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| TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major Cities (ABE30) |
| 2014 – 2016 Strategic Plan |
| Submitted by Rina Cutler, Chair, June 2014 |

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# Vision

Cities are where diverse populations, businesses, health and academic institutions and agencies converge, creating a situation in which transportation modes and interests must operate within a confined spatial location. As such, transportation issues which are unique to urban environments arise requiring major cities to be on the forefront of managing change and providing leadership in the design and operation of intermodal connections, energy efficient and sustainable solutions, and the safe movement of people and goods in the larger regions. The TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major Cities is thus charged with providing a forum through TRB to share research and exchange lessons learned pertaining to transportation issues in major and emerging cities. The Major Cities Committee strives to promote the importance of research in the urban transportation forum throughout TRB and other organizations.

# Committee Scope

Urban environments present distinct and complex policy, planning, and operating challenges to meet the needs of large volumes of pedestrians, bicycles, transit trips, private vehicles, and freight movements across a variety of surface transportation assets. As such, the work of the Major Cities Committee will focus on issues of significant interest to organizations who are planning, constructing, and operating in urban environments. In addition, the Major Cities Committee will examine how transportation issues in major and emerging cities affect other urban policies and the larger urban environment.

In order to examine and explore transportation issues in major cities, emerging cities and urban environments in both the United States and internationally, the Major Cities Committee will actively solicit relevant urban transportation research, provide a robust program at the TRB Annual Meeting and leverage partnerships within and outside of TRB, all to further the research of urban transportation issues.

# Future Outlook (Critical Issues)

There are several factors that are likely to have a strong influence on the scope and activities of the Major Cities Committee within the next three to five years:

1. **Changing cities –** There are several key factors influencing the role of cities, including renewed growth in most urban cores, aging “baby boomers”, increased interest in active urban living, decreasing importance of automobiles for the Millennial generation, increasing demands for use of the public-right-of-way, and the influence of technology on when, where, why and how we travel.
2. **Rethinking the use of the Public Right-of-Way** – Cities are now asked to rethink how we use the public right-of-way. Increasingly, cities are asked to accommodate a greater number of demands beyond simply automobile travel lanes, parking and sidewalks. This requires a cultural change within all levels of government.
3. **Increasing grass-roots innovation and experimentation -**  Cities are taking the initiative to advance new design standards, techniques and practices that are more sensitive to urban context and needs.For example, parklets, pilots, and “pop up" implementations to test new practices becoming more common in many cities.
4. **Rapidly improving technology and a wealth of “big data” -**  Technology and data are having a profound impact on the planning, operating, maintaining and communications of multi-modal travel in cities. Systems are emerging that are capable of collecting and analyzing data and providing information, in ways that were simply not possible in complex urban environments of the past.
5. **Increasing opportunities for cities and regions to independently fund transportation investments –** With a trend toward reduced federal and state transportation funding, cities and regions are now taking control of their own fiscal futures. While cities often find it challenging to raise sufficient political support for such investments, increasing financial self-reliance can provide greater flexibility and opportunities for innovation.
6. **Increasing need for cooperation among the federal DOT, state DOTs, municipal DOTs, transit agencies, and metropolitan planning organizations -** To continue to advance innovation, cities will need to be leaders in the creation of urban transportation agendas, while maintaining support from regional MPOs, and federal and state DOTs. Increasing collaboration and cooperation within and across agency borders will become increasingly important as new policies and implementation strategies are developed.

# Key Research Focus Areas

* Designing cities for changing populations and conditions
* Multimodal safety
* Providing equal access and mobility for all users
* Best practices sharing on innovative urban solutions
* Balancing competing demands on the streets, including parking & freight
* Opportunities through technology and data
* Developing urban transportation performance measures
* Improving relationships with partners, such as MPOs, transit agencies, state DOTs, and federal agencies

# Committee Plan

The committee will focus its efforts with an emphasis on the primary regional city. The committee will have special consideration for policy, planning, safety, design, roadway and transit operations, parking and traffic, technology, and relationships across agencies and sectors. Each year, the committee will identify relevant and timely issues unique to urban areas, assess the state-of-the-practice and state-of-the-literature, and define needed research and information exchange activities to assist in better understanding and addressing these issues.

