additional federal support for states and localities that wish to issue Build America Bonds to finance infrastructure construction. By a vote of 217-201, the House sent the measure (HR 2847) back to the Senate.

The jobs measure approved by the House would be the fifth short-term extension of the 2005 transportation authorization law known as "SAFETEA-LU," which expired Sept. 30, 2009. Under the fourth extension approved, Highway Trust Fund authorization now lapses March 28. Work continues in Congress on a full six-year surface transportation authorization, which has been delayed over funding concerns.

News from US DOT - Traffic Fatalities Drop Again, but the Work Remains

<http://fastlane.dot.gov/2010/03/traffic-fatalities-drop-again-but-the-work-remains.html>

Below is a link to the NHTSA news release regarding 2009 traffic fatalities, and to the NHTSA document summarizing the preliminary data.

http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/template.MAXIMIZE/menuitem.f2217bee37fb302f6d7c121046108a0c/?javax.portlet.tpst=1e51531b2220b0f8ea14201046108a0c_ws_MX&javax.portlet.prp_1e51531b2220b0f8ea14201046108a0c_viewID=detail_view&itemID=d874f34635347210VgnVCM1000002fd17898RCRD&pressReleaseYearSelect=2010

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811291.PDF>

FHWA Recovery Map Tells a Great Story with Few Words

<http://fastlane.dot.gov/2010/03/fhwa-recovery-act-map-tells-a-great-story-with-few-words.html>

RISC Lobbies Senate for Transportation Safety Hearing

On March 5, the Roadway Infrastructure Safety Coalition (RISC), of which NACE is a founding member, sent a letter to Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) Chairman Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) and Ranking Member James Inhofe (R-Okla.) urging them to consider having a transportation infrastructure safety hearing for the transportation authorization. RISC feels that this issue is a vital component of any multi-year transportation bill and should be a point of discussion in the drafting of the language. [Click here](#) to view letter.

National Association of Counties Fact Sheet on Federal Surface Transportation Authorization

NACo has developed a useful Fact Sheet on the Federal Surface Transportation Authorization. To view this fact sheet go to:

<http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Transportation&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=33164>

10th International Low Volume Road Conference Abstracts and Papers Deadline Nears

This is just a reminder that the deadline for the submittal of abstracts and papers to present at this conference are due by March 31, 2010. Visit the conference website at:

<http://www.trb.org/LowVolumeRoadsConference/Public/LVR10.aspx>

And click on Paper Submittal and Review to submit the full text of the paper and abstract. For authors go to the Information for Authors posted for the conference.

Rural Road Safety Webinar Series

Please join NACo/NACE members on Thursday, March 25, from 2 - 3:15 p.m. EDT, for the second in a series of three, dedicated to the basics of County Action Plans, Strategic Highway Plans, and Road Safety Audits (RSA). Each year, road accidents continue to devastate families and counties. Participants will learn about the benefits of a county RSA and the legal issues surrounding safety audits. This webinar is co-sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration, the National Association of County Engineers, and NACo. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Cindy Wasser](mailto:Cindy.Wasser@dot.ca.gov) · 202.942.4274

AASHTO Element Inspection Manual Webinar March 17, 2010 – 8 AM PACIFIC Time

T-18 is inviting you to join an online Secure Meeting to present the proposed changes in the draft AASHTO Element Inspection Manual to be considered at the upcoming SCOBS meeting in Sacramento. The limit to the number of people that can log on is 150. This web presentation is to provide more information and context only. There will be no time for questions at this presentation. However, they still want your questions. Feel free to email them to Barton_Newton@dot.ca.gov and they will provide responses.

Information about the meeting follows:

Attendee URL: <https://webmeeting.dot.ca.gov/meeting/91089695> Please copy and paste the address listed above into your browser. You will then access the "Welcome to the Secure Web meeting Portal". Follow the instructions to join our meeting (the password is shown below)!

Is Your System Compatible?

