**TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (ABE30) Call for Papers**

**Topic 1:**

Call Title

**Innovative Curb Lane Usage**

Sponsoring Committee

ABE30

Call Description

The TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (ABE30) invites papers on “Innovative Curb Lane Usage.”

In city centers across the country, the necessity of balancing the needs of commercial and residential parking, delivery loading and unloading, transit, pedestrian and bicycle access and safety, and community space is placing curb space at a premium. Though many cities are tackling this issue through innovative projects, little research has been done to document best practices for curb lane access and usage. We are soliciting papers that showcase innovative curb lane planning and usage in major U.S. cities including, but not restricted to, the following subject areas:

* Improving accessibility for commercial and residential through delivery loading and

 unloading

* Commercial and residential parking, and parking pricing (as they relate to other uses like

 pick-up/drop-off)

* Bicycle parking
* Transit: bus lanes, bus rapid transit, and light rail stops
* Community space: pop-up cafes
* Signage
* Intercity bus stops with curb pick-up

Subject Area(s)

Parking; delivery; curb space accessibility; pop-up cafes and parklets; intercity bus stops; signage; bus stops

**Topic 2:**

Call Title

**Expanding the Toolbox for Building Better City Streets**

Sponsoring Committee

ABE30

Call Description

The TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (ABE30) invites papers on “Expanding the Toolbox for Building Better City Streets.” Transportation decision makers in the United States are realizing the need to move away from a one-size-fits-all approach to design standards at the federal and state levels, but often regulations make it difficult for transportation agencies to ask for, and receive, the type of street design they want. This research should focus on ways transportation agencies can, and have, employed existing tools to improve their city streets, and how they can push the envelope further to create even better city streets.

Potential subtopics include, but are not limited, to:

* Low-impact development (LID) and other green infrastructure
* Best practices in addressing utilities issues on city streets, such as modular street sections
* Using flexibility in highway design in real world applications

Subject Area(s)

Low-impact development, green infrastructure, utility design, streetscape design,

**Topic 3:**

Call Title

**Bicycle Transportation Strategies**

Sponsoring Committee

ABE30

Call Description

The TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (ABE30) invites papers on “Bicycle Transportation Strategies.” The design and engineering of on-street bikeways in the U.S. is an adolescent field in comparison to the design and engineering of roadways for automobiles. As the field matures, bikeway designs must be understood in relation to their impact on ridership, safety, operations, and communities, and the way they can engage broad segments of the population in cycling. This proposed research will analyze bikeway designs in the context of different U.S. cities, paying special attention to:

* Studying the effects of increased ridership on overall safety, which could include collecting and analyzing ridership and safety data, and determining the effects of ridership alone on cyclist safety.
* Analyzing the relationship between demographics and the facility preference of urban cyclists, including a review of existing cycling demographic data to ascertain whether a correlation between demographics and facility type exists
* Assessing emerging trends of bicycle counting technology, which could include a scan of current and emerging counting technology and methods, and recommending possible new technological solutions for increasing the counting coverage, accuracy, and reliability of bicycle counts.
* Understanding the community impacts of urban bikeway installations, potentially by identifying locations where choices have been made to accommodate on-street bikeways in the U.S. and completing a study on the various impacts on the local and regional community.
* Studying the safety and operational impact of shared bus and bike lanes by surveying existing bus/busways to determine operational characteristics for various facility types; reviewing crash data and traffic counts before and after these facilities were installed to determine effects on safety; or preparing a recommendation of when and how bikes and buses should share single facilities.

Subject Area(s)

Bicycle planning, bicycle infrastructure, bicycle safety, complete streets, shared lanes, urban bikeways, bicycle counts, intersection treatments for cyclists, busways, cyclist demographics