

Center for Urban Transportation Research

University of South Florida ■ Tampa



Established in the USF College of Engineering in 1988 by the Florida Legislature and the Florida Board of Regents, CUTR has become recognized nationally and serves as an important resource for policymakers, transportation professionals, the education

system, and the public. With emphasis on developing innovative, implementable solutions to transportation problems, CUTR provides high quality, objective transportation expertise in the form of technical support, policy analysis, and research support that translates directly into benefits for its project sponsors.

A significant factor in CUTR's success and a unique aspect of the Center is the responsiveness resulting from its faculty of full-time employees dedicated to conducting research. The multidisciplinary research staff includes experts in economics, planning, engineering, public policy, and geography who develop comprehensive solutions for all modes of transportation while combining academic and "real world" experience.

CUTR conducts nearly \$7 million in research annually for a variety of public and private sector sponsors in Florida and the United States, including federal, state and local governments, agencies, and organizations. Areas of research include public transportation, transportation planning, mobility policy, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), transportation demand management (TDM), transportation economics and finance, corridor planning, and ethnography and transport systems, among others.

CUTR Involvement in Education

CUTR is fully involved in the transportation education experience, including providing adjunct faculty for several courses, employing students as research assistants, and providing mentoring and guidance to young professionals as they pursue post-USF careers and educational opportunities. Financial support for students is provided in the form of research assistantships, fellows programs, and supplemental scholarship grants/awards.

CUTR sponsors a student chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, provides thesis and dissertation research opportunities, supports student participation in professional development activities, and coordinates the Graduate Interdisciplinary Transportation Certificate program, which enables students in Public Administration, Civil Engineering and Economics to establish credentials in transportation. In addition, a variety of continuing education and professional development initiatives are conducted.

CUTR Technology Transfer

In its continuing efforts to serve as an important transportation resource for Florida, CUTR conducts a variety of activities aimed at providing useful transportation information to the public and private sectors throughout the state. Activities include developing and hosting training courses, conferences, and teleconferences; producing and distributing research reports, publications such as *CUTRlines* (a newsletter on CUTR's research activities), the *Journal of Public Transportation* (a scholarly international journal with more than 2,000 subscribers), and the *Florida Transportation Almanac* (a compendium of state transportation data and information); maintaining a web site; and operating and maintaining information clearinghouses and a transportation resource center.

CUTR Research Programs

National Center for Transit Research (NCTR)

Joel Volinski, Director

(volinski@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9847)

NCTR was created at CUTR following Congressional designations in 1991 and 1998 to help accomplish national goals in the areas of transportation education, research, and technology transfer. Research is focused on public transportation, including alternatives such as carpool and vanpool, telecommuting, paratransit, fixed-route bus, and guideway transit technologies. Research also focuses on the interface of public transit with other modes of transportation and the integration of public transit considerations in general transportation and land use planning. NCTR's multi-year work program includes activities designed to provide decisionmakers and the transportation profession with the knowledge and information necessary to help provide quality public transportation services and facilities. Included in these activities is the National Bus Rapid Transit Institute, conducted in cooperation with the University of California-Berkeley and the Federal Transit Administration.

Transit Program

Dennis Hinebaugh, Program Director

(hinebaugh@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9833)

Researchers in this program provide technical support and planning research for transit systems, state departments of transportation, local governments, school boards, and metropolitan planning organizations in the areas of program monitoring and evaluation, bus rapid transit, transit system performance and peer analyses, transit development plans, operations planning, customer satisfaction, school transportation planning and student safety issues, transit system safety and security, long-range transportation plans, and advanced public transportation systems.

Transit Technical Assistance and Training Program

Lisa Staes, Program Director

(staes@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9787)

This program provides technical assistance and training opportunities to Florida's public transportation agencies through such programs as the Florida Maintenance Training and Technical Assistance Program, which provides training to bus transit maintenance professionals; the Florida Vehicle Procurement Program, which provides opportunities for transportation providers

to purchase vehicles directly from vendors at reduced rates; the Florida Bus Operator Trainer Training Program, which provides training and certification to bus operator trainers; and the Statewide Transit Technical Assistance and Training Program, which provides technical assistance and support and professional development opportunities to public transportation professionals.

