

Title 23, United States Code (U.S.C.), and reauthorized and expanded significantly in 1998 under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century and again under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users in 2005. The NSBP is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve, and enhance selected roads throughout the United States. Before 2019, Congress last authorized discretionary NSBP funds in 2012 under the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012. Between 1992 and 2012, FHWA awarded over \$505 million in NSBP grants. In 2022, FHWA awarded approximately \$21.8 million in grants to 33 projects.

Respondents: The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), announcing up to \$34.3 million of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, 2024, and 2025 funding for the National Scenic Byways Program (NSBP) discretionary grants, will be available for State DOTs and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes on *grants.gov*. FHWA is expecting roughly 200 applicants to apply for NSBP grant funding.

Frequency: NOFOs and grant solicitations will be published annually by FHWA but, are subject to the availability of funds in appropriations or, any legislation signed into law authorizing funds.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 3 hours per respondent per applicant.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: It is expected that the respondents will complete approximately 200 applications for an estimated total of 600 annual burden hours.

Title: National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program (Culvert AOP).

Background: FHWA administers the Culvert AOP. It was established by Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) in section 21203 of IIJA and codified at 49 U.S.C. 6703. The Culvert AOP Program prioritizes projects that would improve fish passage for: (A) anadromous fish stocks listed as an endangered species or a threatened species under section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533); (B) anadromous fish stocks identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that could reasonably become listed as an endangered species or a threatened species under that section; (C) anadromous fish stocks identified by the NMFS or the USFWS as prey for endangered species, threatened species,

or protected species, including Southern resident orcas (*Orcinus orca*); or (D) anadromous fish stocks identified by the NMFS or the USFWS as climate resilient stocks. 49 U.S.C. 6703(e)(1). The program also prioritizes projects that would open up more than 200 meters of upstream habitat for anadromous fish before the end of the natural habitat. Under IIJA, Congress authorized \$1 billion for Fiscal Years (FY) 2022 through 2026 to provide financial assistance to Culvert AOP Program eligible projects. In 2022, FHWA awarded \$196 million in grants to 59 tribal, state and, local governments to fix or remove 169 culvert barriers to improve fish passage.

Respondents: The NOFO announcing up to \$788.1 million of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026, funding for Culvert AOP competitive grants will be available for tribal, state, and local governments on *grants.gov*. FHWA is expecting roughly 200 applicants to apply for Culvert AOP grant funding.

Frequency: NOFOs and grant solicitations may be published annually by FHWA but are subject to the availability of funds in appropriations or any legislation signed into law authorizing funds.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 3 hours per respondent per applicant.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: It is expected that the respondents will complete approximately 200 applications for each program, for an estimated total of 600 annual burden hours.

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA's performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burdens; (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: September 17, 2025.

Jazmyne Lewis,

Information Collection Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2025-0325]

NHTSA Safety Research Portfolio Public Meeting: Fall 2025 and Public Workshop on Automated Driving Systems

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) will hold a public meeting on October 21–22, 2025, jointly organized by the NHTSA's Vehicle Safety Research and Behavioral Safety Research offices. The event will provide updates and insights into ongoing activities across NHTSA's research programs. The meeting will be held in-person and will feature panel presentations by representatives from both research offices. Each panel will conclude with an opportunity for the audience to ask technical questions related to the presented materials. Visual slides used in presentations will be made available in the public docket following the public meeting. The event will not be live streamed; however, panel presentations will be recorded and made available on the NHTSA website after the event. At the conclusion of the research presentations on October 22, 2025, the Agency will also host a special workshop on selected topics of interest related to Automated Driving Systems (ADS). The ADS workshop will not be livestreamed or recorded.

DATES: NHTSA will hold the Safety Research Portfolio public meeting on October 21–22, 2025. The ADS workshop will be held on October 22, 2025. Attendees must register no later than October 17, 2025. The public docket will remain open for comments for 90 days following the public meeting, until January 23, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The Research public meeting and the ADS workshop will both be held in-person at the DOT Headquarters: 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Atrium, Washington, DC 20590.

Registration: Attendees must register at <https://www.nhtsa.gov/events/nhtsa-safety-research-portfolio-public-meeting-fall-2025>. Please follow the registration instructions presented on the registration site.