The Committee will maintain a focus on several core functions:

1. **Develop a high-quality Annual Meeting program:** Deliver high-quality technical information through workshops, podium presentations, poster presentations, and a committee meeting. Expand the focus to cities, not just large cities, and incorporate more international practices.
2. **Strengthen partnering opportunities with other Committees (Improve connections):** Cities have always been the forum for synthesis and integration. They are the place where pedestrians, parking, transit and technology converge and aggregate. The Large Cities Committee will continue to expand collaboration with a broad array of topically focused Committees to expand their research and thinking to incorporate the practical daily applications and interactions of our large urbanized centers.
3. **Increased publishing of case studies in practice and peer exchanges**: Cities across North America are concurrently facing similar issues . Cities are frequently so busy focusing on their respective issues at hand that they do not collaborate with peer cities working on similar problems. Because of the increasing pace of change, peer information sharing is vital. While deep academic research and analysis is also vital, empirical data and practical examples are equally, if not more, valuable to cities. The Large Cities Committee will seek out more practical examples and reporting, with the goal of bringing more empirical data and analysis for presentation at the Annual Meeting and subsequent publication in the *Transportation Research Record*.
4. **Continue to monitor and maintain research needs statements** Research problem statements will be prioritized on a periodic basis using researcher, practitioner, and public agency input. The top 5-10 research statements will be the focus of efforts to identify and market to likely funding agencies. This should include a list of potential funders.
5. **Seek collaborative opportunities with the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)** – As TRB and NACTO have many common objectives, there may be opportunities to benefit from partnering on specific issues. The Committee should explore whether formalizing a partnership at the committee level would be beneficial, particularly to avoid duplicating efforts.

# Membership

There are several criteria used to select Committee members. Criteria for membership will include, but not limited to, active participation in meetings and/or conference calls, contributions of individuals in calls for papers and reviewing papers, as well as participation in sub-Committees. Other factors considered relate to demographic representation, geographic representation, professional contribution to research and practice. Once named to the committee, members are expected to participate actively in committee activities. Note that any individual can become a friend of the committee, and many committee friends also make valuable contributions to committee work.

# Sub-Committees

1. **Annual Meeting Session Organizing Sub-Committee:** Organize the Major Cities Committees presence at the Annual Meeting.
2. **Research Needs Sub-Committee:** Identify major city research needs/topics and develop research needs statements; locate organizations to fund and conduct urban research; and track previous, ongoing, and upcoming research.
3. **Paper Review Sub-Committee**: Lead the paper review process. Identify papers worthy of special recognition at the Committee level and at the Group level. Identify Practice Ready papers.
4. **Communications/Website Sub-Committee:** Communicate committee business to members and friends in regular intervals. This sub-committee will continue to work with TRB's Communications Committee to standardize communication protocols where appropriate and capitalize on new communications avenues being offered through TRB. In addition, this sub-committee will update and maintain the Committee website and blog and send a monthly email to Committee members and friends summarizing Committee business, blog posts, and relevant TRB research and events.
5. **Strategic Plan/Vision Sub-Committee:** Write and update the Major Cities Committee’s triennial plan. Participate in committee meetings to ensure the implementation of the strategic plan and vision.

# Communications

To ensure continued collaboration, the Committee will strive for bi-monthly conference calls to ensure that the committee's activities continue to advance. This will be supplemented by e-mail updates.

# Key Partners

To encourage collaboration and coordination with other TRB standing committees, the Major Cities committee has identified several committees who will be our primary focus for partnering over the next three years. In addition, we will monitor the activities of several additional committees for on-going future opportunities.

The Major Cities Committee and its Sub-Committees use periodic phone and Internet-based conference calls throughout the year to conduct the majority of their work. The traditional face-to-face, mid-year TRB meetings are difficult for many to attend – particularly for public sector members. Reduced travel budgets limit committee member and friend participation.

