



Federal Regulatory Update: Family-Friendly Transit & Grant Funding Rules



ACT continuously monitors federal regulations to keep members informed of relevant Requests for Information (RFIs) and funding opportunities. There are two in particular we are taking action on - see below for more information.

RFI Brainstorming Session on Family-Friendly Transit

ACT's Public Policy Committee is [hosting a brainstorming session](#) this **Friday, July 10 at 1 p.m.**, and you're invited to be a part of it.

The FTA and USDOT have issued a request for information about how to create more family-friendly transit services, and ACT is preparing a response.

Have ideas about family-friendly transit? Want to share input about safety and security, cleanliness, universal accessibility, and real-time service data accessibility? This is an opportunity to improve the quality of services and make them more family-friendly. See you there!

ACT's Comments on OMB's Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance

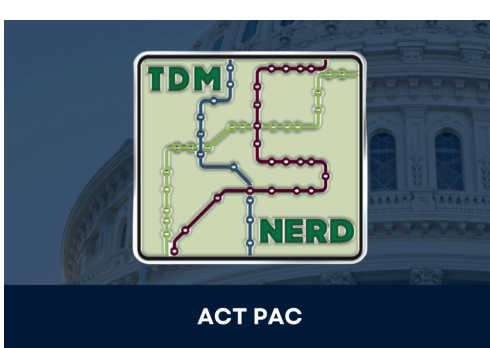
In May, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) introduced [a proposed rule](#) which would restrict use of federal grant dollars for conference expenses and membership dues. Specifically, the proposed rule states that conference attendance costs are only allowable if the agency has expressly approved participation and written it into the award's terms and conditions, rather than being generally allowable as before. Additionally, membership dues in professional or trade organizations are allowable only with prior written agency approval.

ACT believes the proposed provisions, as drafted, would impose a significant burden on many ACT members and has submitted comments urging the OMB to keep current standards. You can read the full letter below.

[Read the letter](#)

Calling all TDM Nerds – Purchase a TDM Nerd Pin!

Are you a self-proclaimed TDM nerd? Purchase our "TDM Nerd" pin and support ACT PAC while doing it! You can get your pin by contributing a minimum of \$20 to ACT PAC.



A few things to know:

- Pins can be pre-purchased now and picked up at the registration desk at ACT's 40th International Conference in Philadelphia
- Per federal law, PAC contributions must come from personal funds only
- Pins are not available for shipping at this time
- You can also purchase a pin on-site during the Conference
- \$20 is a minimum contribution – you may contribute more to receive a pin

Purchase a pin

Federal Grant Opportunity – Apply by 7/27!



For a short time window (closing on July 27), the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, is accepting grant applications from state and local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and consortiums of research/academic institutions (but not individual universities) for the Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) Competitive Grant Program. [The Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) can be found here.](#)

Funding for up to 20 awards and \$120 million is being made available during this short time-window. A minimum non-Federal cost share of 20 percent is required. As noted in the "Project Activities" section, "A grant recipient may use funds awarded under this program to deploy advanced transportation and congestion management technologies, including:...(x) advanced parking reservation or variable pricing systems [and]...(xiv) advanced mobility access, and on-demand transportation service technologies, such as dynamic ridesharing and other shared-use mobility applications and information systems to support human services for elderly and disabled individuals."

Apply here

40 Members, 17 Senate Offices: Inside ACT's First Virtual Fly-In



On June 22 and 23, 40 ACT members came together for ACT's first-ever virtual fly-in. Over the two days, ACT's government affairs team and our members held meetings with 17 Senate offices spanning both sides of the aisle, including Senators Baldwin (D-WI), Paul (R-KY), Merkley (D-OR), Warner (D-VA), Hagerty (R-TN), Moody (R-FL), Fetterman (D-PA), McCormick (R-PA), Warnock (D-GA), Kim (D-NJ), Cornyn (R-TX), Schatz (D-HI), Hickenlooper (D-CO), Kelly (D-AZ), Gallego (D-AZ), Padilla (D-CA), and Murray (D-WA).

With the Senate preparing to advance surface transportation reauthorization, ACT members arrived with timely expertise to prove why TDM is a critical piece of our transportation systems.

The virtual format expanded accessibility by allowing members from across the country to participate without the cost and logistics of a trip to Washington. ACT thanks all of our participants and looks forward to building on this momentum as reauthorization moves forward.

Join ACT's Interactive Public Policy Conference Sessions!



ACT's Public Policy Committee is thrilled to announce our sessions at this year's International Conference. See below – we hope to see you there!

Monday, July 27: Killabuster: A Public Policy Murder Mystery - Who Killed the Surface Transportation Bill? *The bill is dead. The question is: who killed it?*

In this interactive murder mystery session, participants will step into the shoes of lawmakers, lobbyists, constituents, and advocates to uncover the political forces behind surface transportation reauthorization - the most consequential legislative processes for federal transportation policy.

Assigned a unique role, participants will navigate three dramatic scenes: (1) meetings with constituents and lobbyists, (2) debates, amendments, and negotiation, and (3) floor vote. Along the way, you'll discover not just how federal transportation programs get funded, but why it's so hard — exploring the competing interests, hidden barriers, and behind-the-scenes advocacy that shape (and sometimes derail) landmark legislation.

Whether you're new to transportation policy or a seasoned advocate, this session offers an engaging, hands-on way to sharpen your understanding of the legislative process — and maybe even solve the mystery.

Tuesday, July 28: Make Your Move: The Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Game *In this interactive game session, participants will play the Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Game, where players work to remove federal restrictions and push ACT's signature legislation, the Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Act, to passage.*

No policy expertise required - the game is designed for everyone! This session offers a fun, hands-on way to explore the issues at the heart of our federal agenda. You'll walk away understanding:

- *What the Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Act does and why it matters*
- *The federal barriers the bill is designed to address*
- *How advocacy drives real legislative change*
- *Where the bill stands and how you can get involved*

If you've been looking for an easy, engaging way to get up to speed on ACT's federal policy priorities, this is the session for you.

[View the #ACT26 schedule](#)

Additional Policy Resources



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