



Research team gathers feedback at Value Capture stakeholder workshop

CTS hosted a half-day stakeholder workshop on September 18 to introduce the Value Capture Study and receive feedback on the questions it should address.

Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, gave welcoming comments for the workshop, which was moderated by CTS director **Robert Johns**.

The state legislature appropriated funding to CTS earlier this year to study the public policy implications of “value capture”—public financing methods that capture part of the increased value of private property following a public investment such as a highway interchange.

The workshop featured brief presentations by four members of the research team assembled by CTS to conduct the study. Principal investigators are **David Levinson**, the Braun/CTS



David Levinson



Jerry Zhao



Michael Iacono



Adeel Lari

Chair in Transportation Engineering and associate professor of civil engineering; **Zhirong (Jerry) Zhao**, assistant professor in the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; and **Adeel Lari**, research fellow in the Humphrey Institute. The team also includes **Michael Iacono**, a research fellow in the Department of Civil Engineering.

Levinson began the workshop with some background on transportation and value creation. Transportation creates access; access creates value; landowners receive value. Through

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CERS Summer Institute takes aim at ‘culture of complacency’ toward rural traffic fatalities

Road safety is a national public health crisis, and it is being ignored by far too many people, according to **J. Peter Kissinger**, president and CEO of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

Kissinger joined leading state and national traffic safety researchers, policymakers, and professionals as they examined the policies and political challenges to reducing rural traffic fatalities during the Center for Excellence in Rural Safety’s annual Summer Institute on July 28 and 29. The two-day event, held this year in Santa Rosa, California, was co-hosted by the California Department of Transportation.

CERS, established by the 2005 federal transportation act, is a joint program between the University of Minnesota’s Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and CTS.

The event focused on a variety of rural



J. Peter Kissinger

transportation safety topics, including the latest research, innovative practices, political perspectives, and communications tools. Meeting rural safety needs in new federal transportation funding legislation to succeed SAFETEA-LU, which expires next year, was a key element in much of the discussion throughout the two days.

The Summer Institute also introduced the new **SafeRoadMaps.org** online crash-mapping tool created by a team led by CERS research director **Tom Horan**.

“At a time when we have progressive agencies setting zero-death visions, one death should be unacceptable. One death every 13 minutes ought to be an outrage,” Kissinger said during his keynote speech about the foundation’s finding of a “culture of complacency” toward traffic safety.

The Summer Institute also featured speakers from Minnesota, California, and across

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Freight & logistics symposium:

Energy costs and the supply chain

Skyrocketing energy costs are squeezing every sector of the economy like never before, triggering a chain reaction of price increases and a rethinking of total-cost concepts for freight and goods distribution. The 12th annual CTS Freight and Logistics Symposium, titled “Energy Uncertainties: Supply Chain Impacts in the Upper Midwest,” will explore these issues. The symposium will be held December 5, 2008, in Minneapolis.

Energy uncertainties may affect location decisions (manufacturing, supply positioning, and warehousing), inventory carrying and turning, and delivery-mode choice. Representatives from the business community, academia, and the public sector will discuss the impact of energy issues on the supply chain as well as options for meeting energy needs and possible public policy alternatives.

Craig Simon, president of supply chain services with FedEx, will make the keynote presentation.

The symposium brochure is enclosed. For more information, contact **Sara Van Essendelft**, 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu. **CTS**

Minnesota leaders, partnerships showcased at national HOV/HOT conference

State leaders and projects were prominent at the Transportation Research Board 13th International High-Occupancy Vehicle/High-Occupancy Toll (HOV/HOT) Systems Conference, held September 7–9 in Minneapolis.



Scott Dibble



Tom Sorel

of Mn/DOT and CTS Executive Committee member **Brian Lamb** of Metro Transit.

Peter Bell, chairman of the Metropolitan Council, was the featured speaker at the first-day luncheon.

His remarks continued the emphasis on Minnesota's innovative partnerships.

Themed "Partners for Innovation," the conference highlighted the latest developments in HOV, HOT, and managed lanes projects throughout North America. In addition, representatives from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT), Metro Transit, and the University of Minnesota discussed components of the Minnesota Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA).

