

Research Resources for Rural Transportation Planning

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National Rural Transportation
Peer Learning Conference
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Three Themes

1. TRB & the Committee on Transportation and Economic Development
2. Other Sponsors of Rural Research: ARC, FHWA, Universities, Consultants
3. Core Issues for Rural Research

2



Transportation Research Board

- International Organization
- State & Federal Supported Research
- Hundreds of Committees on all aspects of Planning Practice
- National Conference
- Dozens of Specialty Conferences
- Thousands of Publications

www.trb.org

3



Conferences 10-06 to 9-07

- Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation
- TRB 86th Annual Meeting
- Key Issues in Transportation Programming
- Incident and Special Events Management
- Disaster Planning for the Car-less
- Harbor Safety Conference
- Agricultural and Food Truck Transport for the Future
- Transportation Planning Applications
- North American Landslide Conference
- Performance Measurement
- Transport for Elderly & Disabled People
- Low-Volume Roads
- Transportation Planning and Land Use
- Symposium on Cold Region Development

www.trb.org

4



Committee on Transportation & Economic Development

- TED2006 Conference – cosponsored by FHWA, ARC, NADO, AMPO, IEDC
- Workshop on Economic Development Methods
- Annual Conference Sessions –Road Investment Benefits; Rail & Air Abandonment Impacts
- Web site links to TRIS, NTL, other resources.

www.tedcommittee.com

5



Links to Guides on Transportation & Economic Development

- *Internet Guide to Benefit-Cost Analysis in Transportation
- *Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects
- *Assessing the Economic Impact of Transportation: How to Match the Appropriate Technique to Your Project
- *Guidebook for Assessing Social & Economic Effects of Transportation Projects
- *Current Practice for Assessing Economic Development Impacts from Transportation Projects
- *Economic Impacts of Transport Projects: Toolbox for Regional Policy

www.tedcommittee.com → links

6



FHWA-Funded Research

- * Economic Development Web Page
- * State Economic Development Highway Programs
- * Guide to Measuring Economic Impact of Highways
- * Economic Effects of Rural Interstates (case studies)
- * Economic Growth from Transportation Improvements: Does it or Doesn't it?
- * US Economic Development & Benefit-Cost Policy for Transportation

www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/econdev

7



Forms of Highway-Oriented Development

Highway Strip Development



Highway Bypass



Industrial Parks



Lack of Development



8



Appalachian Regional Commission

- * Handbook for Assessing Economic Opportunities from New Appalachian Highways
- Intermodal Opportunities and Economic Benefits of Intermodal Efficiencies
- * Global Competitiveness of Key Industries and Clusters in Appalachia
- * Appalachian Development Highways: Economic Impact Studies
- * ARC-LEAP: Local Economic Assessment Package

www.arc.org → research reports

9



Highway Impacts on Regional Economic Development

Given Local Conditions – Resources, Constraints and Opportunities

Decision Criteria on Most Appropriate Growth Path(s) to Pursue



Performance Evaluation – gauging progress on a growth path

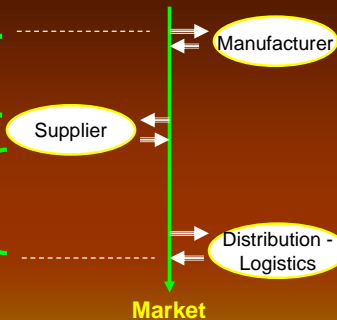
Goal – Improved Economic Development

10



Consider Supply Chains

Distance between locations that allows for competitive operations for each aspect of the supply chain



11

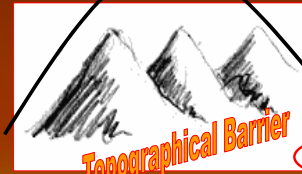


Markets for Asset-based Activity

Market A

- natural resources
- tourism

Fixed Asset Location



Topographical Barrier

Market B

12



Library of Web Links on Economic Development & Transport

- Economic Concepts
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Economic Implications: General Transportation (all modes)
- Economic Implications: Air, Sea, Rail, Road, Bike, Pedestrian Modes

www.edrgroup.com → Library

13



LEAP/TREDIS: Transport Affect on Economic Growth

Basic Requirements

- Land
- Infrastructure
- Labor Force
- Materials
- Markets

} Premises

} Access

- Highways
- Truck to Freight Train
- Truck/Car to Airport
- Truck/Rail to Marine port

Other Considerations

- Industry Clusters/Links
- Quality of Life
- Business Climate
- Regulations
- Taxes/Incentives

www.edrgroup.com/tredis/leap

14

Spreadsheet Tools

- Scenic Byways Economic Impact Tool (ABRC)
- Highway Bypass Economic Impact Tool (CalDOT)
- Left Turn Restriction Impact Tool (NCHRP)
- New Highway Economic Opportunities Tool (ARC)
- Highway Market Access Estimation Tools (NCHRP Guide to Social and Economic Factors)
- Others: National Transportation Library, TRIS Transportation Research Information System, National Cooperative Highway Research Program

www.tedcommittee.com → links

15

Core Analysis Issue: Avoid the Urban Model for Rural Areas !

Urban Model

- Demand patterns (O-D flows) are given;
- Invest to functionally meet demand;
- Benefit is primarily in minimizing VMT and VHT (delay due to congestion).



16

Core Analysis Issue: Adopt Appropriate Models for Rural Areas

Traditional Perspective

- Basic accessibility requirements are given;
- Invest to provide connectivity (linkages);
- Benefit is primarily in maximizing accessibility to resources & markets.



17

Core Analysis Issue: Seek Rural Challenges & Strategic Opportunities

Service Challenges

Trucking: Higher Cost, Lower Availability (deadheading)
 Rail: Higher Cost, Lower Availability (intermediate location)
 Market Access: Geological and Density Challenges



Access Opportunities

Strategic Connections with Commercial Corridors
 Intermodal Terminal Connections
 Development of "Micropolitan" Market Centers

Download this Slide Show at www.edrgroup.com

18