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# Perspectives on Congestion, Transit, and the Planning Process

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# Congestion

- What's the best way to measure congestion?
  - Peak hour LOS or V/C?
  - Comparison with peers?
- How do you measure success?
  - Meeting a LOS standard?
  - Maintaining current LOS?
  - Bang for the buck?



# Congestion

- Is congestion relief the most important goal of transportation planning?
- Is congestion really the problem?
  - Reliability vs. speed
  - Look for the underlying causes of congestion



# Strategies to Address Congestion

- Adding capacity
- Providing mobility in the face of congestion
  - Technology
  - HOV/HOT lanes
  - Transit
  - Land use/smart growth



# Transit



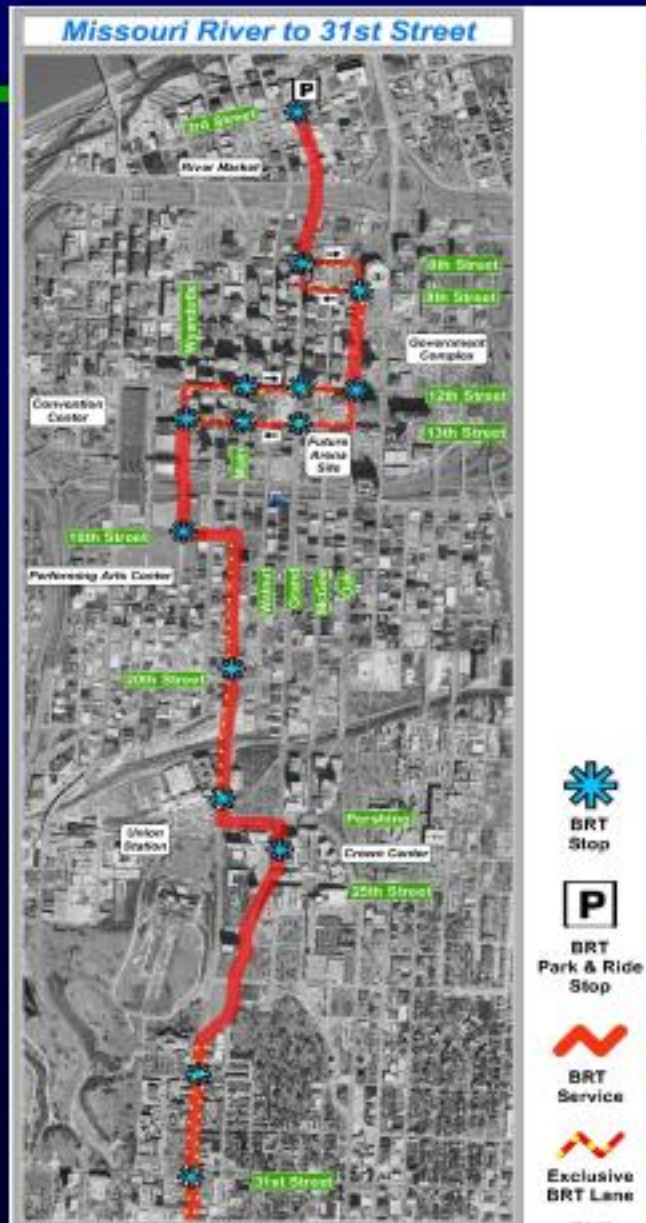
- Roles of transit
  - Basic mobility
  - Other goals
    - Alternative to auto
    - Choice riders
    - Environment and sustainability
    - Economic development
    - Etc.

# Transit Peer Comparison

- Compared with six peer systems, IndyGo is:
  - Offering less service
  - Carrying fewer passengers
  - Incurring less O&M expense
  - Spending far less local money per capita
  - Obtaining the most State O&M funding
  - Most dependent on Federal capital funds



# Incremental Development of Transit



- Long range vision plans can be useful
- Incremental improvements are often used to work toward vision
  - Kansas City
  - Charlotte



# Bus Rapid Transit



# Transit Funding

	Capital	Operating
Federal	47.2%	4.1%
State	10.8%	20.5%
Transit Agencies		
–Taxes	26.7%	17.4%
–Fares		36.1%
Local	15.5%	21.9%

Most transit agencies have a dedicated local revenue source

- Sales tax
- Gasoline tax
- Employment tax
- Tolls
- Etc.



# How are Transit Funds Used?

<b>Capital</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Infrastructure &amp; rolling stock</li><li>-Renovation &amp; replacement</li><li>-Planning &amp; design</li></ul>	<b>28.4%</b>
<b>Operating</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Salaries &amp; benefits</li><li>-Fuel &amp; supplies</li><li>-Purchased transportation</li><li>-Insurance &amp; other</li></ul>	<b>71.6%</b>

# Institutional Issues

- Governance: Who will organize and manage transit?
  - Set policy
  - Collect and disburse revenues
  - Assume risks
- Coordinating regional and local transit service and investments
  - Washington
  - Atlanta
- Coordinating fare policy



