



FHWA Livability Overview

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Overview

- History & Defining Livability
- Current FHWA Activities
- Future



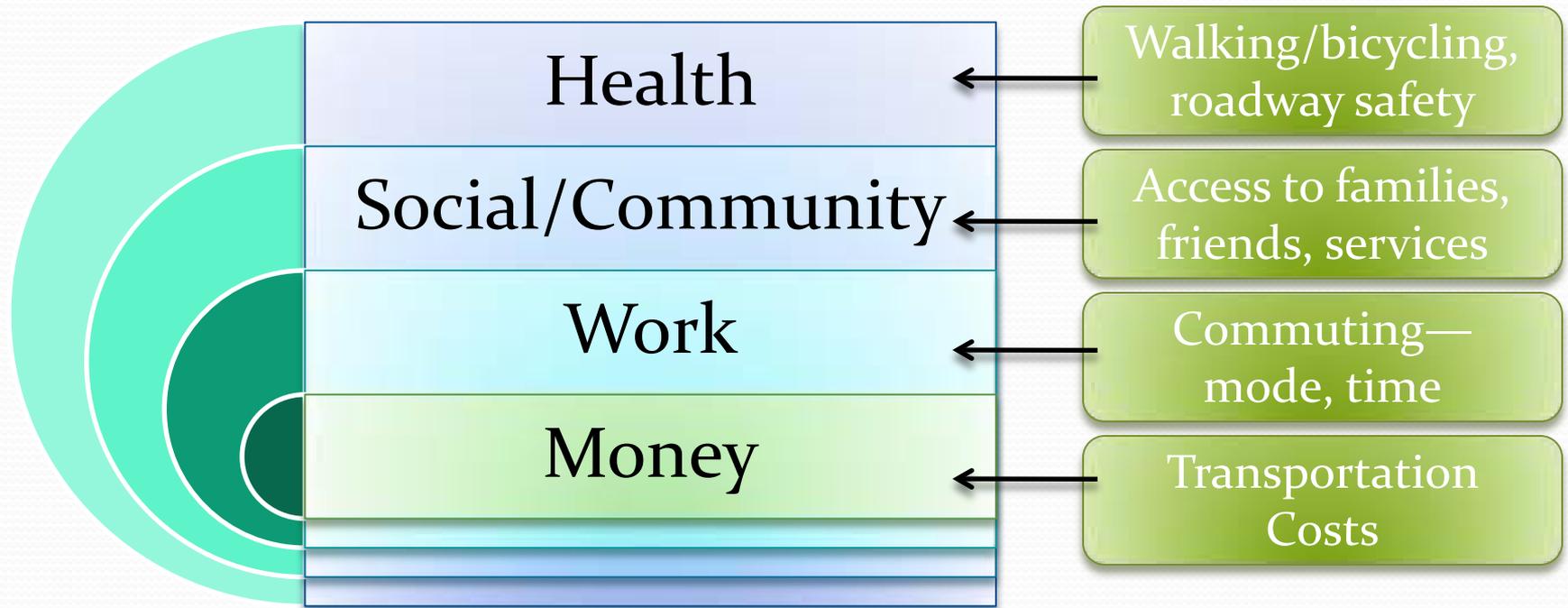
History

- Livability has been a national initiative before...
 - Carter Administration's *Livable Cities Program*
 - Clinton-Gore Administration's *Building Livable Communities Program*
- Now...
 - Obama Administration's *Livability Initiative and the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities*

What is quality of life for an individual?



Transportation affects livability for individuals and communities



What are Livable Communities?

A livable community is one in which people have multiple, convenient transportation and housing options as well as destinations easily accessible to people traveling in and out of cars.

Livable Communities are where people have access to many different forms of transportation and affordable housing....."

U.S. DOT Secretary, Ray LaHood

See www.dot.gov/livability for more on DOT's perspective.



History

- Livability builds off existing resources, policies, and programs:
 - Context Sensitive Solutions
 - Scenario Planning
 - Planning and Environment Linkages
 - AASHTO Bike and Pedestrian Guides
 - New funding programs from ISTEA and SAFETEA-LU (e.g., Safe Routes to School)
 - Increased options for project eligibility

Transportation Planning

- State and MPO Planning
- 23 CFR 450.200 and 450.300
 - ...to carry out a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive multimodal transportation planning process...that encourages and promotes the safe and efficient development, management, and operation of surface transportation systems to serve the mobility needs of people and freight (including accessible pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) and foster economic growth and development, while minimizing transportation-related fuel consumption and air pollution...

HUD-DOT-EPA Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities—Guiding Principles



**Provide More
Transportation
Choices**



**Coordinate Policies
and Leverage
Investment**



**Promote Equitable,
Affordable Housing**



**Enhance Economic
Competitiveness**



**Support Existing
Communities**



**Value Communities and
Neighborhoods**

Livability—Facilities



Livability Helps Rural Communities

- Challenges to address:
 - Roadway safety on rural roads is a major concern
 - Emergency response times
 - Connectivity of rural roads
 - Ensuring that senior citizens can get to services and destinations
 - Keeping young families in the community



FHWA Activities—Livability Web Site

- Existing funding sources to support livability
- Division contacts
- Case studies

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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Livability Initiative

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Livability Activities
Case Studies
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Resources

Contacts

FHWA Office of Planning
Contacts

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Livability Initiative

A Few Words from Victor Mendez, Federal Highway Administrator

Welcome to the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Livable Communities webpage. This webpage is intended to provide information on the FHWA Livability Initiative as well as provide updates on the DOT/HUD/EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities.

