Overview of the U.S. DOT Priority ITS Initiative

Mobility Services for All Americans

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Background

- 62 Federal programs fund human services transportation
- $ billions are spent on human services transportation
- FTA budget for public transportation is $7 billion
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Background

• U.S. DOT Tier I Priority ITS Initiative
  - New ITS R&D Program Framework and Structure
  - Major multi-modal and agency effort
  - Problem and data driven
  - Means of focusing on a few high payoff efforts

• Builds Upon & Coordinates With Other U.S. DOT activities:
  - Joint Regional Coordination Workshops
  - Rural ITS Transit Operational Tests
  - United We Ride
  - ITS International Workshop on Technology & Mobility
  - Linking Technology with Accessibility and Mobility of Seniors and Persons With Disabilities

• Supports Presidential Executive Order on Human Service Transportation Coordination
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Scope:

• Investigate and evaluate integrated ITS transit technologies that:
  
  - Improve transportation coordination among transportation providers, including public transit agencies, for human service trips and the general public
  
  - Increase mobility and transportation accessibility for the transportation disadvantaged through integrated implementation of technologies
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Approach

• Demonstrate a community based system of human services transportation coordination using a combination of ITS transit technologies.
• Use integrated implementation of technologies to overcome barriers to mobility and accessibility.
• Determine the impacts and return on investment
• End Product: Replicable Model Traveler Management Coordination Center
• Budget: $8 million over 4 years
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Problems

- Overlapping, fragmented, and unavailable transportation services
- Inadequate customer service
- Transit agencies experience:
  - High costs
  - Limited revenues
  - Underutilized vehicle capacity
- Islands of technology, knowledge, and innovation within different professions/areas
- Barriers and gaps in door-to-door accessibility and mobility remain
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A Solution: Coordination & Integration

- Improved customer service
- Reduced waste
- Improved efficiencies resulting in lower unit costs
- Increased sources of revenue for transportation providers

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
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Coordinated and Integrated ITS

Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Computers
- Communications
- Networked Systems
- Information Management

Vehicle Tracking
Geographic Information Systems
Traveler Assistive Tech.
Scheduling & Dispatching Software
Electronic Payment
Billing & Reporting Software
Traveler Information
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Roles and Products

• Stakeholder Roles:
  - Federal:
    • Provide coordination among stakeholders
    • Support a large-scale demonstration
    • Conduct an evaluation and return-on-investment study
    • Transfer knowledge to industry
  - Public and Private Sectors: Assume long-term responsibility

• End Product: Replicable Model Traveler Management Coordination Center
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Timeline

- Develop Systematic Approach for Selecting Demonstration Sites
- Assess Technologies that Improve Accessibility
- Conduct field tests to determine the return on investment of various ITS applications that improve accessibility and human services transportation coordination

Development of "Traveler Management Coordination Center"

Replicable "Traveler Management Coordination Center"
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