In the opening session, **Tom Sorel**, commissioner of Mn/DOT and a member of the CTS Executive Committee, discussed innovation and partnerships at the department.

The next general session, presided over by **Arlene McCarthy** of the Twin Cities' Metropolitan Council, looked at "Minnesota-style" innovative transportation partnerships. Speakers were **Nick Thompson** and **Kenneth Buckeye**

In breakout sessions, **Lee Munnich** of the University's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs described MnPASS users, and **Adeel Lari**, also of the Humphrey Institute, presented the telecommuting elements of the Minnesota UPA. The Met Council's **Connie Kozlak**, chair of the CTS Planning/Environment Council, moderated the breakout session on Minnesota's UPA projects.

The September 8 luncheon featured a presentation on excellence in innovation and transportation by State Senator **Scott Dibble**, chair of the Minnesota Senate Transit Subcommittee and a CTS Executive Committee member. Dibble said innovations such as those shared at the conference are "vital" for solving transportation and mobility challenges.

"Converting the I-394 HOV lanes to HOT lanes, which has now given rise to the Urban Partnership Agreement innovations on I-35W and Cedar Avenue, was the result of research, conversation, persuasion, patience, and collaboration," Dibble said. He credited Munnich, the Humphrey Institute, and CTS for their work in influencing the state's political climate regarding transportation issues. (Dibble's speech is posted at www.cts.umn.edu/Publications/CTSReport/2008/10/documents/Dibble_Speech.pdf.)

Minnesota has been awarded \$133.3 million through the USDOT's Urban Partnership Agreement program for strategies to reduce traffic congestion in the Twin Cities. Of that sum, the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Institute at CTS will receive \$5.3 million to help Minnesota Valley Transit Authority buses better navigate shoulder lanes using lane-guidance technology.

The TRB HOV Systems Committee organized the event in cooperation with CTS, Mn/DOT, the Met Council, Metro Transit, the Humphrey Institute, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Texas Transportation Institute. **CTS**

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the nation, including **Thomas Barrett**, U.S. deputy secretary of transportation; **Mike Brown**, deputy secretary for public safety, California Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency; **Jim Bourgart**, deputy secretary for transportation and infrastructure, California Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency; **Jim McDonnell**, deputy program director for engineering, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO); **Lauren Stewart**, director of the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety; and **Cheri Marti**, director of the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety. CTS director **Robert Johns** served as moderator.

During opening remarks, CERS director **Lee Munnich** set the stage for the annual meeting by providing a brief background about the Center and its mission. "We're trying to help raise the visibility of this issue," he said.



Lee Munnich



Tom Horan

Presentations incorporated a broad range of ideas, converging around a sense of urgency to move traffic safety up in priority on the public agenda as well as establish an emotional connection to put faces and their stories on the often mind-numbing statistics.

Other speakers representing the University of Minnesota included Horan, who, in addition to launching SafeRoadMaps.org, shared the latest CERS research into rural emergency response times and the quality of health care outcomes; **Keith Knapp**, CERS research manager, who provided an overview of the Center's research activities; and **Mike Manser**, director of the HumanFIRST Program at the ITS Institute, who moderated a panel discussion about the role communication tools play in advancing rural traffic safety issues.

This was the third CERS annual Summer Institute. The two-day gathering, previously held in Duluth, Minnesota

Research Partnership Award: nominees sought

CTS is accepting nominations for the 2009 Research Partnership Award. The award honors research projects within the CTS program that have resulted in significant impacts on transportation. Criteria and submission instructions are in the enclosed form.

An evaluation committee will review the nominations and recommend a winning partnership to the CTS director for approval. The award will be presented at the CTS annual awards ceremony on March 25, 2009. Please submit your nomination to **Shawn Haag** by January 9. **CTS**

(2006), and Burlington, Vermont (2007), is aimed at sharing information, setting research priorities, and developing strategies for improving rural transportation safety.

