

Transportation/Infrastructure Workgroup Notes from August 5 Kick Off Event

Group Member Expertise

Participants of the workshop were asked to rate several categories listed below are the results.

Transit (Rural/Urban/Different Modes)	4	8	2
Pedestrian/Bicycle	7	5	0
Roadways (streets/highways)	10	1	0
Freight (Maritime shipping, road rail air)	3	2	2
Transportation Safety, security, and evacuation	2	3	1
Travel Demand Mechanisms (carpooling, Ect)	3	0	2
Transportation Financing	5	3	4
Ports/Airports/Waterborne Transportation	2	2	3
Operations, ITS Congestion Management	4	1	1
Transit Oriented Development	5	5	1
Land Use	6	5	0
Transportation Policy, Performance Measures	7	2	0
Social equity	4	4	1
Other Public Involvement	1	0	0
Other Biophilic Design integration	1	0	0
Other Fuel supply risk	0	1	0

Sustainability – Definition

Transportation

1. Integrated and Practical
 - Not serving just one destination /source
2. Efficient/proper mode for the trip
 - Expands the “scale of use” – current situation
 - Joule as measurement
 - Air quality
 - Vehicle miles traveled not going to change – vehicle miles per capita
3. Diversity – Mode choices
 - BRT
 - Commuter Rail

- Battle between what's financially feasible vs. need
- 4. Land use – relationship with transportation
 - Developers – same return on investment with less risk
- 5. *Educate the decision – makers
- 6. Supply vs. demand
 - Affordable housing
- 7. Not just about how we look today
 - Short and long range transportation ideas
- 8. Educate the public
 - Home buying “savings” vs. lifestyle expenditures
- 9. Lack of connectivity with nodes
- 10. What is the vision – definition
- 11. Beyond jurisdictional boundaries
 - Collective thinking
- 12. Multi-modal and safely connected
 - Schools
- 13. Ports and industries are economic and transportation “drivers”
 - If transportation network fails so will economic growth
- 14. *Next generation – educate with sustainable programs
- 15. “Slow Street” – more efficient use of the “fast streets”

Accomplish via education/vision – multimodal connected integrated

The outcome of this exercise was to develop a definition of sustainable in regards to transportation through education. Through education a vision/definition of a multi-modal, connected and integrated system can be achieved.

Challenges vs. Opportunities

There were six challenges and ten opportunities that were addressed during the Sustainable Communities Workgroup each is listed below.

The challenges discussed have a corresponding number shown, which indicates the participants who agreed with the challenge.

1. Funding primarily dedicated to highways – 10
2. Decisions from policy officials are rural and highway centric – 5
3. Jurisdictional boundaries – 6
 - Funding – 2

4. In regards to the expansion of the Port of Houston – Panama ships require greater depth
5. “This Plan” – marketing challenge – 3
6. E.J. Communities
 - transportation inequities
 - public health

The opportunities discussed also indicate the participants who agreed with the available opportunities.

1. Untapped resources - 1
 - Use of land and other resources (i.e. better use of available R/W) – 5
2. Existing freight network – 6
 - Take pressure off highways
3. Floodplain as green belt – 3
4. Park and ride and HOV lanes
5. Ports as economic driver – 1
6. Airport System
7. Mitigation practices
 - New and/or existing development
8. Diversity of Ports
 - Not just one
9. Demographic shifts
 - Analyze linkages to reduce lost
10. Flex funding - 1