New Online Resource Helps Connecticut Local Agencies Deliver Federal-Aid Projects

Local public agencies (LPAs) own and operate the vast majority of the nation’s highway system. The nation’s local roads network comprises about 3 million miles, or nearly 75 percent, of the overall system, and more than half of the bridges. Local public agencies build and maintain the local roads network using a variety of funding sources, including the Federal-Aid Highway Program. Every year LPAs administer about $7 billion in Federal-aid projects, which can range from short sidewalks and bike-pedestrian facilities to pavement overlays and bridges.

When LPAs receive Federal-aid funding, they begin a process of working closely with their state department of transportation (state DOT) to meet all Federal-aid requirements, such as environmental reviews, civil rights compliance, right-of-way acquisitions, safety, and construction and contract administration. Understanding Federal-Aid requirements is critical to the successful delivery of federally funded projects at the local level. Non-compliance can lead to project delays and LPAs not receiving timely Federal-Aid reimbursements.

To help LPAs meet their Federal-Aid requirements, the Connecticut Technology Transfer Center, in partnership...
with the CT Division of the Federal Highway Administration and the CT Depart-
ment of Transportation launched a new information sharing website, called “Federal Aid Project Information for Connecticut Local Agencies”

www.t2center.uconn.edu/lpa/

The website includes a resource library of more than 80 informational videos developed by FHWA. The videos focus on a single topic in the most critical areas of Federal-Aid. The videos are relatively short at less than 10 minutes, professionally narrated in non-technical language and supported by engaging graphics and animation that gives viewers the most essential content. The videos can be viewed in any sequence from your computer or mobile device.

**SOME OF THE VIDEO TOPICS INCLUDE:**

- Federal-Aid Program Overview
- Civil Rights
- Environment
- Finance
- Right-of-Way
- Project Construction and Contract Administration

The website also includes many Connecticut specific resources, including photos of sample CT Federal-Aid Projects, helpful process flowcharts and a series of Connecticut frequently asked questions.

We are hopeful the new Federal-Aid Information website will help LPAs understand their Federal-Aid requirements as they pursue better, faster and smarter ways of delivering the Federal-Aid program in Connecticut.
The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has rolled out a second wave of innovations for its Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative, an effort focused on shortening the time needed to complete highway projects through the use of new technologies and innovative processes.

FHWA will promote 13 innovations to state, local and regional transportation agencies, as well as to the design and construction industries. These initiatives range from innovative construction management techniques to paving machinery designed to use global positioning systems (GPS) to achieve higher quality, longer-lasting roadways. The Every Day Counts initiative supports the deployment of innovations with proven benefits in getting highway and bridge projects built faster, which includes planning, permitting, and design phases as well as construction.

Many of these innovations offer other benefits such as enhanced safety during construction and through the life of the project; better quality, so that highways and bridges last longer and require less maintenance; and less impact on the driving public during construction.

FHWA looks forward to turning attention to this new set of technologies during the next two years and working with Connecticut’s state and local partners to deliver better, faster and safer roads and bridges.

EDC-2
FHWA Announces Next Wave of Highway Innovations Under its Every Day Counts Initiative

Do You Have a Suggestion for a T2 Safety Brief?

Each month, the T2 Center staff develops a safety brief on important worker safety topics. Do you have a suggestion for one of our Safety Brief topics?

Send your idea to Donna Shea and your name will be entered into a raffle for a prize. You can reach Donna at: Donna.Shea@uconn.edu

If you would like to use our Safety Briefs for your employee safety meetings or toolbox talks, you can download them from our website at: www.t2center.uconn.edu

Coming in Spring, 2013 - Don’t Miss these T2 Training Programs

- Infrastructure Asset Management – March 6, March 7
- Transportation Leadership Program – Developing Teamwork and Communication/Giving Feedback March 12
- Chainsaw Safety – March 26, March 27
- Work Zone Safety – April 16, April 17, April 18
- ATSSA Flagger Certification – May 1
- Effective Communication Skills – May 14, May 15, May 16

Also our 2013 Public Works Academy runs from May 1 – June 5

For more information on these trainings, visit our website at: www.t2center.uconn.edu

LEARN MORE ABOUT EVERY DAY COUNTS AT:
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/everydaycounts/edctwo/index.cfm

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
The CT DOT had two of the winning photographs in the FHWA proven safety countermeasures photo contest.

