

2024 Highway Information Seminar

Monday, December 2 to Friday, December 6

1 pm – 5 pm ET each Day



This 2024 virtual seminar provides training on the latest data needs as related to the Federal-Aid highway program to State and local agency personnel and FHWA division employees who are responsible for collecting, processing, and submitting data and information to the FHWA. Specifically, data needs, technical and policy directives, methods and approaches in dealing with data collection, processing, and submitting will be presented and discussed. The audience for this seminar is state and local agency employees and FHWA division personnel.

The objective of the webinar is to make the Federal-Aid highway program more efficient, transparent, and accountable through accurate and timely data.

18 July 2024

Monday, December 2

Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
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Plenary Sessions

1:00 PM	1:10 PM	Opening Remarks	David Winter	Opening remarks from the Director of the FHWA, Office of Highway Policy Information.
1:10 PM	1:40 PM	Welcome	Keith Benjamin	Welcome from the Associate Administrator for the Office of Policy and Governmental Affairs w/ time for Q&As.
1:40 PM	2:00 PM	Office of Highway Policy Information	David Winter	Overview of the FHWA, Office of Highway Policy Information, the data collected and what they are used for.

Data Analytics and Visualization Division

The Data Analytics and Visualization Division team members will introduce their new team as well as deliver presentations and demonstrations of publicly available FHWA data analytics and visualization products.

2:00 PM	2:15 PM	Opening Remarks	Rory Austin	Welcome and introduction to the new team and its role at FHWA by the Division Chief.
2:15 PM	2:30 PM	Data Analytics & Visualization in Practice: Part 1	Ali Asudegi	Examples of data analytics and visualization products.
2:30 PM	2:45 PM	Data Analytics & Visualization in Practice: Part 2	Jen Andre	Additional examples of data analytics and visualization products.
2:45 PM	3:00 PM	FHWA Wow Wednesday Factoids	Stephen Hickok	Overview of FHWA's Wow Wednesday social media posts and examples of highway data factoids.
3:00 PM	3:15 PM	BREAK		



Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
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Motor Fuel and Highway Finance Division

The Motor Fuel and Highway Finance Division staff will deliver a series of presentations and discussions focusing on topics including, but not limited to, 500-Series data program improvement efforts, program guidance and reporting requirement updates, and highway use taxation program updates and training.

3:15 PM	3:25 PM	Opening Remarks	Ronald Vaughn	A welcome and introduction by the Division Chief, and an overview of ongoing and new initiatives, and recent accomplishments.
3:25 PM	3:45 PM	500-Series Data Reporting Guidebook Update	Kasi Reeves	An overview of the new guidebook with a focus on the highlights/enhancements, accessibility, and plans to maintain and update the guidance moving forward.
3:45 PM	4:05 PM	Highway Finance Program Updates	Clarissa Smith	A recap of the recent changes to the Local Highway Finance (Form 536) reporting requirements and discussion of '24 data reporting expectations and considerations. Additionally, this session will discuss data quality review coordination needs, and plans to initiate a knowledge exchange network for States.
4:05 PM	4:20 PM	Driver Licensing & Vehicle Registration Program Updates	Allison Weber	An overview of the recently modified motor vehicle and licensed driver forms (i.e., Forms 561, 562, 571, and 566) and related requirements and expectations pertaining to the '24 data reporting activities.
4:20 PM	5:00 PM	Heavy Vehicle Use Tax (HVUT) Program Certification Training	Mike Dougherty	A detailed overview of the HVUT program, and mandated annual certification requirements, and related processes. <u>NOTE:</u> This session is primarily intended for FHWA Division Office staff attendees.

Eastern Time

Tuesday, December 3

Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
Motor Fuel and Highway Finance Division (continued from Monday)				
1:00 PM	1:25 PM	Motor Fuel Program Updates	Debbie Phillips	A discussion focusing on temporal needs/specifications for the monthly volume data submissions, tax rate data reporting modifications, and the new Monthly Motor Fuel Consumption (551M) and Motor Fuel Tax Receipts and Initial Distribution (556) forms.
1:25 PM	1:40 PM	Non-Highway Fuel Use Model Development Overview and Status	Mike Dougherty	An informational session which will provide an overview of ongoing efforts to develop a new tool, as mandated by Congress, which will be used for modeling off-road fuel use estimates which serve as input to determining annual fuel consumption and taxation metrics and developing multi-year trends.
1:40 PM	2:05 PM	PLACEHOLDER: Process Mapping Activities for 500-Series Programs	OFC. of Policy / OFC. Infrastructure (Speakers TBD)	An overview of FHWA's Process Mapping program and State agency engagement activities to be conducted in support of 500-Series data improvement efforts.
2:05 PM	2:30 PM	500-Series Process Review Development Effort	Kasi Reeves	An overview of a newly initiated effort to develop and implement a formal process review procedure to be used to evaluate, on a recurring basis, States' business processes and practices employed for fulfilling 500-Series data reporting objectives annually. Additionally, this session will focus on the project's scope, schedule, planned milestones, and implementation plan.
2:30 PM	3:00 PM	Enhanced Driver and Vehicle Data Initiative Updates & Status	Allison Weber	An update on the status of this initiative with a focus on recent accomplishments/milestones, new data reporting specifications forthcoming, IT pilot overview and latest findings, pilot State feedback and coordination, and next steps.
3:00 PM	3:15 PM	BREAK		
3:15 PM	3:55 PM	Fuels and FASH v4.0 Development Update	Ronald Vaughn / Allison Weber / Debbie Phillips	An update on the status, milestones, schedule, and State agency coordination efforts pertaining to phases 1, 2, and 3 of this application development effort. Next steps and implementation timelines will also be discussed during this session.
3:55 PM	4:25 PM	Highway Use Tax Evasion (HUTE) Grant Program Activities	Mike Dougherty	An overview of the program, application process, future opportunities, and latest grant application review and award activities.



Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
4:25 PM	4:40 PM	Motor Fuel Consumption and Dashboard Overview	Debbie Phillips	An overview and demo of the recently deployed Motor Fuel Consumption and Tax Dashboard, and discussion of plans to maintain and update and related Form 551M reporting dependencies.
4:40 PM	5:00 PM	Closing/Wrap-up	All	A summary of the topics discussed, highlights, and key takeaways. And an opportunity for State agency and Division Office staff to engage staff in an open Q&A session.

Eastern Time

Wednesday, December 4

Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
Highway System Performance Division				
The Highway System Performance Division staff will provide a comprehensive and interactive workshop on the latest requirements, guidance, and information pertaining to the reporting of data to the FHWA via the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS).				
1:00 PM	1:10 PM	Opening Remarks	Chris Allen	Overview of HPMS program the past year, highlighting successes, data collection and future activities.
1:10 PM	1:40 PM	HPMS 9	Tom Roff Justin Clarke	Status of software
1:40 PM	1:55 PM	D A T	Terrence Beltz	Overview of the fourth round of reviews and upcoming year.
1:55 PM	2:25 PM	Sampling	Rob Rozycki	HPMS Sampling workflow
2:25 PM	3:00 PM	Mileage	Tom Roff	System mileage consistency across HPMS
3:00 PM	3:15 PM	BREAK		
3:15 PM	3:30 PM	TPM	TBD	Current status and information
3:30 PM	4:00 PM	FMIS	TBD	Background of FMIS process & association with ARNOLD.
4:00 PM	4:30 PM	Adjusted Urban Boundaries / Functional Class	Joe Hausman	Overview
4:30 PM	5:00 PM	Hot Topics	TBD	Miscellaneous topics and/or announcements.

Eastern Time

Thursday, December 5

Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
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Highway System Performance Division (continued from Wednesday)

1:00 PM	2:30 PM	State DOT HPMS Best Practices	State DOT's	TBD (States interested contact Terrence.Beltz@dot.gov)
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2:30 PM	3:00 PM	Open Discussion	All	
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3:00 PM	3:15 PM	BREAK		
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Travel Monitoring and Surveys Division

The goal of these sessions is to enhance and improve attendees' knowledge, skills and ability to obtain credible, consistent, and quality traffic data. Traffic monitoring data collection approaches, processing methods, and reporting will be presented to accommodate a diverse audience in terms of both the breadth and depth of the traffic data program. In addition, audiences will hear from invited speakers sharing their success in traffic data gathering and reporting.

3:15 PM	3:35 PM	Opening Remarks - Welcome, Program and Staff Introductions	Tianjia Tang, PE, Ph.D.	Dr. Tang will share critical aspects of the traffic monitoring and travel behavior program with participants, covering technical and policy-related issues, funding opportunities, alternative data sources, research and development, new data, initiatives, and challenges.
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3:35 PM	3:55 PM	Building the Geospatial National Bicycle Network	Shuqing Wang, PE, Ph.D.	The session will cover the essential attributes of any geospatial bicycle route and demonstrate how such data is used in the building of the geospatial National Bicycle Network. The FHWA's current National Bicycle Network portal will be demonstrated, along with tools used to establish the network. The goal is to share our experiences and observations with the audience to improve data integration and network interconnectivity.
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3:55 PM	4:05 PM	BREAK		
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4:05 PM	4:25 PM	How to Evaluate AADT Derived from Nontraditional Data Sources	Bob Krile, Battelle Memorial Institute, FHWA led TPF-5(384) Contractor Project Manage	Nontraditional traffic data items such as AADT have been available from private businesses on the market for quite some time. This derived traffic data is not based on traditional monitored traffic data (e.g., CCS and portal count data) as input data. Instead, input data may include location-based service (LBS) and/or GPS navigation data. The session will cover how entities can review and compare such data to traditional data regarding data quality. The goal is to share methods and criteria developed through the Pool Fund Project TPF-5(384) for evaluating nontraditional traffic data quality.
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Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
4:25 PM	4:35 PM	The Procedure when Incorporating Nontraditional AADT Traffic Data into HPMS	Steven Jessberger	HPMS data has served as one of the most critical data packages in the Federal-aid highway program. Data quality has been paramount to FHWA's ability to execute the federal-aid program faithfully. While FHWA is championing new technology and new efficient ways of carrying out various business activities, the agency has also taken steps to ensure new processes are meaningful and productive. This session will cover steps as to how a state DOT may proceed when it desires to adopt the nontraditional AADT data into HPMS. The goal is to offer State highway agencies steps on how to proceed.
4:35 PM	5:00 PM	ABC's of Loops and Piezos	Jenna Sinclair, PE	This session will provide a focused overview of the most common traffic monitoring sensors: the loops and piezos. It will cover their theoretical basis, various field configurations and layouts, and the dos and don'ts of in-field practices. The goal is to introduce basic sensor concepts to entry-level traffic monitoring professionals to expedite their acquittance to the profession and also serve as a refresher to seasoned professionals.

