

# Transit Operating Decisions

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# Transit Operating Decisions

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- Service Frequency
  - based on customers at max load point, average duration standing
- Service Span (time of day)
  - customer boardings by trip
- Bus Stop and Shelter Placement
  - customer boardings by stop

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## More Transit Operating Decisions

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- Scheduling
  - running time - travel time between timepoints
- Route Alignment
  - customer boardings by segment, transfers by route

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## Decision Based Planning

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- The purpose of good transit planning and management is to make decisions.
- The following questions should be asked (1):
  - What is the decision in a narrow sense?, i.e. commit money, approve, go to the next step?
  - Who makes the decision?
  - Who else is involved?
  - When must it be made?
  - What has to be decided now vs. later?

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## Decision Based Planning

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- The following questions should be asked (2):
    - What information will be needed to make the decision?
    - What criteria will be used to make the decision?
    - What are your cost criteria?
    - What are your performance criteria?
    - What impacts are you concerned with?
    - What techniques will be needed to provide the information for the decision?
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## Information Based Strategy: Steps

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- Preparation
  - Implementation
  - Utilization
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## Preparation

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- Define the Problem
- State Objectives
- Identify Needed Information
- Review Secondary Sources

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## Table 1.2 Examples of Secondary Information Sources

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1. U. S. Census: Socioeconomic, demographic and housing data are available in census tracts or block groups, always aggregated, sometimes incomplete.

### Critical Information

1. Location of place of work
2. Income distribution
3. Automobile availability
4. Mode to work
5. Age distribution

Available on tape or hard copy, usually from planning agency.

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2. Planning Agencies

Current Land Use Plan

Current Zoning

Raw Data

1. Employment Locations

2. Centers of Commercial Activity Sales Tax Data

Locations of Special Trip Generators

1. Elderly Housing

2. Medical Facilities

3. Schools

4. Employment

5. Shopping

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3. City Traffic Department

Traffic Volumes/Capacity

Intersection Geometry/Control

Parking and Other Regulations

Construction Plans

4. In House Data Collection

Running Time Information

Time Between Check Points

Schedule Adherence

Running Time on Alternative Routes

Passenger Comments/Complaints

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- 4. In House Data Collection (con't)
    - Driver Comments/Complaints
    - Ridership Counts
    - Rate Revenue
    - Off On Counts
    - # of Transfers Issued/Accepted

- 5. Community Sources
    - Political Leaders
    - Other Community Leaders/Knowledgeable Persons
    - Informal Contacts
    - Task Forces
    - Public Hearings
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- 6. Private Sources
    - Utility Records and Surveys
    - Newspaper Surveys and Market Information

## Implementation (Collect the Data)

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- When?
- Where?
- How Often?
- Who?, How trained?
- How Summarized?
- How Presented?

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## Utilization

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- Coding, Tabulating and Weighing Information
- Data Analysis and Interpretation
- Report Writing
- Decision Making
- Follow Up

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## Acknowledgements

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