

EPA to Use New Ways to Determine MPG Estimates

To provide consumers with more real-world fuel economy information when shopping for cars, SUVs, and pick-up trucks, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing new methods to determine the city and highway miles per gallon estimates that appear on the window stickers.

The new methods affect model year 2008 vehicles, which generally will be available for sale in the fall of 2007.

"With President Bush encouraging energy conservation, EPA is pleased to empower consumers with the most accurate information possible about a vehicle's fuel economy," said EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson. "Consumers weigh a variety of factors when shopping for a new vehicle. By considering fuel economy, consumers save money at the pump and help protect our environment."

EPA's new fuel economy estimates will include vehicle-specific data from tests designed to replicate three factors that can greatly affect fuel economy: high speed/rapid acceleration, use of air conditioning, and cold temperature operation.

EPA also is proposing an across-the-board-adjustment to better account for other conditions that can affect fuel economy but aren't included in the tests, such as road grade, wind, tire pressure, load, and the effects of different fuel properties.

Under the new methods, the city MPG estimates for most vehicles would drop 10 percent to 20 percent from today's labels, depending on the vehicle. The highway MPG estimates would generally drop 5 percent to 15 percent.

Even with improved estimates, actual fuel economy will vary since no test can account for all individual driving styles, maintenance practices, and road conditions.

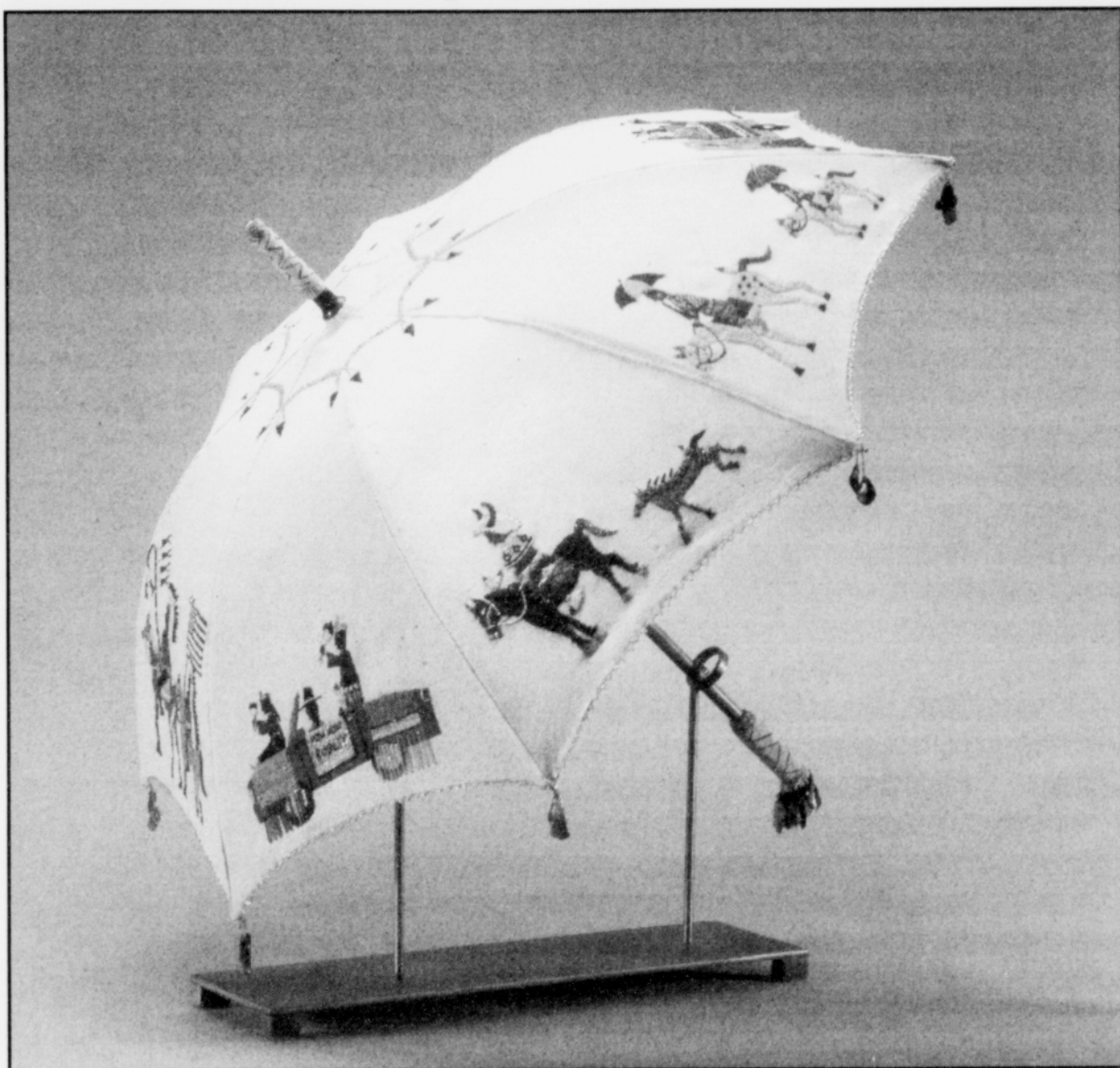
Changes were last made in 1985, when city estimates were adjusted down 10 percent and highway estimates were reduced 22 percent. The proposed changes announced in January will improve the estimates to better reflect real-world driving conditions, such as higher speed limits, greater traffic congestion, and more use of power-hungry accessories, such as air conditioning.

