Research Roundup

NTIA SPECTRUM POLICY SYMPOSIUM

February 1, DAS Hampshire was a panelist at the 2024 National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Spectrum Policy Symposium. This year's symposium focused on implementation of the National Spectrum Strategy (NSS) and the Presidential Memorandum released this past November and included spectrum policy leaders in the White House, Congress, government and industry. DAS Hampshire emphasized the need for access to spectrum to deploy new and different intelligent transportation systems, foreseeing multiple areas in the near future in transportation services will need additional spectrum access.

USDOT image

ICYMI

February 5, DAS Hampshire discussed the importance of accelerating research implementation with state CEOs at the **AASHTO Transportation Policy Forum**. The forum served as the kickoff to the surface transportation reauthorization process and included Congressional members, DOT leadership and state DOT leaders.

DOT BY THE NUMBERS

North American TransBorder freight value up 3.5% in October 2023 from October 2022. A total of $138.5 billion in TransBorder freight moved between the U.S. and Canada and Mexico by all modes.

SUBSCRIBE?

Want more OST-R Research Roundup? Scan the QR code to opt-in to our mailing list to receive our monthly newsletter.

Find us online:
www.transportation.gov/ost-r/roundup

SBIR PHASE I OPENS

U.S. DOT's Small Business Research Initiative (SBIR) FY24.1 Phase I solicitation opened on February 8. The SBIR Program awards contracts to small businesses across the country to spur research and commercialization of innovative transportation technologies in select research areas. A full list and description of proposed FY24.1 research topics is available.

In addition, SBIR has announced a **pre-solicitation for the Complete Streets AI Initiative: Generating, Integrating, and Activating Data for Safety**--a $15M award to develop an interactive decision support tool for state and local transportation agencies that offers suggestions for Complete Streets improvements on a network-level for communities. Additional information is available via the new Complete Streets AI Initiative website.

NOTEWORTHY

- **ARPA-I Releases Summary Report on RFI Responses**: In June 2023, US DOT released a Request for Information (RFI) entitled *"Potential Research and Development Areas of Interest for the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Infrastructure."* ARPA-I has released a summary report of the public responses received by US DOT. The report includes an overview of the major emerging areas of transportation research in which respondents suggest that ARPA-I should focus their investment.

- **In the media:** Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office (ITS JPO) has **launched ITS for Pedestrian Safety Data Story, including an interactive national map showing fatalities across the USA.** The map data helps transportation professionals to explore the challenges of pedestrian safety and how ITS technologies can be a valuable tool in addressing those challenges.

RECAP: INTERSECTION SAFETY CHALLENGE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

January 8, The winners of Stage 1A of the Intersection Safety Challenge were announced during the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Fifteen winners were selected from 120 proposals, including Texas DOT, Orion Robotics Lab and the University of Hawaii. For Stage 1A, participants submitted design concepts for proposed intersection safety systems. Each of the 15 winning teams will receive a prize of $100,000 and an invitation to participate in Stage 1B: System Assessment and Virtual Testing. Full list of winners is available.

UPCOMING

Explore upcoming webinars, conferences and opportunities from OST-R program offices

- **HASS Connects:** Guest speaker Dr. Xianbao Hu, Assistant Professor in Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Pennsylvania State University For more info, contact **denise.bakar@dot.gov** **February 14.**

- **Volpe Thought Leadership Series Finale: The Advanced Air Mobility Workforce of the Future.** Series finale focuses on Advanced Air Mobility. Watch the recording or read the recap to learn about the advanced air mobility workforce of the future.

- **Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5) Webinar Series:** Starting November 27, U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) is hosting a series of webinars on each chapter of the NCA5 with chapter authors. The **February 21** webinar, Chapter 13 – Transportation will feature researchers from several USDOT UTCs.

- **Mobility Equity Research Initiative NOFO:** $2.9 million to institutions of higher education to advance research and technologies that support expanding accessibility and mobility to underserved communities, including people with disabilities, older Americans, and rural and disadvantaged communities. **Closes March 5.**

- **FY22/23 Rural Automated Vehicle (RAV) NOFO:** $25 million for two cooperative agreements to work with rural communities to address the challenges of bringing highly automated and autonomous technologies to rural Americans. **Closes March 13.**

- **Steel Slag Research Initiative NOFO:** $5 million to an accredited research university of higher education, in partnership with a US steel producer, to conduct research on the properties of steel slag materials for use in cement and concrete. **Closes March 27.**

UTC CORNER

The National Safety Summit of the University Transportation Centers hosted by Safety21/Carnegie Mellon University will be held **April 4** in Washington, DC.

Save the Date:
Safety21 National Safety Summit
Thursday, April 4, 2024
in Washington, DC

January 26, Carnegie Mellon University hosted an in person moderated discussion and Q&A with Secretary Buttigieg**. Watch the video recap.**

The UTC program has a full library of past webinars available from our university partners on YouTube. Upcoming webinar topics include: *Putting the Brakes on Rider Harassment (2/6)* and *A Conceptual Model of the ADAS Ecosystem (2/15).*

Additional Resources:

- Research, Development and Technology Opportunities (webinars, funding and other R&D opportunities)

- Get the latest in Research from the National Transportation Library/ROSA-P

Questions, comments or ideas for future issues? Send us an email: USDOTresearch.info@dot.gov