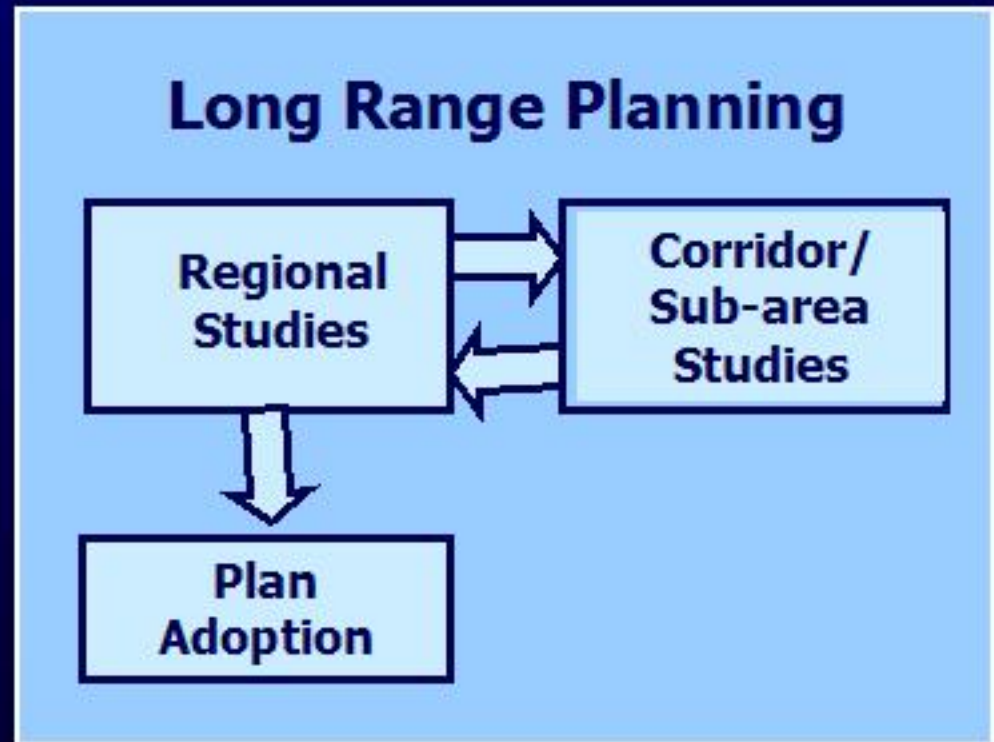
# Transit Opportunities in Highway Reconstruction

- “Hyperfix” bus service
- Northern Virginia
- Tri-Rail in Florida
- Salt Lake City Olympics

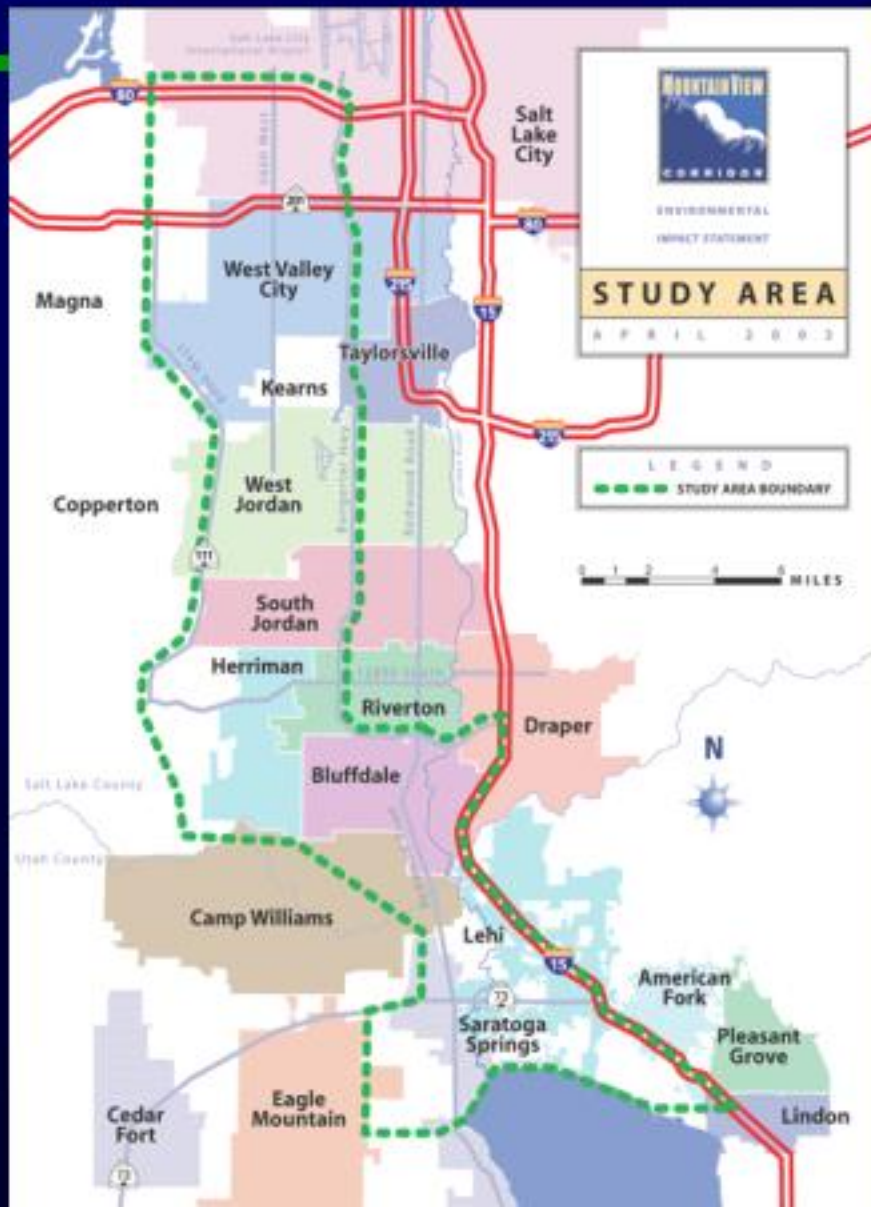


# Planning Trends: Corridor Studies

- Transit Alternatives Analysis
- INDOT "One Decision-Making Process"
- Linking Planning and NEPA



# More Planning Trends



- Multi-modal and inter-modal planning
  - Salt Lake City
  - Columbus
- Linking transportation and land use
  - Salt Lake City
  - Charlotte

