

Benefit-Cost Analysis for Transportation Infrastructure: A Practitioners Workshop



Client

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)

Facts

Period 2010 - 2012

Project Country United States

By Glen Weisbrod, President of EDR Group (now EBP) was a featured speaker at USDOT's day-long training workshop in Washington DC, focusing on the topic of "Being Clear about Benefit/Cost Analysis and Economic Impact Analysis."

USDOT sponsored a day-long training workshop in Washington DC (broadcast live via internet) to provide local, regional and state agencies and consultants with an introduction to best practice in defining benefit/cost analysis for transportation infrastructure investment. The workshop summary notes that: "There is growing emphasis on the use of benefit/cost analysis for evaluating transportation projects funded by discretionary federal transportation programs. The workshop begins with an overview of benefit/cost analysis and a discussion of the differences between benefit/cost analysis and economic impact analysis. Other topics include job creation and real estate investment benefits, and measuring the benefits of the U.S. Department of Transportation's strategic goals - safety, livable communities, state-of-good-repair, economic competitiveness, and environmental sustainability."

You can view a video of the workshop or view the Power Point slides produced by Mr. Weisbrod. The slides also demonstrate how TREDIS reports can be used to display and distinguish between the very different viewpoints of BCA(Benefit-Cost Analysis) and EIA (Economic Impact Analysis).

View the Workshop Agenda: Benefit/Cost Analysis for Transportation Infrastructure: A Practitioner's Workshop

View the Slide Show: "Being Clear about Benefit/Cost Analysis and Economic Impact Analysis"

View the Workshop Video (the 30 minute presentation by G. Weisbrod can be seen by sliding the viewer ball to view the period of 1:01 to 1:32)

United States Department of Transportation

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Benefit Coverage Differences

| | Traveler Benefit | Full User Benefit | Societal Benefit | Economic Development Impact |
|---|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| \$ Passenger Time Savings - personal travel | Yes | Yes | Yes | -- |
| \$ Passenger Time Savings - business travel | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| \$ Travel Vehicle Operating Expense Savings | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| \$ Travel Safety (Accident) Cost Savings | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| \$ Value of Consumer Surplus | -- | Yes | Yes | -- |
| \$ Shipper/Receiver Productivity Gain (Reliability, Connectivity, Logistics, Supply Chain) | -- | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| \$ Market Access & Scale Productivity Gain (Labor Mkt, Delivery Mkt Scale & Agglomeration) | -- | -- | Yes | Yes |
| \$ Value of Environmental & Health Benefits | -- | -- | Yes | -- |
| \$ Value of Community, Quality of Life, Mobility | -- | -- | Yes | -- |
| \$ Income from Business Location Shifts | -- | -- | -- | Yes |
| \$ Income from Suppliers, Consumer Spending | -- | -- | -- | Yes |

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Economic Development RESEARCH GROUP

Benefit/Cost Analysis for Transportation Infrastructure

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