Other Resources

National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS)
The NPMS is a geographic information system created by the US Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Office of Pipeline Safety. Other federal and state governmental agencies and the pipeline industry participated in the NPMS creation process.

The NPMS includes locations and characteristics of hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines, liquefied natural gas plants and breakout tanks. The NPMS online interactive maps require a password, which will be provided to federal, state and local government agencies upon request. The maps can be a valuable tool for planning community growth and emergency response. Members of the public can query the NPMS to obtain contact information for pipeline companies operating in a county or postal code.


Office of Pipeline Safety Stakeholder Communications Website

Office of Pipeline Safety Community Assistance
The Office of Pipeline Safety Community Assistance and Technical Services (CATS) managers are committed to improve communication with pipeline safety stakeholders and identify opportunities to improve pipeline safety, especially regarding public awareness and damage prevention. For more information go to: [http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/CATS.htm](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/CATS.htm).

Office of Pipeline Safety Technical Assistance Grants
The Office of Pipeline Safety Technical Assistance Grants program offers local governments funding to help implement PIPA-recommended practices. For information, go to the Office of Pipeline Safety Stakeholder Communications website, under “Grants”.

Find more information regarding PIPA and PIPA Recommended Practices, go to: [PIPA-info.com](http://PIPA-info.com) or scan this QR code on your smartphone. Contact us at [info@PIPA-info.com](mailto:info@PIPA-info.com).
Who We Are

The Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) is a collaborative effort of pipeline safety stakeholders who have developed recommended practices for protecting communities and transmission pipelines, and communicating among stakeholders. The PIPA recommended practices are intended to help communities make risk informed decisions for land use planning and development adjacent to transmission pipelines.

PIPA was initiated to address the recommendations of the 2004 Transportation Research Board (TRB) study of pipeline safety and land use practices, TRB Special Report 281, “Transmission Pipelines and Land Use: A Risk-Informed Approach.” The PIPA goal is to reduce risks and improve the safety of affected communities and transmission pipelines through the communication and implementation of the PIPA recommended practices.

PIPA Stakeholders Communication and collaboration among stakeholders is vital to improving pipeline safety. PIPA stakeholder participants represent a wide range of interests, organizations and viewpoints on pipelines and community planning, including:

- Public and Community Organizations
- Excavators and Property Developers
- Emergency Responders
- Local, State and Federal Government Agencies
- Pipeline Facility Operators

Local Government Role in Pipeline Safety

PIPA-recommended practices include actions to be taken by local governments to affect proposed changes in land use or new development adjacent to existing transmission pipelines. Local governments have a key role to enhance safety by helping to ensure the protection of people, property, the environment and the transmission pipeline infrastructure. Local governments in communities across the country have begun to adopt many of the PIPA-recommended practices.

Communication Helps Assure Safety

Changes in land use and new developments near transmission pipelines can create risks to communities and the pipelines. Fortunately, safety is a common goal for all stakeholders and should be considered when decisions are made that impact life, property or the environment. Early communication among stakeholders can help.

The PIPA-recommended practices for local governments are intended to enhance safety by establishing requirements guiding stakeholder communications and actions early in the planning stages. They include, for example, defining and adopting by ordinance transmission pipeline consultation zones. Land use changes or development within a consultation zone should require property developers/owners to consult with transmission pipeline operators early in the development process. This will ensure that development plans minimize risks to the people living or working nearby, and are consistent with the needs and legal rights of the developers and the pipeline operators.

Risk Informed Decisions

Reducing risk and improving community and pipeline safety can be challenging. Stakeholders often have differing and, sometimes, conflicting concerns. Thus, all stakeholders are best served by decision making processes that are efficient, effective and not unduly time consuming or costly. When each stakeholder understands the relevant interests, issues and concerns of other individual stakeholders, it becomes easier to communicate and collaborate to achieve mutually agreeable solutions. As communities grow and evolve, we are very likely to see an increase in community development near existing transmission pipelines. It is important that stakeholders become risk informed and consider adoption and implementation of PIPA-recommended practices.

Find more information regarding PIPA and the Recommended Practices at: PIPA-info.com or contact us at info@PIPA-info.com.