To more clearly convey fuel economy information to consumers, EPA also is proposing to change the design and text of the window sticker itself. Four options are under consideration.

None of the proposed changes affects the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) program, which is administered by the Department of Transportation. There are separate requirements for the test methods and procedures for determining fuel economy values under CAFE.

EPA is providing a 60-day public comment period on the proposal. The proposal and information about how to submit comments are available at www.epa.gov/fueleconomy.

Art of Storytelling Featured in New MIAC Exhibit



Indian Parade Umbrella by Teri Greeves

SANTA FE, N.M. – Beaded high-tops and a weaving called "September 11, 2001" are among the diverse story-laden pieces that will be on display at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture from Feb. 12, 2006, to Jan. 14, 2007.

Wondrous Works: Contemporary Art by Native American Women highlights dynamic works of wonder by American Indian women artists who bring their stories and creativity to life in a variety of medium.

Whether woven into tapestries and baskets or beaded on a variety of materials, the stories told through the pieces provide graphic examples of reservation

life and past events. Combining utility with beauty through their stitches and designs, these women express their unique heritage and traditions that connect them to the places from which they come.

In American Indian culture, beadwork has been revered as both ornamental and sacred. It's also an important means of cultural and artistic expression.

The extraordinary beadwork by Kiowa artist Teri Greeves continues this expression through the use of contemporary materials. Famous for her beadwork on a variety of objects, the exhibit features *Indian Parade Umbrella*,

which won Best of Show at the 1999 Santa Fe Indian Market. Each beaded panel on tanned deer hide includes people she grew up with and watched at Indian parades. This is the first time this piece has been in a public exhibition.

Recently acquired by the museum, Greeves' *Kiowa Ceremonial Dance: A Beaded Book* also will be on view, along with the complete story that goes with it. The six-page book of beaded designs on tanned deer hide provides a glimpse into a series of ceremonial dances, including the Kiowa Feather Dance and the Sundance.

Other beaded depictions include the Kiowa Black Leggings Society Dance, which is made up of Kiowa veterans and active-duty servicemen, and the Kiowa Scalp Dance, in which Kiowa women dance in honor of a relative who has fought in a war.

On a more serious note, visitors will have the opportunity to contemplate two large Navajo basketry trays by Peggy Rock Black that illustrate a painful time in the history of the Navajo: *The Long Walk* and *The Coming Home*.

The Navajos were removed from their homes in Arizona in 1864 and forced to travel by foot more than 300 miles into eastern New Mexico. Upon their arrival, the U.S. government incarcerated more than 9,000 Navajos and 400 Mescalero Apaches and attempted to forcibly convert this semi-nomadic group of people into farmers.

The experiment failed miserably and in 1868, the Navajo were released to return to a reservation that had been established for them in what is now part of northwestern New Mexico, eastern Arizona, and southern Utah.

Several Navajo tapestry weavings include scenes of sheep, hogans, mountains, trains, and trucks. A weaving by TahNibaa Naat'aanii tells the story of the Navajo Code Talkers from the time they left the reservation to their return.

The weaving includes colorful imagery that depicts reservation life, boot camp, palm trees, and a ship in the Pacific Theater. A large coiled basket by Sally Black also illustrates the importance of the Navajo Code Talkers to our nation's history during World War II.

Examples of ongoing traditions are represented as well, such as embroidered kilts and finger-woven sashes worn during Pueblo social and ceremonial dances. Recent works by well-known artists Bea Duran of Tesuque Pueblo and Ramoncita Sandoval of Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo (San Juan) remind us of how connected these women are to their communities and the traditions that make them unique in a world that is becoming increasingly homogenized.

More than 30 works by 20 different contemporary American Indian women artists are presented in this exhibition that includes several works from the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture's permanent collection, as well as borrowed pieces from the artists, the School of American Research, and private collections.

AISES Annual Conference Comes to Portland

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Annual Region 1 Conference takes place March 10-11 in Portland, Ore., at Portland State University's Native American Student & Community Center with the theme of natural resources management.

Topics include, but are not limited to, natural resources such as timber and salmon, water issues, alternate resources of energy, urban development, energy management, the changing environment, multimedia interaction with resources and environment, renewability and sustainability, indigenous methods of integrating technology and environment, issues of federal law, ethnic status, government, and sovereignty in relation to natural resources.

AISES Region 1 includes Alaska, Canada, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. All regions and non-AISES members are invited.

The headquarter hotel will be the University Place Hotel. Mention the AISES regional conference for the spe-

cial conference rate of \$69/night (tax \$8.62, total cost: \$77.62/night). Rooms should be booked by Feb. 10.

The University Place Hotel is located at 310 SW Lincoln St. in Portland; 503-221-0140; uplace@pdx.edu.

Register for the conference before Feb. 3 to take advantage of the early registration discount. Registration is \$40 until Feb. 3, then it goes up to \$50. If you have questions regarding registration, please contact AISES PSU (aises@pdx.edu).

The pre-conference registration deadline is March 1, which also is the deadline for cancellations and refund requests.

To register, fill out the registration form at www.bethadillon.com/aises/registrationform.pdf and mail it with your payment to AISES Portland State University Chapter, 710 SW Jackson Ave., Portland, OR, 97201.

For more information, visit www.bethadillon.com/aises/. For questions or comments, e-mail aises@pdx.edu.