



*Improving the Quality of Life
by Enhancing Mobility*

University Transportation Center for Mobility™

Texas Transportation Institute • The Texas A&M University System

Background

- Earmarked UTC
- No match required
- No legislative mandate regarding topic
- \$1.5 million per year for four years

Theme

- *Improving the Quality of Life by Enhancing Mobility*
- Accomplished with an integrated, interdisciplinary, competitive program of *research, education, and technology transfer*

Research Focus Areas

In accordance with federal and state priorities, the UTCM sponsors research on local, state, regional and national mobility concerns in four focus areas:

- **Coast-to-coast, border-to-border mobility**
Includes all transportation modes and the linkages between them from a statewide, regional and national viewpoint.
- **Rural public transportation**
Addresses the transportation needs of rural populations, including disadvantaged, aging and disabled persons.
- **Innovative financing**
Addresses policy implications and implementation issues inherent to the various methods of financing public transportation, infrastructure improvements and maintenance.
- **Congestion management and mitigation**

Other Mandates (Internal Goals)

- Make a lasting impact on transportation. UTCM seeks projects and deliverables that seed programs—attracting additional support for ongoing research and technology transfer, and ultimately providing new transportation solutions.
- Aid in developing a strong, diverse, multi-disciplinary transportation workforce.
- Form lasting partnerships. The UTCM fosters collaboration among TTI, Texas A&M departments/programs, other universities and UTCs, and transportation professionals.
- Leverage funds. Projects that contribute additional funding and services from other sources, especially those with long-term potential, expand the potential impact of UTCM initiatives.

Executive Committee

The UTCM Executive Committee provides policy guidance and oversight to the Center and approves grants to be awarded by the Center. The Committee is composed of high-ranking leaders from TTI and the Colleges of Agriculture, Architecture, Engineering and the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. The Committee is chaired by the Director Emeritus of TTI, Dr. Herb Richardson.



We've Accomplished What We Set Out to Do

- Managed \$6M in federal funds to conduct research, education, and technology transfer projects.
- Awarded 78 projects, nearly half involving interdisciplinary collaborations with academic units.
- 58% of UTCM projects have been led by TTI researchers, with remaining projects divided among our academic partners.
- Provided training for more than 100 students conducting research on UTCM projects.

UTCM Collaborative Highlights

TTI

Valuing Public Sector Risk Exposure in Transportation PPPs - TTI and CVEN (Aldrete and Damjanovic)

Making Mobility Improvements a Community Asset - TTI, CVEN and LAUP (Bochner, Lord, Dumbaugh and Storey)

CIVIL ENGINEERING (CVEN)

Evaluating the Use of Transfers for Improving Rural Public Transportation Systems - CVEN and TTI (Quadrifoglio and Edrington)

Estimating the Benefits of Managed Lanes - CVEN and AGECE (Burriss and Shaw)

Impact of Reconstruction Strategies on System Performance Measures - CVEN and TTI (Damjanovic, Wimsatt, and Farzaneh)

Transportation Infrastructure Finance Graduate Course - CVEN, TTI and Teaching, Learning and Culture (Damjanovic, Vadali and McTeague)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING (LAUP)

Graduate Certificate in Transportation Planning - (3 projects) LAUP, TTI, CVEN, Bush and TTI (Ndubisi and Dumbaugh)

Addressing Rural Mobility and Economic Development under SAFETEA-LU - LAUP and TTI (Martin, Giusti, Dumbaugh and Cherrington)

Leveraging Land Development Returns to Finance Transportation Infrastructure Improvements - LAUP and TTI (Saginer, Dumbaugh and Ellis)

Texas Urban Triangle: Creating a Model to Plan for Sustainable Growth - (2 projects) LAUP and TTI (Neuman, Bright, Morgan and Wunneburger)

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS (AGECE)

Improving Intermodal Connectivity in Rural Areas to Enhance Transportation Efficiency - AGECE and TTI (Fuller, Robinson and Vadali)

Bio-Fuels Energy Policy and Grain Transportation Flows - AGECE, TTI and CVEN (Vedenov, Fuller, Power, Vadali and Burriss)

Valuation of Buyout Options in Comprehensive Development Agreements - AGECE, TTI and CVEN (Power, Burriss, Vadali and Vedenov)

BUSH SCHOOL

Trey Baker, a Bush School graduate, was hired into the Mileage-Based User Fees (MBUF) program at TTI and provides all content for the MBUF web site. Nick Norboge graduated from the Bush School with the UTCM-sponsored Transportation Planning Certificate and is now a researcher on a UTCM project in the Mobility Analysis program at TTI.

OTHER PROGRAMS

Other partners include the Texas A&M Health Science Center's School of Rural Public Health, University Libraries, Mays School of Business, and the Departments of Psychology, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Engineering Technologies.



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