

# *EPA's Transportation Partners* **Shortcuts**

*Smart Moves*

*for*

*Healthier  
Communities*



*What's Inside:*

**News from Washington:  
ISTEA Reauthorization**  
*Page 2*

**LGC: Improving the  
Coordination of  
Land Use and  
Transportation Planning**  
*Page 3*

**BFA: Making America  
Walkable Conference to  
be Held in  
Washington, DC**  
*Page 4*



## *ICLEI: Workshop on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Transportation Sector*

**T**he Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, a program of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), held its third training workshop on February 6-8 in Santa Monica, CA. More than eighty participants, including elected officials and transportation planners from the 42 local jurisdictions in the Campaign, took part in the workshop, which focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. Federal government officials, leading researchers, and various transportation advocates also attended the meeting.

The workshop was sponsored by EPA's Transportation Partners, EPA's Office of State and Local Outreach, the Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program, and the City of Santa Monica. In addition to host ICLEI, three Principal Partners (Center for Clean Air Policy, Environmental Defense Fund, and Public Technology, Inc.) and 23 Project Partners attended the workshop.

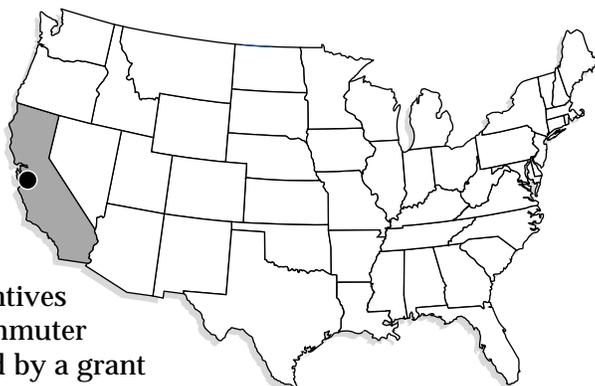
Speakers at the workshop covered a wide variety of issues, including preferential transit planning, parking pricing, market-based measures, intelligent transportation

*Continued on page 2*

### *Project Partner Profile:*

#### *Oakland's Hotlinks Commuter Club*

The City of Oakland, CA has established an innovative commute incentives program entitled the "Hotlinks Commuter Club." The Commuter Club, funded by a grant from the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, is a program available to City of Oakland



*Continued on page 2*



## **ISTEA Reauthorization**

On March 12, the Clinton Administration released its proposal to reauthorize the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), the landmark legislation that enhanced the transportation planning responsibilities of cities and states and increased funding for transportation alternatives. The Administration's new plan, the National Economic Crossroads Transportation Efficiency Act (NEXTEA), is a \$175 billion funding proposal that would increase ISTEA funding levels by more than ten percent.

NEXTEA would continue support for the Transportation Enhancements program, which helps fund bike trails and pedestrian facilities. Funding for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), which assists projects across the country that contribute to meeting national air quality standards, would increase by \$1.8 billion over six years.

Among the proposal's new initiatives is an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Incentives program to support ITS integration in urban areas and infrastructure development in rural areas. Congressional committees are currently considering the Administration's proposal.

## **ICLEI: Workshop on Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Transportation Sector**

*Continued from page 1*

systems (ITS), land use planning to reduce automobile dependency, and vehicle fleet procurement policy. Workshop participants had an opportunity to analyze their community's land use and transportation plans to see how these plans affect automobile dependency and to calculate the annual carbon dioxide emissions from their municipal fleet. Panel discussions covered the use of economic instruments to reduce vehicle travel and the calculation of automobile subsidies in local government budgets.

A number of elected officials in attendance, including Councilor Linda Maio (Berkeley, CA), Councilor Gus Garcia (Austin, TX), Councilor Lee Morris (Atlanta, GA), and Mayor Mike Kadas (Missoula, MT), helped kick off "Climate

Protection Advocates," a network of local officials dedicated to promoting local government perspectives on climate change to the public and in federal and international arenas.

Several jurisdictions have put the knowledge and skills gained at the meeting to work. Aspen, CO and Atlanta, GA are conducting auto subsidy studies, and Saint Paul, MN and Overland Park, CA are considering implementing parking cash-out programs. Three jurisdictions represented at the workshop (Aspen, CO; Milwaukee, WI; and Louisville, KY) have recently asked to be designated as new Project Partners in the Transportation Partners program.

For more information about the workshop, please call ICLEI at (510) 540-8843. ♦

## **Oakland's Hotlinks Commuter Club**

*Continued from page 1*

employees who are willing to use commuting alternatives such as mass transit, carpools, and bicycling.

Employees join the program by signing a pledge to use one or more commuting alternatives at least

three days a week for three months. City employees who use the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) or Alameda County Transit at least three times a week receive a \$20 check each month that can be used to purchase mass transit fares. Employees who

walk, carpool, or bike to work are eligible to win a \$50 check from the Club's "Commuter of the Month" prize drawing. To date, over 600 city employees have signed on to the program, a participation rate of nearly 20 percent. ♦

# LGC: Improving the Coordination of Land Use and Transportation Planning

In the land use decision-making process, a frequent question concerning a new project is: "Will it create more congestion?" or "What effect will my project have on the quality of road service?" Questions asked less frequently in development and planning are: "Will the project in this location let people use non-auto travel to get to their destinations?" and "Will it facilitate or encourage the use of transit?" Although billions of dollars have been invested in transit stations, stops, and equipment, local policies often discourage retail, commercial, and residential development around these investments.