I am honored to be a part of the most exciting time in the history of American highways. I will work to continue improving the relationship between infrastructure and community needs, specifically to improve a community's 'livability,' to enhance the environmental sensitivity of roads and bridges and to help states explore multi-modal transportation options. There is much work ahead of us, but I look forward to it. Our mission is to bring you the highway system you deserve, and I welcome the challenge.

Victor Mendez, Federal Highway Administrator



What is Livability?

- Livability is defined as providing transportation choices that promote place-based transportation policies that are centered on people. A livable community is one in which people have multiple, convenient transportation and housing options as well as destinations easily accessible to people traveling in and out of cars. Livable communities also encourage mixed-use, multi modal neighborhoods with highly-connected streets promoting mobility for all users. Livability is about planning and designing transportation projects that preserve and enrich the unique character of rural, urban, and suburban communities.

Highlights

HUD/DOT/EPA [Interagency Partnership](#) for Sustainable Communities.

The Partnership will focus on the following areas for this year:

- Respond to recommendations made by Stakeholders
- Align funding in regards to HUD's NOFA and DOT's NOFA
- Build regional capacity and collaboration between agency field offices
- Make visible progress coordinating federal planning requirements for housing, transportation, air quality, and water infrastructure.
- EPA's [Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Projects](#).

[More...](#)

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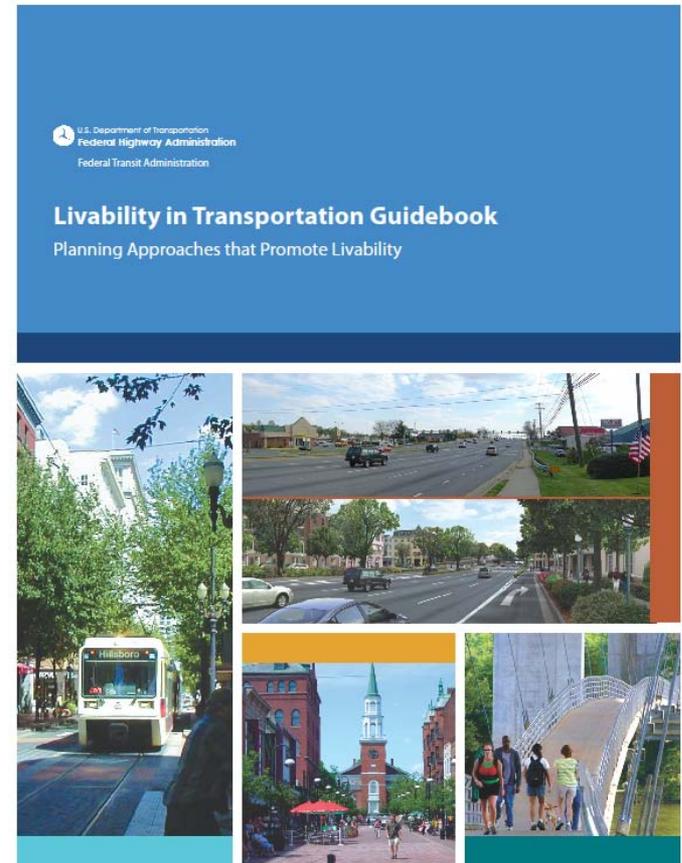
FHWA

United States Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration

FHWA Activities—Livability Guidebook

- Designed as a practitioners resource and guide
- For MPOs, State DOTs and others in the advancement Of livable community developments
- Developed with FTA

• *Available very soon on www.fhwa.dot.gov/livability*



FHWA Activities—Livability Guidebook

- Demonstrates the importance of linking land use and transportation planning
- Ties together a wide range of overlapping objectives:
 - Walkable Communities
 - Transit Oriented Development
 - Complete Streets
 - Context Sensitive Solutions
 - Healthy Neighborhoods
 - Smart Growth
 - Sustainability

FHWA Activities— Strategies for Livable Communities

- Developing resources to support practitioners:
 - Research Paper
 - Differentiate between livability and sustainability
 - *Sustainability*: Improving energy efficiency, reducing dependence on oil, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and benefitting the environment.
 - Livability Workshops
 - Toolbox of Training Materials
 - Model Regional Comprehensive Livability Plan

FHWA /DOT Activities— Bicycle/Pedestrian Policy Statement

- US DOT Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Regulations and Recommendations (March 2010)
 - “Every transportation agency, including DOT, has the responsibility to improve conditions and opportunities for walking and bicycling and to integrate walking and bicycling into their transportation systems.”



FHWA Activities—SEP-14

- Opportunity
 - Conflicting contract requirements for HUD and FHWA funds.
- Solution
 - Special Experimental Project No. 14 (SEP-14) to permit, on a case-by-case basis, the application of HUD requirements on Federal-aid highway projects.

FHWA Activities—TIGER II

- Joint Planning Grants with HUD
 - \$40 million in HUD grants; up to \$35 million in DOT planning grants
- TIGER II
 - \$600 million available
 - Grant criteria include:
 - *Livability: Fostering livable communities through place-based policies and investments that increase transportation choices and access to transportation services for people in communities across the United States.*

The Future of Livability for FHWA

- Funding program
 - FY 2011 Budget Request from DOT:
 - “\$200 million in highway funding for a competitive livability grant program to assist ...in integrating project and development planning processes within transportation, land use, and natural resource conservation in both urban and rural communities.”
- Performance measures



FHWA Livability Contacts

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