To see the rest of the national winners, visit the following website: http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/newsletter/photo_winners.cfm

THE ELLINGTON ROUNDABOUT

THE MANCHESTER CORRIDOR ACCESS MANAGEMENT PROJECT
The Connecticut Technology Transfer Center (T2 Center) at UCONN, CT Department of Transportation and the CT Police Chiefs Association (CPCA) are holding the third annual Connecticut Roadway Safety Poster Contest for Children. We want to make roadway safety a priority and are asking the children of Connecticut to help promote roadway safety through art.

Our theme, “Every Life Counts in Connecticut”, focuses on the fact that all of Connecticut’s road users deserve safe and efficient roadways and that those people who work to maintain our roadways deserve a safe workplace. It also means that we are all responsible for doing our part to make those roadways safe.

Students in grades K-6 are invited to submit their impressions of roadway safety. Students should depict those concepts and actions they think are vital to improving roadway safety; what drivers and passengers can do to protect their lives and the lives of those working on the road. Some examples of these concepts are: drive the speed limit, slow down in work zones, don’t be a distracted driver, and follow all road signs.

The contest categories are K-1st grade, 2nd – 4th grade and 5th – 6th grade. Posters should be submitted to the UCONN T2 Center by March 15, 2013. Once the entries are received, they will be voted on by a panel of roadway safety professionals.

The top posters in each category will receive their awards and prizes at an award ceremony held in conjunction with Work Zone Safety Week during April 2013. All winners will receive gift baskets and will be featured on the home page of the UCONN T2 Center’s website. Winners will be notified in writing by April 5, 2013.

For additional information, please contact Mary McCarthy at: mary@engr.uconn.edu or visit the T2 Center website at: www.t2center.uconn.edu

Every Life Counts in Connecticut

2013 Roadway Safety Poster Contest for Children
Start off with cutting your energy use and download The Light Bulb Finder. This app makes it easy to find the right energy-saving light bulbs for your home or office. It considers your lighting fixtures and the lighting quality you prefer. Since it calculates savings and payback period, you can choose which bulbs to replace based on cost, savings and environmental impact.

Then go after those vampire or phantom loads with iGoVampireCalculator. Appliances and electronics that you think are off are still “on,” using standby power to support instant-on, remote control and LED displays. This app can help you reduce your energy usage 10% by calculating how much you’re wasting from different appliances. The typical American home has 40 products that are constantly drawing power and this app can help you do something about it.

We all know that driving contributes to air pollution and gas prices are over-the-top. GreenMeter can make you savvy on the road. It evaluates your driving habits, like how fast you’re going and the way you brake and accelerate so you can make changes that will reduce your fuel consumption and cost and lessen your environmental impact. It’s all done in real time providing instantaneous feedback.

Some other apps that are useful on the road are ParkME, which provides information on the closest, cheapest parking and destinations where spaces are available; and VZ Navigator, a GPS that gives you the quickest route and helps you avoid idling in traffic jams. You’ll reduce fuel use getting to your destination and driving around looking for a place to park in some of the larger cities like Boston and New York.

Reduce, reuse, recycle is the mainstay of the environmental movement and even in Connecticut we can do better and recycle more. iRecycle and My Recycle List are good ways to find a place to recycle whatever it is you need to recycle. No matter where you are, just type in the item and these apps will get you a list of nearby recyclers.

Want to be even greener? Try GoodGuide before buying to see how the products rate on their health, environmental and social performance, then try Eco footprint to see how you rate.

If your phone still has battery power to spare and you feel you haven’t covered all the bases, you can download Ecotips or Green Living Tip of the Day (that sends you a tip a day) and the My Planet app to show you how the choices you make impact the environment.

In the old days, when you had to be in the same room to play a game with a friend or at a store to shop, it was harder to know how to save the planet. Now there are no excuses since technology has changed our lives.

START DOWNLOADING!

Reprinted from the Fall, 2012 Pollution Prevention View - P2 View is published by the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, Office of Pollution Prevention. Editor: Judy Prill.
T2 INFO TO GO is a regular feature of the Connecticut Technology Transfer newsletter that highlights selected materials and resources you might like to take away with you. In this issue, we focus on Transportation Asset Management and Pavement Preservation. If you would like any of the materials that are available from the Technology Transfer Center, please contact Stephanie Merrill at (860) 486-6446 or smerrall@engr.uconn.edu.

