

(A) identify the anticipated annual funding levels for the period covered by the strategic plan; and

(B) describe the research findings the Department expects to discover at the end of the period covered by the strategic plan.

(d) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure that each strategic plan developed under this section—

(1) reflects input from a wide range of external stakeholders;

(2) includes and integrates the research and development programs of all of the modal administrations of the Department of Transportation, including aviation, transit, rail, and maritime and joint programs;

(3) takes into account research and development by other Federal, State, local, private sector, and nonprofit institutions;

(4) not later than December 31, 2021, and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, is published on a public website; and

(5) takes into account how research and development by other Federal, State, private sector, and nonprofit institutions—

(A) contributes to the achievement of the purposes identified under subsection (c)(1); and

(B) avoids unnecessary duplication of those efforts.

(Added Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title VI, § 6019(b)(1), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1580; amended Pub. L. 117-58, div. B, title V, § 25014, Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 869.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(1), substituted “Not later than 180 days after the date of publication of the Department of Transportation Strategic Plan and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary” for “The Secretary”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(2), substituted “Each strategic” for “The strategic” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(3)(A), substituted “Each strategic” for “The strategic” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c)(1)(G). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(3)(B), added subpar. (G).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(4)(A), substituted “each strategic” for “the strategic” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (d)(4). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(4)(B), substituted “2021, and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter” for “2016”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 117-58, § 25014(5), struck out subsec. (e). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Not later than 2 ½ years after the date of enactment of this chapter, the Secretary may publish on a public website an interim report that—

“(1) provides an assessment of the 5-year research and development strategic plan of the Department of Transportation described in this section; and

“(2) includes a description of the extent to which the research and development is or is not successfully meeting the purposes described under subsection (c)(1).”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2015, see section 1003 of Pub. L. 114-94, set out as an Effective Date of 2015 Amend-

ment note under section 5313 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 6504. Incorporation of Department of Transportation research

(a) REVIEW.—Not later than December 31, 2021, and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, in concurrence with the applicable strategic plan under section 6503, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) conduct a review of research conducted by the Department of Transportation; and

(2) to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate, identify modifications to laws, regulations, guidance, and other policy documents to incorporate any innovations resulting from the research described in paragraph (1) that have the potential to improve the safety or efficiency of the United States transportation system.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting a review under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) identify any innovative practices, materials, or technologies that have demonstrable benefits to the transportation system;

(2) determine whether the practices, materials, or technologies described in paragraph (1) require any statutory or regulatory modifications for adoption; and

(3)(A) if modifications are determined to be required under paragraph (2), develop—

(i) a proposal for those modifications; and
(ii) a description of the manner in which any such regulatory modifications would be—

(I) incorporated into the Unified Regulatory Agenda; or

(II) adopted into existing regulations as soon as practicable; or

(B) if modifications are determined not to be required under paragraph (2), develop a description of the means by which the practices, materials, or technologies described in paragraph (1) will otherwise be incorporated into Department of Transportation or modal administration policy or guidance, including as part of the Technology Transfer Program of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology.

(c) REPORT.—On completion of each review under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing, with respect to the period covered by the report—

(1) each new practice, material, or technology identified under subsection (b)(1); and

(2) any statutory or regulatory modification for the adoption of such a practice, material, or technology that—

(A) is determined to be required under subsection (b)(2); or

(B) was otherwise made during that period.

(Added Pub. L. 117-58, div. B, title V, § 25016(a), Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 872.)

CHAPTER 67—MULTIMODAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Sec.
6701.

National infrastructure project assistance.