

# The Flash

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**SAFER ROADS SAVE LIVES**

The American Traffic Safety Services Association

## **New York City Fire Department: Urgent Assistance Needed**

The New York City Fire Department seeks donations of very specific equipment and supplies to aid them in their ongoing rescue efforts. Items needed are industrial battery-operated lamps and lanterns (non-propane), shovels, flashlights, light sticks, sterile isotonic buffered eyewash (in portable bottles), liquid ECG conductor, emesis basins, safety goggles, dust masks, heavy duty work gloves, bath towels and large biohazard bags. Donations from companies close in proximity to New York City are best, however donations from any area will be considered. Contact Jocelyn Greenwood of the New York City Fire Department at (718) 999-1319, (718) 999-2287 or by e-mail at relief@verticalnet.com. *(To show that Americans stick together, today has been declared "Flags Across America Day." All Americans are asked to display the American flag either in their homes or cars to keep the meaning of United in the United States of America – Ed.)*

## **MUTCD in Stock, Previous Orders Shipped**

The Millennium Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices is in stock at the ATSSA headquarters. All previously placed orders have been shipped. New orders may be placed for the Chapter version, the full perfect bound version, or the special edition Parts One, Five and Six printed to fit easily into a vehicle's glove compartment. To order the new manual, visit the "Products" link of [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com) or call (877) 642-4637. *(The CD-ROM version of the MUTCD is scheduled for shipment next week. Order today. – Ed.)*

## **Career Opportunity with ATSSA**

ATSSA is vastly expanding "Chapter Relations" support services and qualified applicants are sought to join the winning team. Applicants should have a minimum of three years experience in the roadway safety industry, preferably in the pavement marking discipline, and must be willing to relocate to the Fredericksburg, Va. area. Applicant must also possess strong verbal and computer skills, be member services oriented and be willing to travel. Resumes should be e-mailed to Sue Sherman at [sues@atssa.com](mailto:sues@atssa.com), or contact David McKee at (800) 272-8772, ext. 128 for more information.

## **FHWA Outlines Anticipated FY-02 Funding Levels**

FHWA has issued a notice to Division Administrators outlining anticipated funding levels that each state will receive in FY-02. Included are a series of seven tables providing the state-by-state impacts from minimum guarantee calculations, the addition of \$4.5 billion in revenue aligned budget authority and take downs in funding for states that were subject to penalties for not complying with various safety provisions. In all, about \$30.3 billion will be apportioned to the states. To link to the FHWA site for more information, visit the "Important Announcements" link of [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com).

## **FHWA Responds to Six Interpretation Letters**

Since the last issue of *The Flash*, FHWA has responded to six Interpretation Letters received from the field. The topics include the classification of speed bumps as traffic control devices, two requests to approve experimentation with the "Please Slow Down, My Mommy/Daddy Works Here" work zone signs, an interpretation regarding the combination "No Left Turn" and "No U-Turn" signs, interpretation of the MUTCD Section 7B.08 (School Advance Warning Signs, S1-1) and permission to experiment with use guidelines for Type A Portable Message Signs. The original Interpretation Letters along with the recent responses from the FHWA are located at the "Public Information" link of [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com).

## **Plans Underway for NWZAW III, Oct. Meeting Planned**

The third annual National Work Zone Awareness Week is scheduled for April 8-12, 2002. The national event will occur near the massive Woodrow Wilson Bridge work zone project on I-95. The first planning meeting for this event will begin at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 4 at FHWA, Room 4342. Due to recent events around the country, anticipate delays at security checkpoints at FHWA and elsewhere. Those planning to attend this meeting can expedite access to FHWA headquarters by contacting FHWA's Mike Robinson at (202) 366-2193 to be pre-registered in the visitor's log. Plan on arriving early.

## **Practical Solutions to Transportation Issues**

The National Cooperative Highway Research Program and Transit Cooperative Research Program are applied, contract research programs with an objective of developing near-term, practical solutions to problems and issues facing transportation agencies. Proposals and responders must show strong capabilities gained through extensive successful experiences in relevant problem areas. Any agency interested in submitting a proposal or response should first make a frank, thorough self-appraisal to determine whether or not the proposal possesses the capability and experience necessary to ensure successful completion of the project. To view project statements for which proposals or responses are requested, visit [www4.trb.org/trb/crp.nsf/rfps](http://www4.trb.org/trb/crp.nsf/rfps) (this address is correct).

