

Research Needs Statement

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FUTURE RESEARCH PRESENTATION

In order to develop a statement of research needs, I attended at least one workshop with each group. On the basis of what I heard, I jotted down my impressions of research topics suggested by participants and came up with about eight topics. The first five are topics of future research:

- Identifying tax capacity limits of jurisdictions (local)
- Transferability and marketability of financing mechanisms
- Prerequisites of funding mechanisms for ensuring viability
- Private-sector participation and its influence on a region's priority program of projects
- Equity of financing mechanisms—who gains, who loses, opportunities for balance

The last three topics for which we hope to find some answers in one or two years are:

- Incentives for using MPOs as a vehicle for coordinating financial plans
- Private-sector involvement—how much and how beneficial
- Examples of successes and failures of MPO planning

These topics may, in part, be touched on by an FHWA/UMTA study done by the joint center. The objective of the study is to explore the involvement of the private sector in planning and implementation of transportation improvements through case study approaches.

In undertaking this research, we are fulfilling a mission of sharing information. We can also share our efforts. If your financial plans are completed, send them to me. They may provide information for our studies. If your financial plans are being developed, let us know. We'll be glad to provide the benefit of our knowledge as a sounding board.