

Webinar: All Aboard: Making Equity Central in Transportation Planning

September 27, 2013

Lifting Up What Works[®]

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Barriers to Opportunity

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- 20 Percent of African Americans who live in a household where no one owns a car, compared to 14 percent of Latinos, 13 percent of Asian Americans and 5 percent of non-Hispanic whites.
- **2 in 3** Residents of small town have no access or substandard access to transit.
 - 7 Percent of a U.S. region's jobs that can be accessed via a one-way, 45-minute transit ride.
 - 77 Percent of regional low- and middle-skill jobs that low-income suburban families cannot reach via transit.

Sources: Brookings Institution and UC-Berkeley, "Socioeconomic Differences in Household Automobile Ownership Rates", 2006; American Public Transportation Association, "Mobility for America's Small Urban and Rural Communities"; Brookings Institution, "Missed Opportunity: Transit and Jobs in Metropolitan America", 2011; Ibid.

Tools & Resources

PolicyLink



www.policylink.org

The Sustainable Communities Initiative



www.policylink.org/sustainablecommunities

Lifting Up What Works®

Today's Speakers





Anita Hairston Associate Director PolicyLink (Today's Moderator)



Barbara Stiffarm Executive Director Opportunity Link



Beverly Scott, Ph.D. General Manager Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Today's Speakers









Barbara Major

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Board of Commissioners Sam Tepperman-Gelfant Senior Staff Attorney Public Advocates Jeff Hobson Deputy Director TransForm





Barbara Stiffarm Executive Director Opportunity Link



VIDEO: We Ride the Line

Innovations in Regional Rural Transportation

Regional Public Transportation System

Facilitated establishment of 6 new rural transit systems in North Central Montana (Northern Transit Interlocal, Fort Belknap Transit System, North Central Montana Transit, Rocky Boy Transit, Toole County Transit, and Glacier County Transit)

Opportunity Link's Homegrown Strategies in Regional Transportation Planning

- Together with communities, developed a regional transportation plan with options for local and/or coordinated implementation
- Facilitated planning, if needed
- Neutral convener to ensure inclusive, multi-jurisdictional participation in planning process
- Horizontal, networked approach for collaboration and leadership
- Provided technical assistance on rural public transportation with local expertise (Western Transportation Institute)



For more information, contact:

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Vibrant Futures for North Central Montana www.vibrantfuturesmt.org

North Central Montana Transit www.ncmtransit.org





EQUITY CHOICES IN TRANSPORTATION

Beverly A. Scott, Ph.D General Manager and Rail & Transit Administrator





EQUITY



Sustainable

Full and equal access to opportunities and amenities, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age or wealth.



Demographic Change



Racial and Ethnic Breakdown for Boston's Population, 1980-2010

- · Over the last several decades, the racial and ethnic composition of Boston has changed a great deal
- . In 1980, close to 70% of Boston was white. Today, only half the city is white.
- · The last two Census reports show Boston as a "majority-minority" city.





Metro Boston Income Gap





Source: Decennial Censuses in 1980, 1990, 2000, American Community Surveys in 2005 & 2006

Regional Transit Decision-Making



MBTA/MASSDOT Board of Directors

- 7 Members: 4-year staggered terms
- Appointed by Governor
- Members include:
 - Secretary of Transportation
 - •Experts in Fields of: Engineering (1), Finance (2), Transportation Planning (2)







Regional Transit Decision-Making



BOSTON REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION









Federal Transit Civil Rights Regulatory Framework









Decision-Making Considerations



EQUITABLE ACCESS



Process

- Civic Engagement
- Participation in decision-making
- Outcomes
 - Transit Service Quality
 - Access to Jobs
 - Access to Affordable Housing
 - Access to basic needs (major medical, educational, recreational and shopping facilities)
 - Healthy communities









Barbara Major

New Orleans Regional Transit Authority Board of Commissioners

REGIONAL EQUITY ADVOCACY SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA





September 27, 2013

Presented to PolicyLink webinar:

All Aboard: Making Equity Central in Transportation Planning

Sam Tepperman-Gelfant, Public Advocates Inc.

