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Advocacy Position Statement

Improving Urban and Rural Mobility

Statement of Purpose

The American Public Works Association (APWA) seeks to inform elected officials, transportation policy-makers and decision-makers at all levels of government and the public at-large of its stated position on Improving Urban and Rural Mobility.

Statement of Position

Recognizing that urban and rural areas have different challenges in providing mobility for residents, APWA encourages consideration of transportation solutions that meet community needs.

Since rural transportation systems may be increasingly impacted by factors such as metropolitan sprawl, recreational activities, and commerce, APWA encourages a greater emphasis on the development of funding opportunities and alternative transportation modes.

In urban areas, where many traffic congestion problems cannot be solved solely by increasing capacity due to right of way, cost and environmental constraints, effective coordination of land use planning and transportation system management can mitigate detrimental traffic impacts.

Background and Rationale

APWA recognizes the strong relationship between transportation, land use and air quality issues in both urban and rural areas. Improving mobility without adversely affecting environmental quality requires that, in both urban and rural situations, land development and transportation decisions be considered in terms of their interrelationship. APWA encourages all levels of government and the private sector to implement management systems which identify and monitor congestion problems, and develop and evaluate appropriate improvements and strategies. APWA urges the federal government to serve as the focal point for technology transfer and the development of model programs to alleviate undesirable levels of congestion. Finally, APWA encourages all levels of public and private transportation professionals to work together to develop and implement flexible policies and design standards which address both urban/suburban and rural mobility needs.

Sponsor

Transportation Committee