



At the Intersection of Multimodal Transportation and the Environment

The Center for Environmental Excellence by AASHTO offers diverse products and programs for technical assistance, training, information exchange, partnership-building opportunities, and quick access to environmental tools. The Center helps practitioners incorporate environmental compliance, sustainability, and stewardship into transportation planning, design, construction, maintenance, operations, project delivery and multimodal systems. For more information, please visit <http://environment.transportation.org>.

How do Multimodal Transportation and Environmental Issues Intersect? A multimodal transportation system provides travelers with an integrated system of automobile, bicycle, pedestrian, transit and



rail networks. Multimodal networks support sustainable transportation by increasing transportation options, reducing traffic congestion and emissions, improving communities, and encouraging the use of active modes to enhance public health. For example, increasing bicycle and pedestrian mode share through efforts such as the Hubway Bikeshare is an important element of MassDOT's sustainability program, one of many examples highlighted on the Center website's [Sustainability Topic](#). (Photo: MassDOT)

Achieving Multimodal Solutions: Through planning, policy development, project support, and funding, transportation agencies are helping communities develop integrated, multimodal transportation networks.



Initiatives such as California Department of Transportation's Smart Mobility Framework and Scorecard, highlighted in a [Case Study](#) on the Center website, help evaluate transportation options available to urban, suburban, and rural residents. "Smart Mobility" goals are based on six principles: location efficiency, reliable mobility, health and safety, environmental stewardship, social equity, and a robust economy. (Photo: Caltrans)

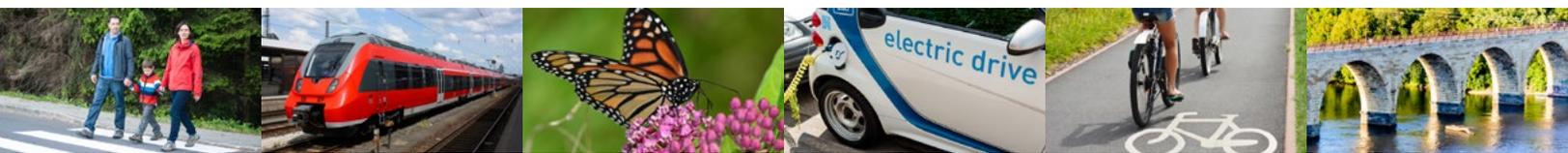
Improving Public Health through 'Active' Transportation:

Promoting multimodal transportation systems can help reduce road congestion and vehicle emissions, while improving mobility options. The Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program provides funds to support projects that reduce transportation emissions, including non-highway modes. The Center website's [Air Quality Topic](#) and [Health and Human Environment Topic](#) provide examples such as Georgia DOT's use of CMAQ funds to support its Georgia Commute Options program, which educates commuters about a range of available multimodal transportation options. The Center also has held a [peer exchange](#) related to health in transportation to share active transportation practices among the DOTs. (Image: Georgia DOT)



Conducting Multimodal Project Reviews under NEPA:

The Center provides a range of resources to help advance multimodal transportation. Practitioners at a peer exchange sponsored by the Center shared information on conducting effective reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act for multimodal projects. Practitioners learned about effective strategies from 12 case studies across the U.S. They also learned of recent legislative changes under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act that could help provide flexibility for multimodal project reviews. Valuable resources from the [Multimodal/NEPA Peer Exchange](#) – including a meeting summary, white paper, and webinar recording – are available to practitioners from all disciplines and modes on the Center website. (Image: AASHTO)





Resources for Multimodal Transportation Practitioners

The Center web site at <http://environment.transportation.org> offers access to a range of products and services for practitioners. The following resources are relevant to Multimodal Transportation Practitioners.

The Center website includes 21 separate environmental topics pertinent to transportation. Information can be sorted by discipline, mode, or state. **Topics of interest include:**

- Air Quality
- Context Sensitive Solutions
- Energy/Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Environmental Justice
- Environmental Management Systems
- Geographic Information Systems
- Health & Human Environment
- Historic Preservation/Cultural Resources
- Indirect Effects/Cumulative Impacts
- Infrastructure Resilience
- Invasive Species/Vegetation Management
- MAP-21
- NEPA Process
- Noise
- Planning & Environment Linkages
- Project Delivery/Streamlining
- Section 4(f)/Section 6(f)
- Sustainability
- Waste Management/Recycling
- Water Quality/Wetlands
- Wildlife & Ecosystems

• **Conference & Workshop Materials:** The Center hosts a number of conferences and workshops for technical assistance, training, information exchange, and partnership-building opportunities. These include:

- Multimodal NEPA Peer Exchange, Webinar, and White Paper on FAST Act multimodal provisions
- Noise Practitioner's Summit
- Environmental Justice Peer Exchange
- Transportation and Health Peer Exchange
- Air Quality Peer Exchange

• **Practitioner's Handbooks:** These comprehensive resources provide practical advice on a range of environmental issues that arise in transportation projects and programs.

• **Regular website updates:** with links to recent policies, reports and research on multimodal transportation and other environment-related topics.

• **Transportation and Environmental Research Ideas (TERI) database:** TERI is a storehouse for tracking and sharing transportation and environment research ideas in over 20 topic areas.

• **Communities of Practice:** The Center facilitates an on-going dialogue with transportation practitioners in the topic areas of air quality, storm water management, and historic bridges.

• **Roadmap for Developing and Implementing Programmatic Agreements and the Programmatic Agreement Tracking Tool:** The Roadmap is a user-friendly web-based tool that guides practitioners through the process to develop and implement a programmatic agreement. The Tracking Tool provides a web-based template for state DOTs to track the benefits of programmatic agreements.

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Center for Environmental Excellence by AASHTO Contact Information

How can we assist you? If you have a particular need for environmental information, technical assistance, partnership-building, or training, please contact us at environment@transportation.org.

