**TRB Annual Meeting 2018: Call for Papers**

The TRB Committee on Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (ABE30) invites papers on “Transportation Issues and Solutions in Major Cities.”

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 in an equitable, economical, and sustainable manner.  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 is soliciting papers that could explore, but are not limited to, research in the following topic areas:

* **The Local Economic Impacts of Transportation Investments** –Ever increasingly, urban transportation projects are required to balance the needs of a wide variety of stakeholders, from residents, to commuters, to local businesses. How these groups are prioritized and served by a project can often be a complicated political decision, on which the success of the project as a whole can hinge.

While methodologies for capturing the direct changes related to on-street activities are generally well established, how to best recognize and capture the economic impacts of transportation projects are less developed. For this reason, ABE30 is seeking ideas on how to standardize methodologies to capture the economic impact of a host of modal investments, including projects such as cycling infrastructure expansions, complete streets, and safety/Vision Zero programs. These methodologies will preferably be grounded in real world examples using common data sources readily available to cities.

* **From Tangle to Tango: Unraveling the Confusion of State and Local Processes in Capital Programming** – State and local DOTs often have differing processes and requirements for capital construction projects. Federally-derived state DOT funding requires that local aid recipients comply with policies that are often times more rigorous than local-level policies. This, in turn, tends to burden local aid recipients and results in unexpected administrative burdens, non-compliant end-products, rescinded funds and general disinterest in pursuing federal dollars. TRB’s Committee on Transportation Issues in Major U.S. Cities (ABE30) is seeking abstracts for presentations that highlight case studies in which state and local DOTs have worked well together to streamline requirements, documentation, and communications to result in higher quality and timely capital projects.
* **Innovations in Transit Fare Payments** –Technology innovations have the potential to improve transportation payments and payments operations in cities, particularly transit fare payments and fare operations. The vision of a multi-modal, integrated "mobility card" that can reserve and pay for transit, bikeshare, carshare, ridehail, and provide other value-added services is closer than it has ever been. Even so, there are hurdles to overcome. This call solicits papers that document the experience of innovations in transit fare payments, especially experiments to integrate transit fare payments with other modes of transportation. The committee seeks to understand what new fare policies can be enabled by payments technology innovations; how the customer experience can be improved; and how agency's operations can be eased. Examples include: transitioning to an accumulator payments approach; transitioning from card-based to account-based payments; launching mobile payments; or integrating transit payments with other modes such as bike share.

**Co-Sponsored Paper Calls:**

* Adaptive Practices Enabling Transportation Agencies to Expedite Change (ABE10)
* New Approaches to Maximizing the Benefits of New Transportation Technology and Organization: The “Sharing” Economy including the impact of Automated Vehicles (ABE10)
* Transport Games: Serious and/or Fun? (ABJ95)

**Co-Sponsored Workshops:**

* Curbed Enthusiasm: Multi-modal Planning, Operations, Enforcement and Design for Optimized Curb Resources
* Impacts of Disruptive Technologies on Transportation Revenue
* Building a Truck Load/Unload Space Network to Efficiently and Safely Deliver Goods in Cities
* Big Data Applications and Methods in Transportation