Agenda

1. Welcome from MnDOT
2. Introductions
3. Project Overview
4. Future TAP Meetings
5. Other Business
Welcome from MnDOT

Jean Wallace
Introductions

Brenda Thomas
Accessibility Observatory Staff

- Prof. David Levinson, Managing Director
- Andrew Owen, Director
- Brendan Murphy, Researcher
- Student researchers
TAP Members

- Minnesota Department of Transportation (lead agency)
  - Jean Wallace, Deanna Belden, Farideh Amiri
- Federal Highway Administration
  - Brian Gardner
- Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
  - Jessie Jones, Michael Henry, Virginia Porta
- California Department of Transportation
  - Rahul Srivastava
- Florida Department of Transportation
  - Dana Knox
- Iowa Department of Transportation
  - Peggi Knight
- North Carolina Department of Transportation
  - David Wasserman
- Virginia Department of Transportation
  - Peter Ohlms
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation
  - Toni Rice
CTS Staff

- Laurie McGinnis, Director
- Brenda Thomas, Director of Coordinated Research
- Colleen O’Connor Toberman, Program Coordinator
Project Overview

Andrew Owen
Goals and Deliverables

1. Accessibility datasets
2. Accessibility reports
3. Annual updates and improvements
Accessibility Datasets

- Census block level
- Coverage of each partner’s jurisdiction
- Auto and transit
- # of jobs within X minutes, categorized by wage level and industry
- Data formats:
  - Shapefile
  - Tabular (CSV)
- Example:
  - Access Across America: Transit 2014 data (http://access.umn.edu/data/)
- Private download link provided to each partner
- Accessibility Observatory can also host publicly
Access Across America: Transit 2014 Data
Owen, Andrew; Levinson, David M; University of Minnesota Accessibility Observatory (2014)

Published Date
2014-12-05

Author Contact
Owen, Andrew (aowen@umn.edu)

Data Type
Dataset

Abstract
This data was created as part of a study that examined the accessibility to jobs by transit in 46 of the 50 largest (by population) metropolitan areas in the United States. It is the most detailed evaluation to date of access to jobs by transit, and it allows for a direct comparison of the transit accessibility performance of America's largest metropolitan areas.

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Suggested Citation

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Access Across America: Transit 2014 data (http://access.umn.edu/data/)
Accessibility Datasets

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Accessibility Reports

- National report series: Access Across America
  - Separate auto, transit reports
  - Metropolitan area summaries of accessibility data

- Local reports for each partner
  - State level report: summarized to metro areas, counties
  - Report weighted accessibility averages
  - Identify accessibility patterns and trends
Accessibility Reports

● National report series: Access Across America
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Annual Updates and Improvements

- Review data, methodology, and deliverables annually
- Identify opportunities to improve and increase impact
  - New transportation modes
  - New destination types
  - New communication tools
  - Refinements to methodology
  - Data coverage
- Discuss at annual in-person TAP meeting
Timeline

- Contract start date: July 9, 2015
- Task 1: Communications and TAP Panel Engagement
  - Ongoing
- Task 2: Collect Input Datasets
  - September 2015
- Task 3: Calculate Accessibility Datasets
  - November 2015
- Task 4: Prepare Accessibility Reports
  - February 2016 (DECEMBER 2015)
- Task 5: TAP Review of Results and Methodology
  - March 2016 (JANUARY 2016)
- Tasks 6 & 7: Project Review & Reporting
  - May – June 2016
Current Status

- Task 2 complete (Collect Input Datasets)
  - Complete US road network with speed profiles supplied by TomTom
  - Block-level employment estimates from U.S. Census LEHD
  - Pedestrian network with national coverage from OpenStreetMap
  - Ongoing transit schedule collection and updates

- Task 3 in progress (Calculate Accessibility Datasets)
  - Integrating TomTom data into accessibility tools
  - Merging transit schedules with pedestrian network

- Supporting tasks:
  - Configured dedicated database server

- Processing work plan amendments for new partners
Future TAP Meetings

Colleen O’Connor Toberman
Future TAP Meetings

- January 2016 — TRB Annual Meeting
- Other meetings
Other Business

Brenda Thomas
Seeking Projects for Case Studies

- FHWA-funded research project: “Exploring and Expanding Accessibility Metrics for Transportation Planning”
- Evaluate and demonstrate the use of accessibility metrics in real-world planning projects
- 6 case studies
  - Ongoing or recently completed
  - Variety of modes
  - Variety of agency types/scales
  - Transportation OR land use (zoning, density, etc)
- For each case study:
  - Compare accessibility before and after
  - Report on data needs, cost, and effort
- Contact Andrew Owen
Data Updates and Improvements

● Transit schedule data relies on operators publishing GTFS files
  ○ Encourage GTFS publishing from local transit operators!
  ○ Some state DOTs provide GTFS repository/clearinghouse
  ○ Accessibility Observatory can provide GTFS creation and update services

● Pedestrian network relies on OpenStreetMap
  ○ Crowdsourced data, high-quality
  ○ Delay between infrastructure changes and OSM changes
  ○ Encourage OSM updates as part of infrastructure projects
Questions