

AP025 Committee Scope

The committee examines, discusses and disseminates ideas and issues for public transportation planning, development, operational and project implementation.

The committee seeks to:

- Develop and promote topics for future research in transit planning and development,
- Promote widespread dissemination of transit research findings and recommendations, both theoretical and practical.
- Consider emerging trends, new ideas and innovations as they influence public transportation planning and development and
- Assists in defining public transportation's roles, contribution, and future direction as it relates to intermodal systems and the field of community development and infrastructure systems.
- Improve the understanding of transit markets and users.
- Consider issues such as land use, technologies, market and patronage forecasting, effects of pricing, design of service innovations, public policy, tools and techniques for product planning,
- Consider transit planning across a range of activities including: capital planning, modal comparisons, service design and operations planning

A wide range of topic areas:

- Travel behavior, human factors, demographic, land use and mobility patterns that affect the attractiveness of, or demand for, public transportation
- External factors, such as the volatility in gas prices which affects travel behavior and mode split.
- Sustainable development and mobility societal goals, and the role of public transportation in pursuing these goals
- Federal policies and regulations related to public transportation infrastructure investment, planning, operations, and management; coordinated land use and transportation planning, or policies affecting the competition between different modes.
- Integrated approaches to land use planning, transportation planning, and transit planning.

- Analytic methodologies used for planning networks, new public transportation infrastructure, or the planning and development of individual services, as well as scheduling of multimodal services.
- Service monitoring, planning, deployment, and the encouraging of innovation.
- Impacts of public transportation policies or services on mobility patterns, community development, or societal goals related to sustainability and equity.
- Benefits and challenges related to the choice of public transportation modes for specific corridors, such as LRT vs. BRT.
- Transit Oriented Development and Livable Cities and their various relationships to public transportation demand and planning

Other?

- Social inclusion impacts
- Sustainability
- Livable communities
- Accessibility
- Network design

Challenges (Big picture)

- Lack of resources in transit industry to
 - Experiment
 - Innovate
 - Travel / participate
 - Measure, evaluate, document
- Insufficient board / management interest in service planning and development (in operations-driven industry)
- Changing technological landscape and customer expectations
- Agencies tend to be reactive vs. proactive
- Planning transit for difficult and changing urban forms
- Silos between functions / interests
- Lack of information dissemination

Challenges (committee)

- Limited time / energy of members to participate (volunteer activity)
- Lack of travel budgets to come to TRB / lack of continuity in participation
- Growth in papers / nature of research vs committee composition and skills
- Overlaps of topics with other committees
- Committee composition and skills
- Explosion in research from Emerging Countries (China, India, Brazil....)
- ?

Resources for research / dissemination

- TRB Conference calls / review for papers
- TRB Conference presentation sessions / workshops
- TRB Webinars
- RNS Database / RiP
- Committee website and resources page
- WTR Web site
- TCRP Solicitations
- Workshops
- Conferences
- Other TRB committees
- Participation in other fora
- Listservs (NCTR, APTA?)
- DOT Peer exchange / PCB Webinars
- Non-profit/advocacy organizations
- APTA links and conference calls for papers, etc.
- Articles for transit publications
- UTCs / transit academics network / UITP

Networking

- FTA / FRA, etc.
- APTA (CUTA / UITP), CTAA
- State and Regional Transit Associations
- RailVolution
- APA (transportation planner certification)
- ITE
- AMPO
- COMTO
- ULI/CNU

International:

- WCTR
- WSTLUR
- Thredbo
- European Transport Conference (ETC)
- ICLEI

Activities / Tasks

- Paper Review
- TCRP Solicitation / RNS
- Web Site

- Search for Key Resources
- Keywords
- Context Mapping: Themes of interest and intersections with other committees
- Reflection on outreach / networking
- Emerging country issue (sub-committee?)

Research Topics?

- Tools for enhancing the integration of services / family of services
 - Best practices
 - Analysis and planning tools
- Cost effective service changes
- Planning for growth in demand with limited resources to expand service
- Access strategies to high capacity transit stations in suburbs
- Service to suburban employment locations
 - Incentives for businesses to locate in intensified areas
 - How to serve less concentrated areas
 - Transit agency coordination with private sector employers to enhance transit service access
- Transit at the developer's table
- Retention of UPass students
- Primary transit network (core routes, amenities, land use impacts)
- Service standards