

# I-81 Corridor Coalition Newsletter

## October 2019



### NEWS & UPDATES

#### Annual Meeting Update:

We have decided to change the venue for the meeting. It will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Blacksburg, VA. There is a block of rooms being held at the Government rate.

To book your room: [https://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/B/BCBGIGI-I81CC-20191112/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](https://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/B/BCBGIGI-I81CC-20191112/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

Registration Link: [Online registration here](#)

For More Information and updates regarding the meeting: [Follow Me](#)



#### Speed Is Killing the Planet. Time to Focus on Efficiency

The climate crisis is rushing at us like a bullet train. We have to stop obsessing over velocity and become efficiency fanatics.

History may be cyclical, but for centuries it's been an undisputed truth that with time things get faster. Humans have gone from their feet to bicycles, [To read the full article](#)

#### WOYM: Intermodal port proposal in Elliston remains dormant



The “whatever happened to” question has long been a staple of this column. Transportation issues have also been of continued interest to readers.

This week's submission involves a combination of both lines of inquiry. [To read the full article](#)

#### 90 Minutes to Clear: What Ontario can learn from Florida



A fiery fatal crash last week left the eastbound collector lanes of the busiest highway in North America – feeding one of the largest cities on the continent – for nearly 13 hours.

Traffic was snarled from around 9:30 p.m. on Aug. 11 to around 10:30 a.m. the following morning, as Hwy. 401's eastbound lanes around Dixie Rd. in Mississauga were blocked following the collision involving a Corvette, a Mazda and what ended up to be a burned-out shell of a truck. [To read the full article](#)

#### Droneresponders Surpasses 600 Member-Agencies, Launches Fall 2019 Public Safety UAS Research Survey

MIAMI, FL – DRONERESPONDERS, the world's fastest growing non-profit program supporting public safety UAS, has officially surpassed 600-member public safety agencies who are operating drones. [To read the full article](#)



## The 'Zipper Merge' May Seem Aggressive, But It's Actually A Highway Congestion Reliever

Wherever you may be driving this summer, there will likely be lane closures for road construction and the need to merge. Traffic engineers have been espousing the "zipper merge" in high-volume construction areas for years.

Research shows the zipper – which is a late merge, using both lanes as long as possible, not moving over right away – is often safer and will keep traffic flowing. The problem is, among your fellow drivers, it's not the most popular move.



## Insurers Know Exactly How Often American Drivers Touch Their Phones

With distracted driving on the rise, phone-tracking startups try to show us we're the problem. It's not quite working.

The distracted driving report by Zendrive, a traffic-data startup, makes it clearer and clearer each year that millions of Americans can't stop themselves from talking [To read the full article](#)



Maryland is performing a statewide truck parking study - kudos. More info below:

[To read the full article](#)

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## Senators Tout VMT Absent Fix for Highway Trust Fund

A \$287 billion highway bill the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee easily advanced last month is notable for several big-picture proposals.

The five-year bill would enhance severe-weather resilience for infrastructure systems. It would further streamline the environmental permitting process through a "one federal decision" approach. [To read the full article](#)

## PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Program Now Open! Application Deadline is November 8, 2019

PennDOT is currently accepting applications for funding through its Multimodal Transportation Fund. Applications are due by November 8, 2019. Funding can be used to coordinate local land use with transportation assets to enhance existing communities; for projects related to streetscapes, lighting, sidewalk enhancement and pedestrian safety; for projects improving connectivity or utilization of existing transportation assets; and for projects related to transit-oriented development. Municipalities, counties, school districts, economic development organizations, public transportation agencies, ports, rail freight and passenger rail entities are eligible to apply. A local match of 30% is required. More information can be found on the PennDOT website [here](#).

Please contact Kate McMahon, Senior Transportation Services Manager, at [kcmcmahon@nepa-alliance.org](mailto:kcmcmahon@nepa-alliance.org) with any questions.

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