Mobility Policy Research Program

*Steven E. Polzin, Ph.D., P.E., Program Director
(polzin@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9849)*

This program conducts a variety of policy-focused research initiatives targeted to blending knowledge of the technical, political, and social aspects of transportation with appropriate research methods to gain a richer understanding of transportation and provide policy guidance for addressing transportation problems. Research initiatives include transit agency governance, pedestrian travel behavior, and transportation finance, among others. Projects include grants and contracts for local, state and national clients that range in scope from peer oversight engagements and technical support to managing multi-party, multi-year research projects.

Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program

*Philip L. Winters, Program Director
(winters@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9811)*

CUTR's multidisciplinary TDM team is unique in its integration of technical skills and TDM knowledge, blending transportation and land use planning education, analytical skills, and training. The team applies its knowledge to address local or regional TDM needs, including operations, policies, and procedures. Specialties include TDM strategic planning, carpool/vanpool program design, high occupancy vehicle facilities, teleworking, TDM program evaluation, transportation management associations/organizations, and TDM training.

Transit Management Program

*Rob Gregg, Program Director
(gregg@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-8383)*

The Transit Management Program is a new area of practical technical support and transit management services addressing key public transportation issues concerning Advanced Public Transportation Systems (APTS), strategic planning, and project management. A major project funded by U.S. Department of Transportation that will provide national experience is an evaluation program for the Delaware Valley Electronic Payment System. Other current projects include high capacity transit studies and five-year strategic plans for local transit agencies.

Planning and Corridor Management Program

*Kristine Williams, AICP, Program Director
(krwillia@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9807)*

This program provides research support, training, and technical assistance to state, regional, and local agencies on access management, right-of-way preservation issues, best practices in transportation planning, and community impact assessment. Researchers specialize in land development and access management practices, corridor management planning, MPO long range planning practices, land development and access management strategies for interchange areas, right-of-way preservation strategies, medians and roadway design issues, agency coordination strategies, public involvement, and the development of access management and right-of-way preservation policies, procedures, and programs.

Ethnography and Transportation Systems Program

*Beverly Ward, Ph.D., Program Director
(ward@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9773)*

CUTR's ETS program explores transportation behavior, issues, and needs of subgroups of the population. Research projects have examined the mobility needs of different segments of the population and at different periods in the human lifecycle and include traditional research practices such as conducting data collection and analysis, surveys, focus groups, and interviews; convening symposia and conducting workshops; providing training on public participation; and evaluating service delivery. More recently, these practices have been combined to assess the impacts and risks associated with transportation and other federally-assisted actions.

ITS, Traffic Operations & Safety Program

*Larry Hagen, Program Director
(hagen@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-9815)*

Researchers in this program participate in innovative projects in which new concepts and technologies are being applied to solve real-world problems. Specialties include the evaluation, cost-effectiveness, and implementation feasibility of applying ITS technologies to existing transportation systems in the areas of advanced public transportation systems, advanced traffic management systems, advanced traveler information systems, advanced crash avoidance systems, automatic vehicle location, automated traffic data collection, electronic toll and traffic management systems, regionalized comprehensive transportation master plans, and weather monitoring systems.

Transportation Program Evaluation and Economic Analysis

*Stephen Reich, Program Director
(reich@cutr.usf.edu, 813-974-6435)*

The TPEEA Program team blends decades of executive transportation management experience with advanced quantitative, geographic, and economic analysis capabilities. The program area serves a diverse set of transportation agencies and decision makers. With an emphasis on institutional innovation, the group assists transit agencies, toll authorities, local regulators, and statewide boards with policy development, operational enhancements, and econometric analysis as well as the exploration of new technologies, with emphasis on helping organizations move an idea through research and analysis to implementation.



For more information, contact
Center for Urban Transportation Research
Dr. Edward A. Mierzejewski, PhD, PE, Director
College of Engineering
University of South Florida
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, CUT100
Tampa, FL 33620-5375
(813) 974-3120, fax (813) 974-5168
email: pball@cutr.usf.edu
www.cutr.usf.edu