For more information, see www.ruralsafety.umn.edu. **CTS**

University receives NCHRP grant to study stream-restoration structures

Professor **Fotis Sotiropoulos**, director of the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory (SAFL) on the Twin Cities campus, has received a three-year, \$600,000 grant from the National Cooperative Highway Research Program aimed at developing design methods for stream-restoration structures. Research associates **Anne Lightbody** and **Omid Mohseni** (SAFL) and Professor **Panayiotis Diplas** (Virginia Tech) were co-investigators in this project proposal. SAFL is the world's only fluid-mechanics laboratory that uses a natural waterfall (the Mississippi River) as its prime water source.

Efforts to stabilize and restore streams and rivers across the nation have grown dramatically in the last 15 years, with more than \$1 billion spent every year since 1990. Despite the large investment, it is estimated that at least half of stream restoration projects fail. This is due in large part to the fact that complex physical processes govern the interactions of turbulence in the water column with sediments in the stream and the bank. Consequently, stream restoration is today more of an art than a science, say the researchers.

This project couples an in-depth review of the current use of in-stream structures such as vanes and weirs with a comprehensive study (using physical and numerical models) of the most promising structures. Physical investigations will occur at three scales: small scale (within a three-foot-wide laboratory flume); intermediate scale (within a sinuous channel in SAFL's newly developed Outdoor StreamLab, OSL); and field scale.

Results obtained within the laboratory and OSL experimental studies will be verified against measurements obtained from existing field installations. Results from these measurements will be extended numerically to a wide range of stream types to develop guidelines for the successful construction of stable in-stream structures. These results will be combined into comprehensive quantitative engineering guidelines.



The Outdoor StreamLab

September 19 marked the grand opening of the Outdoor StreamLab, a new stream restoration/bioengineering facility, the initial phase of which was funded by SAFL and the National Center for Earth-surface Dynamics (NCED). It evolved from an earlier Mn/DOT-funded project, *Scoping Study for the Development of Design Guidelines for Bioengineering in the Upper Midwest*.

To learn more, please visit www.safll.umn.edu or www.cts.umn.edu/research. **CTS**

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value capture, he said, a fraction of that increased value is captured by public organizations to fund transportation infrastructure. In turn, more access is created and landowners receive more value, closing the feedback loop.



Margaret Anderson Kelliher

Zhao introduced three of the value capture strategies that the study will explore: tax-incremental financing, special assessment taxes, and joint private/public development. The study will look at the efficiency (economic impact) of these methods, equity (fairness for payers), adequacy (revenue generation), and feasibility (public acceptance, ease of implementation). The study will also look at how to overcome barriers.

Iacono reviewed two other strategies: land taxes and exactions. Exactions—developer contributions for on-site improvements—are often based on growth forecasts, he said, which can leave communities on the hook if forecasts are off, such as in today's foreclosure crisis. Land taxes

are viewed by economists as an “ideal” tax, he said, but have their own issues. For example, should only nearby residents be taxed for a new freeway interchange when its users may live in a different city or county? The researchers will also analyze how land taxes and development fees affect the amount of development.

Lari described his portion of the study, which will review current Minnesota laws to determine what strategies are allowed and what changes may be needed. He will also review national case studies and lessons learned and explore possibilities for implementation in Minnesota.

Stakeholders offered a number of ideas and suggestions for the research team, such as involving private sector developers.

Preliminary findings are due to the legislature by March 1, 2009, and a full report by July 1, 2009. A second stakeholder workshop will be held in March 2009.

For more information about the study, contact **Linda Preisen**, CTS research administration director, at 612-626-1808, lpreisen@cts.umn.edu, or see www.cts.umn.edu/Research/Featured/ValueCapture. **CTS**

Call for Presentations: 2009 research conference

CTS has issued a Call for Presentations for its 20th Annual Transportation Research Conference. The call invites all interested individuals to submit a one-page abstract for a presentation (or poster) at the conference, to be held May 19–20, 2009.

Please note that unlike recent years, the 2009 conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Bloomington, Minn.

If you or your organization would like to share the results of your research or innovations in transportation-related fields, please submit an abstract by November 14.

All abstracts must be submitted electronically. Go to the CTS Web site at www.cts.umn.edu/events/rescon and follow the instructions to submit your abstract.

