

The Role of Transportation in Rural Wellbeing: Recent Activity by TRB

Presented to TRB Executive Committee

January 2019



Rural Themes at the 2018 TRB Annual Meeting

- 17 Committees with a rural focus. (Although all construction, maintenance, and materials committees have a rural highway component)
- 93 papers submitted on rural topics.
 - Freight
 - Young and old drivers
 - Crashes
 - Rural transit
 - Dust Suppression
 - Active transportation
 - Speed limits
 - High-speed intersections
 - Pedestrians
 - Roadway Geometry
 - Travel forecasting
 - Animal crashes
 - Weather - wind, fog, rain
 - Sleep
 - 2-lane roads
 - Work zones
 - Tunnels

Health and Transportation

What TRB has Done Recently

- *Proceedings: Exploring Data and Metrics of Value at the Intersection of Health Care and Transportation*
- TCRP H-55: Guidebook and Research Plan to Help Communities Improve Transportation to Health Care Services
- TCRP Report 202: Handbook for Examining the Effects of NEMT Brokerages on Transportation Coordination
- TCRP B-45: Transportation to Dialysis Centers: Health/Transportation/Policy Intersection

Public Transportation

What TRB has Done Recently

- 23rd National Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation, October 2018 (Conference held every 2 years)
- NCHRP 861: Best practices in Rural Regional Mobility
- NCHRP 20-65, Task 76: Opportunities for State DOTs to Encourage Shared Use Mobility Practices in Rural Areas
- NCHRP 20-65, Task 73: Best Practices and Marketing to Increase Rural Transit Ridership and Investment
- TCRP H-38: Developing and Sustaining Tribal Services: A Guidebook
- TCRP Report 147: Estimation of Demand for Rural Public Transportation Services
- TCRP 190: Public Transportation Guidebook for Small and Medium-sized Public-Private partnerships
- TCRP J-11, Task 26: Collaborations and Partnerships between Public Transportation and Transportation Network Companies

Public Transportation, con't

- TCRP G-05: Management Toolkit for Small Urban and Rural Transportation Systems
- TCRP G-16: Development of Transactional Data Specifications for Demand-Responsive Transportation
- TR News, May 2016: The Bus Renaissance, Rural Services, Bus Rapid Transit, Technology Advances
- TR News, March 2018: Wyoming Intercity Bus Service Study: Finding and Filling Gaps in Rural Areas

Rural Supply Chain

- Presentations at the 2018 Annual Meeting
 - Committee AT030: Agricultural and Food Transportation
 - Committee AW020: Inland Water Transportation
 - Workshop: Food, Fuel, and Feed: Making the Right Freight Investments to Optimize Agricultural Supply-Chain Competitiveness
 - Session: From Farm to Table: Multimodal Opportunities and Challenges of Moving the World's Food
- 2015 Policy Study: Funding and Managing the U.S. Inland Waterways System - What Policy Makers Need to Know

Low-Volume Roads and Bridges

What TRB has Done Recently

- Low-volume roads conferences
 - Three-Volume Circular (85 papers) from 2015 Low Volume Roads Conference (TRR 2472-2474). Next conference 2019
 - Three-Volume Circular from 2011 Low-Volume Roads Conference
- Webinars
 - Design and Preservation of Low-Volume Roads, September 2016
 - Solutions for Aging Low-volume Road Bridges, October 2017
 - Synthesis 521: Investment Prioritization Methods for Low-Volume Roads, May 2018
- E-Circular 167: The Promise of Rural Roads: Review of the Role of Low Volume Roads in Rural Connectivity, Poverty Reduction, Crisis Management, and Livability
- Rural Paved Highways
 - NCHRP (in progress) Median Intersection Design for Rural High Speed Highways
 - Synthesis 485: Converting Paved Roads to Unpaved
- Bridges
 - NCHRP 25-25: Context-sensitive Design Options for Workhorse Bridges in Rural Historic Districts

Safety

What TRB Has Done Recently

- Analysis of SHRP 2 Naturalistic Driving Study
 - Rural intersection safety/high speed intersections (3 projects)
 - Horizontal and vertical alignments on rural two-lane roads (4 projects)
- Joint standing Subcommittee on Rural Road Safety Policy. Programming and Implementation (3 committees). 2018 Annual Meeting Session: *Rural Road Safety Research: Practical Applications*
- National Academies Press: *Getting to Zero Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities*
- Over 95 papers on rural safety topics submitted to the 2018 TRB Annual Meeting
- *E Circular 220 - First International Roadside Safety Conference (2017)*

Small and Non-Hub Airports

What TRB has Done Recently

- ACRP 132: The Role of US Airports in the National Economy
- ACRP 142: Effects of Airline Industry Changes on Small and Non-Hub Airports
- ACRP 150: Next Gen - A Primer, Volume 5, Application of Next-Gen to Small Airport Planning and Development
- ACRP 1-38: Fair Market Values at Small Airports
- ACRP 4-22: Evaluate Compatibility Zones at General Aviation Airports
- S01-17: Attracting Investment at General Aviation Airports Public Private Partnerships and Leasing
- S01-09: Practices to Develop Effective Stakeholder Relationships at Smaller Airports

Small and Non-Hub Airports

What TRB has Done Recently continued

- TR News 304, 2016: Tail End of Competition: Decline in Small Commercial Services
- TR News 315, 2018: Air Services to Small Communities in a Deregulated Industry
- TR News 315, 2018: Impact of Airline Deregulation

Ideas for Further Work on Rural Issues by TRB

- Fund some projects on the Rural Transportation Research Roadmap
- Examine the likely timetable and requirements for penetration of self-driving cars and trucks in rural areas
- Continue to examine institutional structures and methods for delivering non-emergency medical transportation
- TR News issue on rural Issues
- How can rural communities be included in new technologies, e.g., drone deliveries of food and medicine, rural TNC services?
- Fund rural safety research projects using the SHRP 2 Naturalistic Driving Study and Roadway Information Data Base
- others