To improve coordination between existing transit and proposed land use, the Local Government Commission (LGC), with support from the Energy Foundation, is developing measurement tools that will help land use and transportation planners better evaluate the transit accessibility of project sites. Several indices are being proposed, including those described below.

The "regional index of transit accessibility," or RITA, could be used by government councils and metropolitan planning organizations as well as local land use and transportation planners. This measure includes a weighted average of travel-time ratios and a more traditional generalized transit accessibility index that uses regional travel models.

The "local index of transit availability," or LITA, is being proposed as an alterna-

tive to the more sophisticated but technically demanding RITA. This transit availability index would not require origin/destination data, but instead be

The Local Government Commission (LGC) is developing measurement tools that will help land use and transportation planners better evaluate the transit accessibility of project sites.

a function of the capacity, frequency, and route density of local transit service. LITA may also allow comparison of transit service levels among different metropolitan areas of roughly comparable population and density.

Development of these transit indices will:

- Identify and map areas of a community with high transit accessibility and target development to those areas.
- Give decision-makers and advocates better information about how new developments will affect efforts to reduce automobile use and to maximize use of the existing transit system. For example, counties and cities could require that certain types of large developments be built on sites with a high transit accessibility rating.
- Assist transit districts in adding and changing transit routes to maximize ridership.
- Provide a tool that helps regional boards prioritize transportation funding allocations.

If you are interested in testing LITA or RITA in your jurisdiction, or need more information about these transit indices, call LGC at (916) 448-1198 or (800) 290-8202. ♦



The Bicycle Federation of America (BFA) recently published a success stories booklet on bicycle and pedestrian planning under ISTEA, titled *The State of the Practice*.

Public Technology, Inc. (PTI) developed a guidebook, *Greening the Fleets*, that takes a fresh look at the use of alternative fuels within municipal fleets.

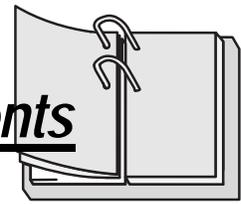
The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) has a new local government guide, *Uncovering Auto Subsidies: Calculating How Much Your Local Government Spends Subsidizing Cars*.

The Surface Transportation Policy Project (STPP) has developed an ISTEA success stories booklet, called *Five Years of Progress: 110 Communities Where ISTEA is Making a Difference*.

Transportation Partners Central is developing a list of Principal Partner services and publications called the *Principal Partner Resource Guide*.

For these and other publications, contact the Principal Partners (See contact information on page 4) or call the TP Hotline at (202) 260-6830.

# Calendar of Events



## TP CONTACTS

**TP HOTLINE**  
(202) 260-6830

**TP Web Site**  
<http://www.epa.gov/oppe/tp>

**TransAct Web Site**  
<http://www.transact.org>



## PRINCIPAL PARTNERS

**Association for  
Commuter Transportation**  
(202) 393-3497

**Bicycle Federation of America, Inc.**  
(202) 463-6622

**Center for Clean Air Policy**  
(202) 408-9260

**Environmental Defense Fund**  
(202) 387-3500

**International Council for Local  
Environmental Initiatives**  
(510) 540-8843

**Local Government Commission:  
Center for Livable Communities**  
(916) 448-1198 or  
(800) 290-8202

**Public Technology, Inc.**  
(202) 626-2400 or  
(800) 852-4934

**Renew America**  
(202) 232-2252  
or (800) 922-RENEW

**Surface Transportation Policy  
Project**  
(202) 939-3470



Date	Event
June 1-6	International Association of Public Transportation's 52nd International Congress on Public Transportation in Stuttgart, Germany.
June 9-11	Natural Resources Canada and U.S. DOE's Workshop on Transportation Fuels in Windsor, Canada.
June 12-13	International Climate Change Conference and Technologies Exhibition in Baltimore, MD.
June 21	LGC's West Side Cities conference on making livable communities, Double Tree Guest Suites, in Santa Monica, CA.
June 24-26	Third national Clean Cities stakeholders conference and exhibition in Long Beach, CA.
June 27-29	LGC's Ahwahnee Livable Communities Conference in San Diego, CA.
July 28-30	UN Development Programme's Second International Conference on Sustainable Growth and Equity in New York, NY.

## ***BFA: Making America Walkable Conference to be Held in Washington, DC***

**T**he Campaign to Make America Walkable, a project sponsored by the Bicycle Federation of America (BFA), will host the 1997 National Pedestrian Conference, *Making America Walkable*, from September 2-6 at the Dupont Plaza Hotel in Washington, DC. Transportation professionals and citizen activists interested in improving pedestrian access in their communities are encouraged to attend.

As more Americans face environmental, traffic, health, and safety problems that come with increased auto dependency, newfound interest in walking is emerging as one effective way to deal with these problems. A recent poll taken by

the BFA confirms that 74% of Americans support improving conditions for walking in their communities. The big question is what can communities do to become pedestrian-friendly.

The *Making America Walkable* pedestrian conference will offer workshops on safety, law enforcement, public education, accessibility, infrastructure, facility design, health, fitness, expanding citizen involvement, public policy, environment, quality of life, and special needs of children, the elderly, and the disabled.

For more details, visit the BFA web site at <http://www.bikefed.org>. ◆