For further information, contact **Sara Van Essendelft**, 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu. **CTS**

Call for Abstracts: International Transport Economics Conference

CTS has announced the Call for Abstracts for the International Transport Economics Conference (ITrEC), which will be held June 15–16, 2009, on the University of Minnesota west bank campus in Minneapolis.

The conference brings together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers interested in questions of transport economics. Topics include economic questions relating to revenue and finance; congestion, pricing, and investment; production and cost estimation; transport demand; energy and environment; safety; institutions and industrial

organization; and transport and land use. The conference is designed to appeal to participants from varied backgrounds, including economists and transport professionals in particular.

The conference has previously been held in Banff, Canada (2006); Leuven, Belgium (2007); and Paris, France (2008).

Abstracts will be categorized and ranked by peer reviewers. Theoretical, empirical, case-study, and policy-oriented contributions are welcome. Abstracts of up to 1,000 words must be submitted electronically by November 21, 2008,

at www.transporteconomics.org for consideration. Submitters will be notified in January, and final papers are due (subject to acceptance) by April 3, 2009.

For technical questions, e-mail **David Levinson**, Braun/CTS Chair in Transportation, at dlevinson@umn.edu; for registration or other information, contact **Sara Van Essendelft**, 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu.

For more information, visit the ITrEC Web site at www.transporteconomics.org. **CTS**

Organizations encouraged to exhibit at Career Expo

The 2009 Transportation Career Expo will take place February 5 from 4:15 to 7:15 p.m. at the Coffman Memorial Union on the Minneapolis east bank campus. Companies and agencies are encouraged to set up exhibits at the expo, network with students and recent grads, and tell them about their organizations and job opportunities. The

expo also offers an opportunity for professional organizations to reach out to students as potential members.

A Call for Exhibits is enclosed with this *Report*. If your organization would like to participate, register online. For more information, contact **Shawn Haag** at 612-625-5608, haag0025@cts.umn.edu. **CTS**

CTS seeks program coordinator

CTS is seeking applications for a full-time program coordinator to advance CTS research programs. Please see www.cts.umn.edu/Education/Careers/JobPostings or contact **Keith Carlson** at 612-625-0044, keith@cts.umn.edu. **CTS**

Upcoming events

To publicize your event, call CTS at 612-626-1077, fax 612-625-6381, or e-mail snopl001@cts.umn.edu. Visit the CTS Web site—www.cts.umn.edu—for more comprehensive event information.

Nov. 1	University of Minnesota Transportation Alumni Group Homecoming Event. Contact Stephanie Malinoff , 612-624-8398, malinoff@cts.umn.edu .	Nov. 20–22	Minnesota Association of Townships Annual Educational Conference, Alexandria, Minn. See www.mntownships.org .	Feb. 5	Transportation Career Expo, Minneapolis. Contact Shawn Haag , 612-625-5608, haag0025@cts.umn.edu .
Nov. 6	CTS Fall Luncheon, Radisson Metrodome, Minneapolis. Contact Sara Van Essendelft , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .	Dec. 3	Minnesota Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists 55th Annual Asphalt Conference, Brooklyn Park, Minn. See www.mn-aapt.org .	Feb. 12	12th Annual Minnesota Pavement Conference, St. Paul. Contact Shirley Mueffelman , 612-624-4754, cceconf2@umn.edu .
Nov. 7	Graduate Certificate in Transportation Studies Information Session, Minneapolis. Contact Stephanie Malinoff , 612-624-8398, malinoff@cts.umn.edu .	Dec. 4	58th Annual Concrete Conference, Brooklyn Center, Minn. Contact Kay Syme, 612-624-4938, cceconf4@umn.edu .	May 19–20	20th Annual CTS Transportation Research Conference. NOTE NEW LOCATION: Sheraton Hotel, Bloomington. Contact Sara Van Essendelft , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .
Nov. 19–21	Minnesota Public Works Association Fall Conference and Workshop, Brooklyn Center, Minn. Contact Clair Daley , 612-624-3492, cceconf3@umn.edu .	Dec. 5	12th Annual CTS Freight and Logistics Symposium, Minneapolis. Contact Sara Van Essendelft , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .	June 15–16	International Transport Economics Conference, Minneapolis. Contact Sara Van Essendelft , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu . CTS