Comments: You may submit comments about either the public

meeting or the workshop by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** Docket Management Facility: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- **Hand Delivery or Courier:** 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call 202-366-9826 before coming.

- **Fax:** 202-366-1767.

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and docket number. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act discussion below.

Docket: For access to the docket go to <http://www.regulations.gov> at any time or to 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. Telephone: 202-366-9826.

Privacy Act: Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78), or you may visit <http://www.regulations.gov/privacy.html>.

Confidential Business Information: If you wish to submit any information under a claim of confidentiality, you must submit your request directly to NHTSA's Office of the Chief Counsel. Requests for confidentiality are governed by part 512. NHTSA is currently treating electronic submission as an acceptable method for submitting confidential business information to the agency under part 512. If you would like to submit a request for confidential treatment, you may email your submission to Dan Rabinovitz in the Office of the Chief Counsel at Daniel.Rabinovitz@dot.gov or you may contact him for a secure file transfer link. At this time, you should not send a duplicate hardcopy of your electronic CBI submissions to DOT headquarters. If

you claim that any of the information or documents provided to the agency constitute confidential business information within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4), or are protected from disclosure pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1905, you must submit supporting information together with the materials that are the subject of the confidentiality request, in accordance with part 512, to the Office of the Chief Counsel. Your request must include a cover letter setting forth the information specified in our confidential business information regulation (49 CFR 512.8) and a certificate, pursuant to § 512.4(b) and part 512, appendix A. In addition, you should submit a copy, from which you have deleted the claimed confidential business information, to the Docket at the address given above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about the research portion of the public meeting, please contact Jennifer Oxenham at jennifer.oxenham@dot.gov or Sierra Espeland at sierra.espeland@dot.gov or 202-366-7409. If you have questions about the ADS workshop, please contact Debbie Sweet at debbie.sweet@dot.gov or 202-366-7409.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Each year, NHTSA executes a broad array of research programs in support of Administration, DOT, and agency priorities. The Agency's research portfolio covers a diverse range of program areas pertaining to vehicle safety, including automotive technologies that help drivers avoid crashes; ADS; vehicle cybersecurity; crashworthiness, including occupant protection and advanced crash test dummies; and behavioral safety, which includes safety countermeasures that pertain to the behavior and actions of drivers, occupants, and other road users.

This year, NHTSA is holding its Safety Research Portfolio public meeting on October 21-22. This meeting is intended to inform the public and NHTSA stakeholders about the agency's ongoing research activities in both vehicle and behavioral safety. NHTSA's technical research staff will present recently concluded projects, ongoing work, and may also highlight early-stage research activities. As time permits, there will be an opportunity for session attendees to participate in Q&A sessions following each panel. Presentations utilized during the Research public meeting will be posted to the docket (identified in the heading of this document) after the meeting. Instructions for accessing the docket are found under the **ADDRESSES** heading. Updates on this event will be available

at <https://www.nhtsa.gov/events/nhtsa-safety-research-portfolio-public-meeting-fall-2025> and NHTSA recommends checking back periodically for updates or potential schedule changes.

NHTSA seeks public comments on the information presented, as well as input on the agency's research priorities, research goals, and additional research gaps and needs the public may believe NHTSA should address.

NHTSA is also holding a special workshop in the afternoon of October 22, 2025, following the conclusion of the Research public meeting. The ADS workshop will include an overview of the Department's Automated Vehicle Framework followed by a technical working session to allow NHTSA to hear from stakeholders on a variety of ADS topics. Anyone may attend the session, and NHTSA encourages attendees to prepare to provide input on ADS operations and safety. Updates and further details on the workshop will also be available at <https://www.nhtsa.gov/events/nhtsa-safety-research-portfolio-public-meeting-fall-2025>.

Registration is required for anyone planning to attend either or both the public meeting and the ADS workshop. Instructions for registration are found under the **ADDRESSES** heading and participants will be able to register for one or both days.

NHTSA is committed to providing equal access to this event for all participants and accommodation requests may be sent to NHTSA.Communication@dot.gov by October 14, 2025.

Should it be necessary to cancel or reschedule the meeting or workshop due to an unforeseen circumstance, NHTSA will take all available measures to notify registered participants as soon as possible. The Safety Research Portfolio public meeting will not be live streamed but will be recorded, and a recording will be made available after the event. The ADS workshop will not be recorded.

Cem Hatipoglu,

Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety Research.

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