### **ITS America Seeks Public Comment**

ITS America is nearing the completion of the development of the National ITS 10-Year Program Plan & Research Agenda. This document is the result of a joint effort of the U.S.-DOT and ITS America required under TEA-21, and will serve as a resource document for next reauthorization in 2003. There has been extensive participation by the ITS stakeholder community in the preparation of the current draft. The draft document is available under "Important Documents" at the "Public Information" link of [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com). Comments can be submitted in Microsoft Word to Larry Schulman at [lschulman@itsa.org](mailto:lschulman@itsa.org).

### **Poll Respondents Say "Build More Roads"**

A recent Chicago Tribune/WGN television survey reveals "thirty-five percent of the nearly 1,200 suburban residents polled throughout the Chicago area called traffic a major problem, up from 30 percent in a similar poll just two years ago when traffic also led the complaint list." Coupled with those that find traffic congestion "somewhat" of a problem, the percentage jumps to 68. What's the solution? "Build more roads" was the answer of 51 percent of the respondents. Thirty-five percent supported more public transportation options, such as trains and buses, but only as a means to get other drivers off the road. Many prefer driving to mass transit. Eighty percent polled said they commute to work alone. When asked whether they would take public transportation if a financial incentive were offered, 49 percent reported they would never ride mass transit primarily because it is not convenient. The poll showed that all respondents strongly favored working flexible hours (69%) or working from home (60%) as a means to combat congestion. (*Article courtesy the American Highway Users Alliance – Ed.*)

### **ATSSA "Dollars" Giveaway at [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com)**

Take a minute to possibly win some dollars. Visit [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com) and complete a short electronic survey to critique the look and feel of ATSSA's all-new website. Every 1000th survey submitted in September, October and November will win 500 "ATSSA Dollars," redeemable for ATSSA events, products or services. Some limitations apply, therefore view the official rules posted at the "Important Announcements" link of [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com). The survey can be accessed by clicking on the money symbol found at the top left portion of any section page of [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com).

### **Parents: Hold the Keys Until the Contract is Signed**

Car crashes are a leading cause of permanent injury and death and teenage drivers are frequently cited as "at-fault" in these accidents. Parents can now become actively involved to help reduce the risk of teenager-involved car crashes. The "I Promise Program" charges parents, teenagers and communities to all participate in a lifesaving program. A parent-teen mutual safe driving contract is signed committing all drivers in the family to safe driving practices. The contract is then strengthened by a rear window decal displaying a toll free number to facilitate community reports of driver behavior, similar to trucks who display "report unsafe driving" stickers on their trailers. Reports of questionable – or complimentary – driver behavior are taken by a call center where the information is sent via first class mail to the family. Additionally, the presence of the sticker on the vehicle encourages adult drivers at the wheel to practice effective roadway safety as well as their teenage children. For more information or to register for the program, visit [www.ipromiseprogram.com](http://www.ipromiseprogram.com) or e-mail [info@ipromiseprogram.com](mailto:info@ipromiseprogram.com).

### **Essay Competition Offers Tremendous Cash Awards**

The FHWA is proud to be the U.S. sponsor of the World Road Association International Essay Competition. The competition focuses on the skills, vision and imagination of today's established and upcoming transportation professionals or college students. The purpose of the contest is to stimulate new ideas in response to the challenge of the world's transportation demands for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. There are four national essay awards. The U.S. winners for each of the four awards will each receive \$4,000. To learn more about the essay competition, rules and the evaluation process, visit [www.piacr.org/Piacr\\_Prizes/piacr.html](http://www.piacr.org/Piacr_Prizes/piacr.html).

### **Flash Fact**

Some form of driver distraction, including talking, eating, reading, or even changing radio stations, is involved in 20 to 30 percent of all crashes (*Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration*).

### **ATSSA Calendar \***

Sept. 18 Arizona Chapter Meeting, Ariz.-DOT, 208 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Ave., Phoenix  
Oct. 18 Heart of America Chapter Annual Golf Tournament, Tampa, Fla.  
Oct. 24-25 Florida Chapter Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament, Tampa, Fla.  
Nov. 9 Ohio Chapter Meeting, Columbus, Ohio  
Dec. 4 Texas Chapter Meeting, Austin, Texas  
Feb. 8-12, 2002 ATSSA Annual Convention and Traffic Expo, Dallas  
April 8-12, 2002 National Work Zone Awareness Week

\* *Contact your local Chapter President to find out more about specific events in your area.*

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