**Primary partnership opportunities:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Committee** | **Large Cities Primary Contact** |
| ABE20: Sub-Committee - TDM Parking  | Rachel Weinberger |
| ABE50: Transportation Demand Management | Wes Marshall |
| ABJ30: Urban Transportation Data and Information Systems | Stephen Buckley |
| AFB10: Geometric Design | **To be identified** |
| ANF10: Pedestrian | **Robert James Schneider** |
| ANF20: Bicycle Transportation | Jamie Parks |
| AP020: Emerging and Innovative Public Transport and Technologies | **To be identified** |
| ABC30: Performance Measurement | **To be identified** |

**Other Committees that we will monitor for partnership opportunities:**

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| **Committee** | **Large Cities Primary Contact** |
| ABE60: Accessible Transportation and Mobility | To be identified |
| ADD30: Transportation and Land Development | Bob Dunphy |
| ADD40: Transportation and Sustainability | To be identified |
| AT025: Urban Freight Transportation | Ted Dahlburg |
| ABC10: Strategic Management | Bob Paddon, Andrea d’Amato, Rina Cutler |
| ABC20: Management & Productivity | Maureen Hammer, Mary Taylor Raulerson |

# Membership/Leadership roles in Other TRB Committees

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Contact** | **Position** |
| ABE00: Policy Section | Mark Muriello | Chair |
| Rina Cutler | Member |
| ABE10: Revenue & Finance Committee | Mark Muriello | Member |
| ABE20: Transportation Economics | Rachel Weinberger | Member, Chair of TDM Parking Sub-Committee |
| ABE25: Congestion Pricing Committee | Mark Muriello  | Member |
| Elizabeth Deakin | Member |
| ABC10: Strategic Management Committee | Catherine Cagle | Member |
| Rina Cutler | Member |
| Andrea d'Amato | Member, Session Planner |
| ABC20: Management and Productivity | Mary Raulerson | Co-Chair |
| ADA020: Metropolitan Planning Policies and Processes | Trey Joseph Wadsworth | Member |
| Sylvain Haon | Member |
| ADB45: Special Committee for Travel Forecasting Resources | Niels (Rob) Bostrom |  |
| ADD30: Transportation & Land Development | Elizabeth Deakin | Emerita |
| ADD50: Environmental Justice in Transportation | David Kuehn | Co-Chair |
| ANF20: Bicycle | Jamie Parks | Vice Chair, Research Sub-Committee chair |
| AP010: Transit Management and Performance | Christopher Pangilinan | Member |
| AP015: Transit Capacity and Quality of Service | Teo Wickland | Young Member |
| AP045: Intermodal Transfer Facilities | Paul Supawanich | Young Member, Communications Coordinator |
| Anthony Loui | Art and Design Excellence in Transportation Sub-Committee Chair |
| AP065: Rail Transit Systems | Brendan Porter | Member |
| AP070: Commuter Rail Transportation | Brendan Porter  | Member |
| AP075: Light Rail Transit Committee | Anthony Loui | Member |
| AR010: Intercity Passenger Rail Committee | Malcolm Kenton | Assistant Newsletter Editor |
| AW00: Marine Group | Eric Shen | Member |
| AW010: Ports & Channels Committee | Eric Shen | Chair |
| A0020T: Special Task Force on Climate Change | Catherine Cagle | Member |
| A0040T: Young Members Council  | Christopher Pangilinan | Public Transportation Sub-Committee Co-Chair |

