

NextGen Highways Coalition Membership

The NextGen Highways coalition brings together organizations that support and promote the use of highways as corridors where electric, communications and transportation infrastructure are strategically and safely collocated in existing highway right-of-way (ROW).

Members of the NextGen Highways Coalition will advocate broadly for strategic co-location of communications and transmission infrastructure in existing highway rights-of-way (ROW). Coalition members will also advocate for an examination of the benefits of buried high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission where practical.

By placing needed infrastructure in existing ROW and potentially underground, Coalition members believe we can:

- Reduce the political, environmental, and permitting hurdles that stymie transmission and communications infrastructure development.
- Reduce overall cost through more efficient and coordinated planning.

The NextGen Highways Coalition seeks to:

- Prepare for the transportation future by integrating electric and communications infrastructure into our existing transportation infrastructure
- Enable a clean energy economy by promoting the electric transmission needed to support a low-cost, reliable and clean grid
- Unleash economic development by removing barriers currently holding back a trillion dollars of private investment — investment that will create new jobs, services, and technologies

- Strengthen national security by constructing an energy and communications backbone that is hardened against everything from severe weather events to cyber attacks
- Address the enduring air quality impacts of the interstate highway system—which are disproportionately concentrated in low-income communities and communities of color— and increase broadband access in rural and low-income urban communities.

By joining the NextGen Highways Coalition, your organization can advance discussions on utilization of existing highway ROW for infrastructure investment with the following stakeholders:

- Federal and state policymakers
- State Departments of Transportation (DOTs)
- Transmission and communications developers and
- Other relevant groups.

Coalition Membership Benefits

Joining the NextGen Highways Coalition provides members with opportunities to:

- Engage with key state and federal policymakers to advocate for pro-active, coordinated, and holistic infrastructure planning.
- Facilitate the discussion between transportation and electric utility leaders on the co-location of linear infrastructure.
- Hear directly from transmission developers involved in electric transmission projects in the U.S. and other countries.
- Receive regular updates on projects, research, and relevant policy developments.
- Share insights and best practices between and across states.
- Foster the public-private partnerships needed to fully realize the NextGen Highways vision.
- Participate (virtually) in quarterly meetings to discuss related federal policies as well as updates of activities in target states.

NextGen Highways Coalition Initiatives (next 12 to 24 months)

- Investigate hurdles to the buildout of integrated infrastructure at the national and state levels.
- Document and publish key issues, challenges, opportunities, and benefits of co-locating in highway ROW, as identified by state transportation officials and staff.
- Review highway ROW siting and permitting regulations for targeted states, summarize findings, and share with partners.
- Actively engage select state policymakers, DOTs, and utilities to educate and spur conversations among stakeholders.
- Provide a platform for communities, non-profits, cities, and companies to understand the required transformation of the national highway system.

As a part of this no-cost membership, NextGen Highways Coalition Members are asked to:

- Support the co-location of electric and communications infrastructure in existing rights-of-way.
- Identify a key point-of-contact for their organization.
- Agree to engage their organization's subject matter experts, as needed.
- Identify other potential Coalition members at both the federal and state level.

About NextGen Highways

The NextGen Highways is a collaborative initiative promoting the use of highways and other existing rights-of-way as infrastructure corridors where electric and communications infrastructure are strategically and safely co-located in existing highway right-of-way. Learn more at <http://www.NextGenHighways.org>