



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration **Federal Highway Administration**
Region V Indiana Division
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December 16, 2020

In Reply Refer To: HAD-IN

Dear Indiana MPO Directors and INDOT:

The Indiana Division Office of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration Region V (FTA) are issuing its annual planning emphasis areas (PEAs) for incorporation into the FY 2022 Unified Planning Work Programs, Statement of Works and the Statewide Planning & Research Part 1 program. They are:

- Pedestrian Safety
- Resiliency
- Metropolitan Planning Area & Urbanized Area Boundaries
- Human Service Coordinated Transportation Plan
- Micromobility

Pedestrian Safety has been highlighted by FHWA recently due to the acknowledgement of the increase in pedestrian fatalities far out pacing the increase in overall traffic fatalities over the past decade (44% increase for ped fatals vs. 9% increase for all fatals). While only one city in Indiana has been designated a pedestrian/bicycle focus city by FHWA, all metropolitan areas would benefit from an emphasis on addressing pedestrian safety in their plans. Eighty-one percent of all pedestrian fatalities occur in urban settings (2018 data). The focus on getting a good handle on the data, data analysis, programming improvements (hot spot and systemic), and constructing projects will ultimately save lives and prevent serious injuries to the most vulnerable users of our transportation system. Here is a resource on how to develop a pedestrian safety action plan: https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped_focus/docs/fhwasa17050.pdf.

Resiliency is one of the ten planning factors per Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act). It is defined as the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from disruptions. INDOT and the MPOs need to ensure resiliency is being considered in the transportation planning process. FAST Act makes reducing the vulnerability of the existing transportation infrastructure to natural disasters a part of the metropolitan transportation plan. It also adds the requirement for MPOs to coordinate with officials responsible for natural disaster risk reductions when developing the MTP and TIP. FHWA anticipates issuing a new guidebook on this subject. In the meantime, please refer to this link for additional information: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/sustainability/resilience/>

INDOT and the MPOs should work together to prepare updates to the Metropolitan Planning Area Boundaries as well as any adjusted Urbanized Area Boundaries as a result of the 2020 Census.

As part of the Human Service Coordinated Transportation Plan (HSCTP) review or update, the Federal Team recommends review of the [Coordinated Council on Access and Mobility \(CCAM\)](#) tools, particularly the [inventory of federal programs](#) that fund transportation. We encourage partnerships with other Federal agencies as there are matching opportunities available to allow for 100% federal support of transit projects. The FTA-funded National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM) can help identify CCAM partners, explore cooperative funding and match programs, and address technical assistance needs. Contact your [NCMM regional liaison](#).

In furtherance of efforts relating the Americans with Disabilities Act compliance and the growing use of micromobility modes and their potential impacts on the pedestrian environment, MPOs, advocacy groups and government partners are encouraged continue to coordinate through the E-Scooter/ADA Committee as coordinated by the statewide MPO Council.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call Erica Tait, FHWA, at 317-226-7481/erica.tait@dot.gov or Cecilia Crenshaw, FTA, at 317/705-1268/ cecilia.crenshaw@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

**JASON M
CIAVARELLA**

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Michelle Allen
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FHWA Indiana Division

Jay Ciavarella
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FTA Region V

cc:

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