

NEWS

RELEASE

Strengthening Transportation Choices So We Can Serve Those Who Have Served Their Country

May 3, 2012

A National Online Dialogue May 7, 2012 to June 8, 2012

Visit www.ProjectAction.org to Register Beginning May 7. Add Your Voice to the Conversation.

What is this and why are we doing it? The fighting forces of America and military personnel stationed around the world do a superb job of protecting our rights and freedoms here at home performing their duty every day, and as a grateful nation, we must do ours.

Now more than ever, we must address the family, home, and community challenges facing our all-volunteer force as thousands return home, and as thousands more seek jobs, education, and medical care for themselves and their loved ones. Many of them have indicated they lack access to transportation for work, school, medical care, other health services and recreation or leisure activities.

That is why President Obama has directed that the U.S. should deliver the best possible transition services for personnel returning to civilian life, and offer new avenues of support for other veterans here at home, including access to reliable, affordable, accessible transportation.

Over the past six months, the Administration has committed over \$60 million for innovative projects and partnerships around the U.S. that will enhance access to local transportation services that meet the needs of returning service members, including wounded warriors, veterans, and their families.

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This vitally important effort will help these men and women connect with the opportunities they need and deserve from jobs and job training centers to schools, hospitals, day care centers, and recreation.

But we know more can be done to help communities and service providers connect with this population. So we need to hear from everyone; individuals and their trusted stakeholders as well as local transportation providers and community leaders. This is why we are holding a national online conversation about the best ways to address the transportation challenges.

How Can I Participate?

You may register online and participate as an individual or a provider any time between May 7 and June 8. Once registered, you may add your recommendations, observations, vote on the comments of others, and add your comments to other posts.

Why Should I Participate?

We want to listen closely to the men and women who are returning to civilian life, pursuing jobs, and education, and settling children in school ;and to our wounded warriors who face additional challenges. We also want to listen to all who strive to serve them. We know we do not have all the answers. That is why we want to hear from you; especially when it comes to gaining access to affordable, reliable transportation at home, at work, and everywhere in between.

Your thoughtful responses will add tremendous value to our ability to deliver the right services, programs, guidance, and technical assistance to your trusted stakeholders and transportation and community leaders. Once the online dialogue has closed, you will be able to receive a report highlighting the full range of comments and suggestions, and to see which ideas were most popular.

Please help us support the next chapter in the lives of our service members, veterans and their families by contributing to a national conversation of ideas and solutions that will help to ensure our transportation networks work for everyone.

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