



Central Texas Council of Governments
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Central Texas Transportation Grants, Resources, and Updates Newsletter

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Federal and State Legislative Updates

National Pedestrian Safety Month

The U.S Department of Transportation (USDOT) has declared October as “National Pedestrian Safety Month.” The purpose of this declaration is to emphasize the importance of pedestrians having the right to safe movement and for drivers to remain alert to pedestrians and cyclists. National Pedestrian Safety Month spotlights a different aspect of the safe system approach each week:

- Week 1-Safer People: Celebrates the benefits of walking and how to encourage more of it by creating a safer system for people who walk or ride bikes.
- Week 2-Safer Speeds & Safer Roads: Recognizes the importance of how motorists driving at safer speeds can save lives and highlights the vital role that safer roads play in reducing fatal crashes and injuries.
- Week 3-Safer Vehicles: Looks at vehicle solutions; vehicles that provide occupant crash protection and can help prevent crashes from occurring in the first place. Technologies like pedestrian automatic emergency braking can help protect those outside of the vehicle.
- Week 4-Post-Crash Care: Focuses on providing bystander assistance and care to injured pedestrians.

For more information on National Pedestrian Safety Month resources, [click here!](#)

USDOT’s Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)

TIFIA authorizes borrowing up to 49% of eligible transit and transit oriented development project costs for projects that meet certain eligibility requirements. Previously TIFIA loans were capped at 33% of eligible project costs. Projects eligible for the TIFIA financing include:

- Projects that construct or improve public transportation systems
- Joint development projects that involve coordinated improvement of transit infrastructure and non-transit facilities
- Projects that are eligible for assistance under Chapter 53 of Title 49, U.S. Code.

For more information, [click here!](#)

Central Texas Regional Transportation Advisory Group (CTRTAG) Updates

2022-26 Regional Public Transportation Coordination Plan (RPTCP) FY 23 Funding

The last CTRTAG meeting was held on Thursday, Aug.11th, 9:30-11:00 AM as a hybrid meeting, with the in person meeting held at CTCOG Offices. At this meeting, CTCOG’s application for FY 23 TxDOT RPTCP Continuation funding for coordination of the implementation of the Plan was discussed, requiring a letter of support from the CTRTAG Board. CTCOG’s application with letter of support was successful, ensuring funding through Aug.31, 2023 to support meetings and planning between various stakeholders for the implementation of strategies within the Plan, including a future Transportation Summit and other projects.

The next CTRTAG meeting will be Nov.17th, 9:30-11:00 AM.

To access the 2022-26 RCTP, [Click Here!](#)

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Funding Opportunities and Resources

USDOT Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant Program

USDOT’s SMART Grant Program has \$100 million appropriated for each fiscal year for FY 2022-26 to provide grants to eligible public sector agencies to conduct demonstration projects focused on advanced technologies and systems in order to improve transportation efficiency and safety. Eligible entities include political subdivisions of a State and Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Eligible projects must include at least one of the following: Coordinated automation, connected vehicles, sensors, systems integration, delivery/logistics, innovative aviation, smart grid, and traffic signals. Award maximums will be \$2 million for planning grants, and \$15 million for prototype grants. No match for planning grants. Deadline to apply is Nov.18, 2022. For more information and to apply, [click here!](#)