# Leadership Roles outside of TRB

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Contact** | **Position** |
| WTS | Rina Cutler | Treasurer, International Board of Directors |
| Eric Shen | LA Chapter, Board of Directors |
| Andrea d'Amato | Former Board Member & Advisory Member |
| Danielle Elkins | International Chapter Circle of Excellence Committee |
| SHRP-2 | Mark Muriello  | Vice Chair, Reliability Focus Area |
| E-Z Pass Group | Mark Muriello | Board Member |
| Alliance for Tolling Interoperability | Mark Muriello | Board Member |
| I-95 Corridor Coalition | Mark Muriello | Co-Chair, Policy and Strategic Planning Committee |
| TRANSCOM | Mark Muriello | Chair, Technology & Operations Committee |
| ITE | John J Kennedy | International Vice President |
| Ivana Tasic | Vice President, University of Utah Student Chapter |
| Young Professionals in Transportation | Julia Salinas | Member and Founding Board Member, LA Chapter |
| Danielle Elkins | Chapter Advisor, Atlanta Chapter |
| ASCE | Danielle Elkins | Legislative Advisor/Report Card Transit Lead & Transportation Reviewer, Georgia Section |
| NACTO | Rina Cutler | Vice Chair |
| Jamie Parks | City of Oakland Primary Contact, Urban Street Design Guide Steering Committee |
| Robert Hicks | Co-Founder |
| Linda Bailey | Executive Director |
| USDOT | Robert Hicks | Full Time consulting in Secretary’s Office |
| Polis | Sylvain Haon | Secretary General |
| APTA | Karina Ricks | Land Use and Economic Development Committee Co-Chair |

# 2014 Paper Review Volunteers

1. Aimee Jefferon
2. Andrea d’Amato
3. Andrew Lai
4. Andrew Zalewski
5. Benito O. Perez
6. Bill Habig
7. Brendan Pender
8. Catherine Cagle
9. Chelsea Richer
10. Chris McCahill
11. Christopher Pangilinan
12. Daniel Rodman
13. Danielle Elkins
14. David Kuehn
15. Elizabeth Deakin
16. Ema Yamamoto
17. Eric Dumbaugh
18. Eric Shen
19. Eric Sundquist
20. Frank Gallivan
21. Ivana Tasic
22. Jalil Kianfar
23. Jamie Parks
24. Jane Lim-Yap
25. John J. Kennedy
26. Julia Salinas
27. Karina Ricks
28. Kate Zyla
29. Linda Bailey
30. Madline Brozen
31. Malcolm Kenton
32. Margot Yapp
33. Mark Muriello
34. Mary Raulerson
35. Michael Benson
36. Michael Farrell
37. Niels (Rob) Bostrom
38. Paul Supawanich
39. Peter Martin
40. Phil Lasley
41. Rachel Weinber
42. Raymond Chan
43. Robert Hicks
44. Ruzbeh Shokranian
45. Stephen Buckley
46. Sylvain Haon
47. Teo Wickland
48. Trey Joseph Wadsworth

# Committee History

Official website: <https://sites.google.com/site/trbabe30/home>

Membership: <http://www.trb.org/ABE30/ircStandingCommittee.aspx>

Committee Chair: Rina Cutler

Committee Coordinator: Ema Yamamoto

Communications Coordinator: Stephanie Dock

Paper Review Coordinators: Eric Sundquist, Christine Yager

Annual Meeting Organizers: Fred Dock, Aimee Jefferson, Jamie Parks

Research Coordinator: Wes Marshall

Strategic Plan / Vision: Stephen Buckley (Lead), Andrea d’Amato, Karina Ricks, Julia Salinas

TRB Staff Rep.: Dr. Monica Starnes

# Key Stats

Major Cities Committee -- By the Numbers:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Category | 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 |
| Total Committee Members | 17 | 20 | 34 | 36 |
| Total Committee Friends | Unknown | Unknown | 92 | 170 |
| Sponsored Sub-Committees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Joint Sub-Committees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Annual Meeting Workshops | 1 | 0 | 1 |  |
| Annual Meeting Podium Sessions | 2 | 3 | 3 |  |
| Annual Meeting Poster Sessions | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |
| Annual Meeting Presentations | 13 | 14 | 21 |  |
| Papers Reviewed | 3 | 13 | 16 |  |
| Papers Published in TRR | Unknown | Unknown | 2 |  |
| Total Research Statements | 2 | 6 | 6 |  |
| Total Funded Research Statements | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| New/Revised Research Statements | 0 | 4 | 0 |  |
| Newly Funded Research Statements | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Webinars | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |

Major Cities Committee Chairs

Ms. Rina Cutler, 2013 – Present

Ms. Jeanette Sadik-Khan