Incorporating Transit Priorities in Street Design

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Session Overview

• Hearing from city and transit perspectives on the integration of transit and street design
• Discuss specific transit projects and their success/challenges
• New Starts Working Group (transit systems primarily) and Community Streetcar Coalition (cities primarily)
• Work on every type of transit technology with both cities and transit agencies
Observations

• Start from different places
  – Transit – Operations, costs, schedule, efficiency, throughput
  – Cities – land use, economic development, built environment, “place”

• However, several trends are emerging that necessitate cities and transit agencies to coordinate
Vehicle Miles Travelled
Demographic Trends

• Vehicle saturation/Changing Preferences
  – Per capita vehicle ownership and annual mileage have reached saturation levels
  – Driver’s Licenses
    • Teenagers - 46% have a driver’s license in 2010 compared to 64% in 1980
    • Under 30 - 72% of the population currently have a license, compared with nearly 84% in 1998
• Aging population
  – As Baby Boom generation retires per capita vehicle travel will decline and their demand for alternatives will increase.
• Rising fuel prices
  – Demand for energy efficient travel options such as walking, cycling and public transit, and more accessible land use development.
Demographic Trends (cont.)

• Increasing urbanization – more people moving into cities
  – 99 of 100 largest exurbs and suburbs saw no or negative growth in 2011 (Census)
• Shifting consumer preferences (KFC Research – October 2010)
  – Increasing portion of consumers, especially Millennials (18-34) prefer multi-modal urban neighborhoods and alternative modes
  – Driven also by rising costs to own and operate an automobile that is affecting 18-35 age group that is rethinking auto ownership
  – Sensitive to out of pocket transportation and housing costs
• Increasing health and environmental concerns
As we look to the future . . .

- Federal policies for New Starts, HUD sustainability Program, TIGER grants indicative of need for coordination
- New Starts/Small Starts program places premium on short trips connecting housing, employment, universities, entertainment to generate trips during peak and off-peak
- Cities competing for workforce and employers seeking to locate where the workforce wants to live
- Millennials want transportation choices, quality of life, diverse and walkable neighborhoods
- It is in the mutual interest of cities and transit agencies to coordinate