



Top Stories

10/24/16 – The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) [issued](#) federal guidance to the automotive industry for improving motor vehicle cybersecurity. The guidance focuses on solutions to ensure vehicle systems are designed to take appropriate and safe actions in the event of a successful attack. This follows the highly autonomous vehicle guidance that NHTSA issued last month. For more information, please see NCSL's [info alert](#).

10/19/16 – DOT [announced](#) a number of actions to enhance protections for air travelers and to promote competition in the airline industry. The actions include: Requiring refunds for delayed baggage; expanding the number of carriers required to report information to DOT on their on-time performance, oversales and mishandled baggage rates; requiring reporting on how often the airlines mishandle wheelchairs; and giving consumers a voice through an extension of its Advisory Committee for Aviation Consumer Protection.

10/19/16 – DOT [announced](#) the establishment of an Advisory Committee on Automation in Transportation (ACAT), which will help determine how, when and where automated technology will transform the way we move. DOT seeks 15 individuals who will serve 2-year terms with no more than two consecutive reappointments.



10/14/16 – The Department of Homeland Security [announced](#) updates for the 32 states and territories that are not currently in compliance with REAL ID. (DHS has determined that 23 states and the District of Columbia are fully compliant). For more information, please see NCSL's [info alert](#).

10/6/16 – DOT's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) [sent](#) notification regarding the State Safety Oversight Program that oversees the safety at rail transit systems. DOT Secretary Anthony Foxx sent letters to governors in affected states encouraging swift action to reach compliance and provide the necessary state resources to deliver a higher level for safety for rail transit system riders and workers.

10/4/16 – DOT's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) [notified](#) states of FY 2017 funding and obligation limits for the period covered by the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2017.

From the Administration

10/25/16 – FHWA [announced](#) a pilot program to permit direct delivery of federal-aid funding of up to five Local Public Agencies (LPAs). The LPAs will be subject to state and federal oversight. Applicants are requested by Nov. 25.

10/25/16 – FHWA [published](#) a list of apportioned program funding and indicated which programs are eligible for transfers from other apportioned programs.

10/14/16 – DOT [issued](#) guidance to states, including certain

minimum elements and a template for their submission of State Freight Plans as required of each state that receives funding for the National Highway Freight Program.

10/13/16 – Foxx [announced](#) \$65 million in grants for 19 local communities across the country to support advanced technology transportation [projects](#).

10/13/16 – DOT [announced](#) \$5 million in emergency relief funding from the FHWA for emergency repairs to roads and bridges damaged by Hurricane Matthew in North Carolina.

10/12/16 – The FTA [announced](#) over \$2.1 billion for the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive Program; 61 projects will be funded across the country.

10/11/16 – The FTA [announced](#) that 16 organizations across the nation will receive a portion of \$14.7 million in grants to support comprehensive planning [projects](#) that improve access to public transit.

10/4/16 – DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration [issued](#) an interim final rule to implement the agency's expanded authority to issue emergency restrictions on oil and gas pipeline operators to address dangerous practices and equipment flaws.

Other

10/14/16 – The Office of Management and Budget and the Treasury Department [released](#) the details of FY 2016 final budget results. The deficit was \$587 billion, an increase of \$148 billion from FY 2015, and 3.2 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

NCSL Resources

Register now for the NCSL Capitol Forum, Dec. 6-9, in Washington, D.C., to tackle critical state-federal issues, gain insight from national experts, and work with committees to craft the States' Agenda. [Registration and housing are now open; early bird registration closes November 14.](#)