Resource Compilations

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION TOOLBOX CD
Available from the Technology Transfer Center, this CD is a one-stop library of information on recent technologies, concepts, and practices in pavement preservation. Provides an easily accessible collection of documents and resources to help manage their highway assets.

Web Sites providing a wealth of topic-specific information, including guidance, training opportunities, and online materials:

FHWA ASSET MANAGEMENT
Federal Highway Administration
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/asset/index.cfm

FHWA PAVEMENT PRESERVATION
Federal Highway Administration
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/pres.cfm

NATIONAL CENTER FOR PAVEMENT PRESERVATION
Michigan State University
http://www.pavementpreservation.org/

TSP•2
Transportation System Preservation Technical Services Program
http://www.tsp2.org/

Publications

ASSET MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW
Federal Highway Administration
Identifies steps, challenges, and strategies in implementing a Transportation Asset Management program.
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/asset/if08008/assetmgmt_overview.pdf

A QUICK CHECK OF YOUR HIGHWAY NETWORK HEALTH
Federal Highway Administration/National Center for Pavement Preservation
Describes a method that can be used by agency administrators to determine the adequacy of highway network resource allocation effort with minimal calculations. Includes links to Quick Check presentation and Quick Check spreadsheet.
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/preservation/if07006.cfm

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION CHECKLIST SERIES
Federal Highway Administration/Foundation for Pavement Preservation

Limited numbers of spiral-bound hard copies of checklists 1 through 13 are available from the Technology Transfer Center.

- Checklist #1 Crack Seal Application
- Checklist #2 Chip Seal Application
- Checklist #3 Thin Hot Mix Application
- Checklist #4 Fog Seal Application
- Checklist #5 Microsurfacing Application
- Checklist #6 Joint Sealing Portland Cement Concrete Pavements
- Checklist #7 Diamond Grinding of Portland Cement Concrete Pavements
- Checklist #8 Dowel-Bar Retrofit for Portland Cement Concrete Pavements
- Checklist #9 Partial-Depth Repair of Portland Cement Concrete Pavements
- Checklist #10 Full-Depth Repair of Portland Cement Concrete Pavements
- Checklist #11 Hot In-Place Asphalt Recycling Application
- Checklist #12 Cold In-Place Asphalt Recycling Application
- Checklist #13 Slurry Seal Application
- Checklist #14 Fabric Interlayer Application

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION ROUNDTABLE
CT Technology Transfer Center
Summary report and sample specifications from 2008 roundtable discussion.
http://www.t2center.uconn.edu/safetybriefs.php#roundtablereports
Videos

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT
Presented by Mr. Paul Brown on July 11, 2007
CT Technology Center Transfer Streaming Media Presentation
http://www.ct.gov/dot/T2assetmanagement

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE: PROJECT SELECTION—
RIGHT ROAD, RIGHT TREATMENT, RIGHT TIME
Federal Highway Administration/Foundation for Pavement Preservation, 29:19
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51YLS6WBmnl
VHS-format videotape available for loan from the Technology Transfer Center.

PROTECTING OUR PAVEMENTS: PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE
Federal Highway Administration/Michigan Department of Transportation, 14:14
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLmnoBMm8x4
VHS-format videotape available for loan from the Technology Transfer Center.

You Don’t Know What You are Missing!

If you are not a subscriber to our electronic public works listserv, you are missing a great deal of important information. Not only information from the T2 Center, but information that is being shared by your colleagues in the CT public works community.

WHAT IS IT? An e-mail message system to reach the municipal public works departments. Provides a way to pose questions, share concerns and solutions. Also provides Connecticut municipalities a way to share job opportunities for the public works community.

HOW CAN I BE A PART OF IT? Easy, just e-mail Mary McCarthy at mary@engr.uconn.edu and she will sign you right up. There is no cost to participate. Don’t miss any more great information, join today!

Congratulations 2012 Graduates!
Technology Transfer Center Request Form

_____ Please change my address/contact information as indicated below.

_____ Please add this person to the mailing list. _____ Please remove this person

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________

Agency/Organization: ____________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: __________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________ Fax: _________________ E-Mail: _________________

I would like to see a future newsletter article on the topic of: __________________

I would like to suggest the following future training topics be offered by the T2 Center:

________________________________________________________________________

I would like to request the following informational resource materials:

________________________________________________________________________

Please fax a copy of this form to (860) 486-5718 or mail to:

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