To check if your system is able to join Secure Meetings, click the link below. It will verify your system's compatibility:

https://webmeeting.dot.ca.gov/dana-na/meeting/meeting_testjs.cgi?redir=%2Fdana-na%2Fmeeting%2Flogin_meeting.cgi%3Fmid%3D91089695

Meeting Details

Date: March 17, 2010
Start: 8:00 A.M. PACIFIC Time (11 AM Eastern)
Duration: 2 hours

Meeting ID: 91089695
Name: AASHTO Bridge Inspection Element Manual
Meeting Password: IBsWYaV1

Teleconferencing Information

Dial-In Number: 1 (800) 794-3569 (to join the audio conference call)
Alternate Dial-In: 1 (847) 407-6936
Passcode: 8285510#

New Run-Off-Road/Rumble Strip DVD

The Roadway Safety Foundation in conjunction with the South Carolina DOT has launched a safety public education campaign called Recognize, React, Recover: Using Rumble strips to Prevent Run-off-the-Road Crashes. A new DVD details the benefits of rumble strips in preventing run-off-the-road crashes. Copies are available free to those who are interested in helping to prevent ROR crashes. To order a copy of the DVD, please e-mail Cathy Gillen, cathygillen@roadwaysafety.org or call her at (202)857-1203.

The website is: <http://www.roadwaysafety.org/run-off-road-dvd-2/>

Best Practices in Addressing NPDES and Other Water Quality Issues in Highway System Management: Results of a U.S. Domestic Scan Tour

Live Webcast – Thursday, March 25, 2010, 1:00-4:00 PM Eastern Time

Visit the [CTE Website](#) for complete program details, and click [Register](#) to sign up for viewing the live webcast. There is **no fee** to participate in the webcast.

Note: If you registered for any previous CTE webcast and your email address has not changed, simply use the same email address to [Login](#) and confirm your participation in this webcast.

Presented by CTE in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, this program features a panel of state and federal subject matter experts presenting highlights and discussing results of a recent domestic scan tour (NCHRP 20-68A, Scan 08-03). The scan studied stormwater programs in several states to understand what actions can help state DOTs to increase their compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations.

The findings of the scan provide transportation agencies with better insight to the project delivery process, improving compliance with NPDES permits, and reducing project delays associated with NPDES violations and noncompliance. Webcast panelists will review the following program strategies:

- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs);
- Source Control and Innovative Storm Water Best Management Practices (BMPs);
- Agency Operation and Reporting Practices; and
- Regulatory Communication and Permitting.

Panelists for the webcast will be:

- **Scott Taylor, P.E.**, Senior Vice President, RBF Consulting, Carlsbad, CA
- **Brian Smith**, Biology/Water Quality Specialist, FHWA Resource Center, Olympia Fields, IL
- **Rachel Herbert**, Physical Scientist, Water Permits Division, U.S. EPA, Washington, DC
- **Matthew Lauffer, P.E.**, Project Manager, Highway Stormwater Program, North Carolina DOT, Raleigh, NC
- **Andrew McDaniel**, Project Engineer, Water Quality Assessment, North Carolina DOT, Raleigh, NC
- **Karuna Pujara, P.E.**, Chief, Highway Hydraulics Division, Maryland State Highway Administration, Baltimore, MD

This webcast is aimed principally at transportation planning, engineering, construction, and environmental staff of state DOTs, federal agencies, and private-sector organizations. The program also will be of interest to non-governmental organizations and universities. During the live webcast, participants will be invited to submit questions via email for the panelists to discuss.

Work Zone Mobility and Safety Self Assessment: 2009 National Report

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration's Office of Operations has released its annual report designed to help states evaluate their work zone practices and to help assess work zone practices nationally. [\[More\]](#)

New from US DOT

Latest Issue of Focus Online

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/focus/10jan/index.cfm>

National Kickoff Event Information Now Available for 2010 National Work Zone Awareness Week

http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/news/news_detail.asp?ID=618