**2014 White House Champions of Change**

**Connecting Transportation and Ladders of Opportunity**

The White House Champions of Change program highlights the stories and examples of citizens across the country, who are doing extraordinary work in their communities. Each week, the Office of Public Engagement (OPE) hosts an event to honor those who are leading the way. Agency and White House leadership participate in the events and host discussions that amplify best practices.

On May 13th, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the White House Office of Public Engagement will host a [Champions of Change](http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions) event on “Connecting Transportation and Ladders of Opportunity.” Selected Champions of Change will be individuals who have provided exemplary leadership to ensure that transportation facilities, services, and jobs help individuals and their communities connect to the 21st century opportunities.

*A champion’s work may include transportation projects, services, or advocacy across all modes of transportation. Examples include*:

* Providing leadership in planning, design, and development of innovative transportation solutions that result in connected communities
* Advancing the use of equity based performance measures and planning initiatives at the state and/or community level.
* Developing and/or implementing transportation safety strategies or innovative transportation safety programs for communities for minority, older adults, limited English proficiency or other at-risk communities
* Establishing transportation workforce training initiatives for disadvantaged workers, including at-risk youth, minority, low income, women, veterans, people with disabilities and others
* Implementing innovative public engagement strategies that ensure full participation by all citizens across the community.
* Providing strategies for streamlining project delivery that provide efficiency and economic benefits for the community.
* Demonstrating best practices in environmental justice related to transportation projects
* Advancing innovative strategies for utilizing disadvantaged businesses in transportation projects.
* Demonstrating leadership in efforts to enhance transportation services for people who may not have access to personal vehicles, including people with disabilities, older adults, and/or people with lower incomes.
* Applying technologies that advance access to transportation for underrepresented communities.

**Nominations are due by midnight on Thursday, March 27th and can be submitted either online or via email:**

**On line Submission:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VRFSFML>
**Email Submission:** **champions@dot.gov** **(Use information on nomination form below)**

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NOMINATION INFORMATION**

*Email submissions: Must include word document using 12 point font. Submissions must be received by midnight on Thursday, March 27, 2014 via email to* *champions@dot.gov*

***Name of Individual to be nominated:***

***Name:***

***Title:***

***Organization/Affiliation:***

***Phone:***

***Email:***

***What specific role has your nominee s played in advancing transportation strategies that connect people to 21st century opportunities? (Limit to 400 words)***

***What have been the benefits or impact of this specific transportation strategy? Please provide specific examples of what change occurred as a result of this work. (Limit to 400 words)***

***Describe one reason that your nominee should be chosen above others as a White House Champion of Change (Limit to 100 words):***

***Your Name:***

***Your Organization/Affiliation:***

***Your Email Address:***

***Your Phone Number****:*

*Please Note: If selected as a White House Champion of Change for Ladders of Opportunity, individuals will be responsible for paying for their travel costs to attend an invitational event at the White House on May 13, 2014.*