



Nor'wester newsletter

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PNWA staff and members participate in Congressional roundtable on WRDA

Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA) Executive Director Kristin Meira and several Northwest port representatives participated in a Congressional roundtable on Friday, April 20th in Coos Bay. The policy discussion was hosted by Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Rep. Garrett Graves (R-LA) and Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA). Representing the region's ports were Port of Grays Harbor Executive Director Gary Nelson, Port of Coos Bay Chief Executive Officer John Burns, Port of Bandon Commissioner Rick Goche and Port of Port Orford Commission President Tom Calvanese. Serving as Ranking Member of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, Congressman DeFazio brought his colleagues to visit the Oregon Coast to highlight funding needs for Northwest ports. The focus of the discussion was to inform the Committee as they develop the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

PNWA represents over 135 members from Oregon, Washington and Idaho including ports along the Columbia River, in Puget Sound and on the Oregon and Washington coasts. Remarks at the roundtable focused on the importance of continued funding to maintain the federal waterways leading to these ports. This funding is critical to ensuring navigation channels are dredged and jetties are maintained, allowing for safe and efficient movement of goods in and out of our region's deep draft harbors.

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Funding is also critical for Northwest small and mid-size ports, whose survival often depends on access to the open ocean. The ports are home to commercial fishing fleets, marinas and recreational facilities. Many have breaking bars, serve as harbors of refuge for those who make their living on the ocean, and provide critical access for Coast Guard search and rescue efforts. Without funding, jetties would deteriorate and navigation channels would silt in, leaving coastal communities in economic peril.

As we continue to highlight the needs of our large and small ports that need dredging and jetty work, our membership has also adopted a position supporting HMTF reform that ensures U.S. jobs and U.S. ports are not at a competitive disadvantage, and provides for improvements at naturally deep-water "donor" ports like the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma, which together are the third largest container gateway in North America.

WRDA is legislation where these funding and policy challenges can be addressed, and PNWA applauds Rep. DeFazio for bringing the conversation to our region as the Committee prepares to draft the next iteration of the bill. "Congressman DeFazio and our Members of Congress in the Northwest truly understand the importance of ports and the local, regional and national benefits they provide," stated Kristin Meira. "This is an exciting opportunity to highlight the perspectives of both small and large ports for decision makers outside our region. Our Congressional leaders are considering policies that will have great impacts on U.S. ports and we are so pleased the Northwest has a seat at the table."



BUILD Transportation Grant Program accepting applications

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has announced they are accepting applications for \$1.5 billion in grant funding for National Infrastructure Investments. Formerly known as the TIGER grant program, the newly named [Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development \(BUILD\) Transportation Discretionary Grants program](#), will award funding to surface transportation projects based on several criteria including safety, economic competitiveness, and innovation. Applications must be submitted to [Grants.gov](#) by 8:00 p.m. EDT on July 19, 2018.

DOT is hosting a series of webinars for information on how to compete for BUILD Transportation Grants:

- May 24th, 11am-1pm PST - How to compete for BUILD Transportation Grants for all applicants
- May 29th, 11am-1pm PST - Rural and tribal applicants
- May 31st, 11am-1pm PST - How to prepare a benefit cost analysis for a BUILD application

Details and registration information can be found at <https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants>. For additional information visit the BUILD website, or email BUILDGrants@dot.gov.

FHWA accepting applications for \$60M in transportation funding

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has [announced](#) that applications are due June 18th for the FY 2018 [Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment \(ATCMTD\) program](#). The ATCMTD program provides funding to eligible entities to develop model deployment sites for large-scale installation and operation of advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment. Ranging between 5 and 10 awards each year, the ATCMTD program is funded at \$60 million, with no more than \$12 million given to a single grant recipient each fiscal year. Eligible applicants include state or local government or political

subdivision thereof, transit agency, MPO (representing populations of more than 200,000), multijurisdictional groups of eligible applicants, and consortium of research or academic institutions.

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is published in [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) (search using "693JJ318NF00010") or accessed directly at: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=303763>. A webinar covering the details of the program and the NOFO is being scheduled. If you have any questions, please contact the ATCMTD Program Manager, David Harris by email at David.Harris@dot.gov or call (202) 366-2825.

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