

Transit Cooperative Research Program

TCRP

TCRP Oversight and Project Selection Committee

Transportation Research Board
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
Ph: 202/334- 3224
Fax: 202/334 -2006

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Ann August
Santee Wateree Reg. Transp. Authority

January 21, 2010

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Raul V. Bravo & Associates
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Washington Metro Area Transit Authority

TO: Distribution
FROM: Gwen Chisholm Smith, Project Manager
Transit Cooperative Research Program
Re: Request for FY 2010 Synthesis Topics
Transit Cooperative Research Program

Gregory Cook
Veolia Transportation
Terry Garcia Crews
Star Tran
Kim R. Green
GFI GENFARE
Angela Iannuzziello
ENTRA Consultants
John English
Utah Transit Authority
Jeanne W. Krieg
Eastern Contra Costa Transit Authority

The Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) is seeking potential study topics for the **FY2010 TCRP Synthesis Program**. The TCRP was created by memorandum agreement between the National Academy of Sciences, acting through the Transportation Research Board; the Federal Transit Administration (FTA); and the Transit Development Corporation (TDC), a non-profit educational and research organization established by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). The **Synthesis Program** reports on various practices, and is designed to produce a compendium of the best knowledge available on those practices found to be the most successful in resolving specific problems. Syntheses are relatively short, targeted for about 40-60 pages plus reference materials. Enclosed is a listing of all synthesis topics authorized to date.

Jonathan McDonald
Stantec Consulting
Gary W. McNeil
GO Transit
Michael P. Melaniphy
Motor Coach Industries, Inc.
Frank Otero
PACO Technologies, Inc.

Ideas submitted for study topics form the basis for selection of the annual Synthesis Program. Topics are selected by a project panel that meets once a year, typically in May or June. The TCRP project panel members perform a preliminary screening and ordering of the topics. At the annual meeting they discuss the highest rated topics and make their final selection. The governing board of the TDC, which also serves as the TCRP Oversight and Project Selection (TOPS) Committee, then gives final approval of the selected topics. It is expected that 7-8 new topics will be selected for the FY 2010 Synthesis Program.

Keith Parker
VIA Metropolitan Transit
Peter Rogoff
FTA
Jeffrey Rosenberg
Amalgamated Transit Union
Richard Sarles
New Jersey Transit Corporation
Michael Scanlon
San Mateo County Transit District
Beverly Scott
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority

For each topic, the project objectives are (1) to locate and assemble documented information; (2) to learn what practice has been used for solving or alleviating the problem; (3) to identify all ongoing research (4) to learn what problems remain largely unsolved and; (5) to organize, evaluate, and document the useful information that is acquired. Ideas for study topics may be submitted by anyone at anytime. However, the closing date for consideration of ideas for study topics in FY 2010 is **March 31, 2010**. Instructions for how to propose new topics can be found at the following site:

James Stem
United Transportation Union
Frank Tobey
First Transit, Inc.
Matthew O. Tucker
North County Transit District
Pam Ward
Ottumwa Transit Authority
Alice T. Wiggins-Tolbert
Parsons Brinckerhoff

<http://www.trb.org/Studies/Synthesis/SynthesesSubmittal.asp>

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS
William W. Millar
APTA
Robert E. Skinner, Jr.
TRB
John C. Horsley
AASHTO
Victor Mendez
FHWA

In addition to suggestions for new topics of study, please feel free to suggest updates of published syntheses.

TDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Louis Sanders
APTA

Information on the TCRP Synthesis Program, including studies currently underway and all completed studies can also be accessed through the following site:

SECRETARY
Christopher W. Jenks
TRB

<http://www.trb.org/SynthesisPrograms/Public/SynthesisProgram.aspx>

The TCRP is sponsored by the Federal Transit Administration; research projects are selected by the Transit Development Corporation, and the Program is managed by the Transportation Research Board.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Your willingness to participate in the identification of relevant transit synthesis topics is a key element of a successful, industry-driven TCRP. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 202/334-3246 or gsmith@nas.edu.

Enclosures