Jeff Hobson, TransForm



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Population: 7 million (2011) to 9 million (2040) Median home price = \$555,000 (down from \$700k+) Households earning \$20-50k devote 63% of budget to housing & transportation (highest % in U.S.) It would take 5+ minimum wage jobs to afford 2bedroom apartment in most SF neighborhoods Oakland lost 1/3 of African American population between 1990 and 2010

PLAN BAY AREA TIMELINE

2010 Agencies start process Advocacy platforms & Coalition Building

2011 Performance Targets + Project Performance Analysis Equity, Environment & Jobs (EEJ) scenario proposed

2012 Preferred Alternative adopted Agencies agree to model EEJ Scenario

2013 EEJ = "Environmentally Superior Alternative" Plan Bay Area Adopted

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION



WHITE FLIGHT TO SUBURBS



Ribbon-cutting ceremony along the first portion of Interstate highway to be completed in Wisconsin on September 4, 1958–I-94 in the Waukesha area. (Photo courtesy Wisconsin Historical Society Archive

- The restriction that no part of said premises shall in any manner be used or occupied directly or indirectly by any negro or negroes, provided that this restriction shall not prevent the occupation, during the period of their employment, of janitors' or chauffeurs' quarters in the basement or in a barn or garage in the rear, or of servants' quarters by negro janitors, chauffeurs or house servants, respectively, actually employed as such for service in and about the premises by the rightful owner or occupant of said premises.
- 2. The restriction that no part of said premises shall be sold, given, conveyed or leased to any negro or negroes, and no permission or license to use or occupy any part thereof shall be given to any negro except house servants or janitors or chauffeurs employed thereon as aforesaid.

SPARKED UNSUSTAINABLE PATTERNS



PATTERNS PERSIST TODAY



6 BIG WINS FOR SOCIAL EQUITY



Equity, Environment, & Jobs Scenario

I SUPPORT AN EQUITY

I SUPPORT AN

EQUITY

SCENARIO

Photo credit:

KEY INGREDIENTS OF THE EEJ SCENARIO

- Distribute Housing Growth Equitably: Increase quality affordable housing options in both urban and suburban job centers
- Protect against Displacement: Ensure that lower-income communities are not displaced by TOD
- Improve Local Transit Service: Increase funding for transit operations, especially in low-income communities & communities of color
- Fund high-performing projects: Prioritize scarce transportation dollars for highest performing investments

EEJ: THE "ENVIRONMENTALLY SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE"

Education and Advocacy Day

Media & Communications

Turnout & Testimony



Building Broad Support

HIGH LEVEL OUTCOMES

- Preferred Alternative adopted relatively unchanged (EEJ not adopted wholesale)
- Key Amendments Won that Set-up Future Advocacy
 - Regional Transit Operations and Maintenance Program
 - Transparent Public Process to allocate Cap and Trade Revenue
 - Stronger framing of displacement risk and strengthening antidisplacement policies
 - Labor policies and best practices
- Progressive groups provide strong organizing and political mobilization in face of vocal right-wing antiplanning contingent

OUTCOMES: AFFORDABLE HOUSING & INVESTMENT WITHOUT DISPLACEMENT



OUTCOMES: TRANSIT & PROJECT PERFORMANCE

More focus than ever on existing buses, trains, streets	
Regional Transit Operations/Maintenance program	
Project performance assessment rejected worst projects	
Commitment to study converting existing lanes for High- Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane network	
Don't know if region can afford transit network needed to mal the rest of the plan work	ke
Proposed HOT network has 270 miles of new highways	
Win transit funding in county/local measures	
Ensure HOT network dedicates revenues to transit, considers converting existing lanes	34
	Regional Transit Operations/Maintenance program Project performance assessment rejected worst projects Commitment to study converting existing lanes for High- Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane network Don't know if region can afford transit network needed to main the rest of the plan work Proposed HOT network has 270 miles of new highways Win transit funding in county/local measures Ensure HOT network dedicates revenues to transit, considers

LESSONS LEARNED

For advocates:

- Strong + early regional organizing
- Lead with equity
- Build policies and relationships across issues
- Organizing + policy analysis = more power
- Momentum for status quo (county agencies)
- Political limits of data-driven decision making

For agencies:

- Set targets + analyze performance: TRY to use data
- Value of integrated transportation & land use planning
- Communicate & collaborate with advocates

MORE INFORMATION

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Questions and Answers

Please use the webinar "chat" function to submit your questions.



Lifting Up What Works®



THANK YOU!

For more information, visit <u>www.policylink.org</u> or contact Anita Hairston (<u>anita@policylink.org</u>) or Kalima Rose (<u>Kalima@policylink.org</u>).

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