Overview of FTA Transit and Livability Performance Measures

TTI Conference on Performance Measures for Transportation and Livable Communities

Austin, Texas
September 8, 2011

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Roles in the Partnership

**Housing and Urban Development**
- Community Development Block Grants
- Regional Planning
- Local Challenge
- Affordable Housing Programs

**Department of Transportation**
- TIGER Grants
- FTA Programs
- FHWA Flex Funding
- United We Ride
- FHWA Livability Efforts
- State/Metro Planning
- Railroad Infrastructure

**Environmental Protection Agency**
- Brownfields Restoration
- Smart Growth Technical Assistance
- Water Infrastructure Funds

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**
- Rural Efforts
Partnership for Sustainable Communities: FTA’s Role

**Infrastructure Investment**
- Urban/Rural Formula Programs
- Specialized Programs
- JARC
- New Freedom
- 5310
- New Starts
- Discretionary Bus + Rail
- TIGER

**Capacity Building**
- Peer Exchanges
- Technical Assistance
- Demonstrations
- Case Studies and Pilots

**Policy / Guidance**
- New Starts
- Joint Development
- Bike/Ped Access to Transit
- Flexible Funding for Transit
- Environmental Management

**Research**
- Affordable Housing Near Transit
- Transit Oriented Development
- Climate Change Impacts
- Access to Transit
- Transit Livability Performance Measures
Livability Performance Measures may help ...

- Highlight the linkages among transportation investments and other community objectives
- Establish baselines and track trends over time
- Provide a common language and publicly meaningful measures
- Inform policy decision-making
- Identify data requirements for nationally available data
Define national livability performance measures that would identify how well transit systems meet the needs of people in the communities they serve.

Develop the data resources to be able to calculate these measures on an annual basis so as to track trends and progress.

General enough to be applied nationally.

Do not require a large ongoing funding commitment for collecting data.

Explore a range of potential measures.

Not prescribe any one approach as the focus of this investigation.
Three Cooperative Agreements

- Urban, Rural, Data Needs

Evaluate candidate measures across a geographic region

Demonstrate applicability at the national level

Incorporate a national perspective while being compatible with regional and local planning efforts
FTA Livability Performance Measure Projects

- Urban livability metrics
- Rural livability metrics
  - Linda Cherrington & Suzie Edrington, Texas A&M

- Livability data collection
  - Martin Catala, University of South Florida

- FTA Office of Budget & Policy
  - Angela Dluger (angela.dluger@dot.gov)
  - Keith Gates (keith.gates@dot.gov)
The Partnership for Sustainable Communities

Transportation Choices

Housing Choices

Economic Competitiveness

Support Existing Communities

Align Federal Policies

Value Communities

www.sustainablecommunities.gov
Principles for Livable Communities

**Provide more transportation choices**
To decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote public health.

**Promote equitable, affordable housing**
Location- and energy-efficient housing choices to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

**Enhance economic competitiveness**
Through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services and other basic needs.

**Support existing communities**
Target federal funding to increase community revitalization, improve the efficiency of public works investments, and safeguard rural landscapes.

**Coordinate policies and leverage investment**
To increase the effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices.

**Value communities and neighborhoods**
Invest in healthy, safe and walkable neighborhoods rural, urban or suburban.
**Partnership Funding Opportunities**

**Housing and Urban Development**
- Sustainable Communities Community Challenge Grants
  - $28 million available
- Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants
  - $70 million available

**Environmental Protection Agency**
- None currently open; upcoming include
  - Smart Growth Technical Assistance
  - Brownfield Technical Assistance

**Department of Transportation**
- TIGER Discretionary Grant Program ($536 million)
- Recently closed:
  - FTA Bus Livability Program ($150 million)
  - FTA Alternatives Analysis Program ($25 million)