Eastern Time

Friday, December 6

Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
Travel Monitoring and Surveys Division (continued from Thursday)				
1:00 PM	1:20 PM	Sharing the Success: FHWA Vehicle Classification – Customizing to Local Specifics	Michael Deamer, Synergy Systems & Services, Inc, on behalf of MDOT	FHWA 13 vehicle classification system has ensured vehicle types operating on all public roadways are grouped into appropriate categories to facilitate a safe and efficient highway system. While the classification system offers a uniform base for specifications used in planning, safety, design, and operations covered by the HCM, the Greenbook, and the Highway Safety Manual, it also enables state highway agencies to develop and deploy a localized system given certain vehicle configurations do have local uniqueness. This presentation will showcase how the State Highway Administration at the Maryland DOT refines its vehicle classification system, meeting both state and Federal needs.
1:20 PM	1:35 PM	WIM Arrays and Aspects of a Successful WIM Program	Steven Jessberger	The WIM program is vital to highway program's planning, freight, safety, design, operations, and maintenance. This session will provide details on the importance of WIM sensor spacing and placement, how to select the right location for a WIM site, and what to avoid when choosing a site. The goal is to facilitate efficient and effective decision-making in dealing with the WIM program.

Begin	End	Session	Presenters	Description
1:35 PM	2:15 PM	HPMS Traffic Data – Ensuring Data Quality	Shuqing Wang, PE, Ph.D.	Traffic data is one of the most critical data components of the HPMS data program. This session will share how the Travel Monitoring and Surveys Division performs the traffic data quality review at the macro and micro levels. The goal is to improve the traffic data processes at both the state and federal levels, enhance mutual understandings regarding traffic data quality reviews and comments, promote new technology and software for data quality control, and boost overall traffic data quality.
2:15 PM	2:40 PM	Traffic Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) Traffic Data Submittal	Patrick Zhang, PE, Ph.D. Philip V. D’Ercole, Chief Data Operations, Traffic Research/Traffic Engineering, Rhode Island Department of Transportation	This session is intended for state highway agency personnel responsible for submitting monthly traffic data (volume, class, and WIM) to FHWA through the TMAS system. Dr. Zhang will present the basic data submittal procedure and how to resolve common errors. Mr. D’Ercole will show how RI DOT has been making the traffic monitoring program a success for quality and timeliness.
2:40 PM	2:45 PM	BREAK		
2:45 PM	3:05 PM	Collecting Pedestrian and Micromobility Data per the Updated 2022 TMG	Rafael Nieto	This session will provide a detailed update on the latest revamp of the pedestrian and micromobility data formats in the 2022 July Traffic Monitoring Guide (TMG). Both the Station Record and the actual Count Record data items will be explained. Compared to the 2016 and the original 2022 TMG, the revamped pedestrian and micromobility data items and data structure are significantly simpler to follow and report. The goal of the session is to inform all traffic monitoring professionals about the updates.
3:05 PM	3:25	Introducing the NHTS Travel Behavior Data and the National Technical Committee Activities	Danny Jenkins, PE	This session will provide an overview of the NHTS travel behavior data collection effort with particular attention given to the new/enhanced questions regarding online shopping, use of privately owned vehicles used for commercial purposes (ride-hailing (Uber/Lyft), deliveries (Amazon, food deliveries, etc.), and micromobility travel (E-scooters, bikes, walking). The session will also cover the National Technical Committee's role and how to participate in this activity. The goal is to augment attendees' traffic monitoring knowledge with behavior data thus enabling comprehensive integration of different travel data.
3:25 PM	3:45 PM	Open Floor – Q/A	All	
3:45 PM	4:00 PM	BREAK		
Close-out Plenary Session				
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Closing Remarks, Q&A	David Winter	Wrap-up and answer any final questions.