

Objective-Driven Data Sharing for Transit Agencies in Mobility Partnerships

- Executive Summary ·



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Shared-Use Mobility Center Federal Transit Administration

Webinar & White Paper July 10, 2019



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Webinar will be approximately 45 minutes, with the last 10 minutes for Q&A.

Enter questions through the chat box.

Webinar will be recorded, and slides will be posted onto SUMC's website.

For real-time captions, go to: tinyurl.com/p3-data

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Speakers

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SUMC is a public-interest non-profit organization that aims to make it possible for people to **live well without owning a car** through a **multimodal transportation system that works for all.**



SUMC-FTA Mobility On Demand (MOD) Sandbox Innovation & Knowledge Accelerator

Goals

- Identify Sandbox project-specific challenges
- Provide technical assistance
- Accelerate learning on MOD
- Develop resources for the MOD community

Methods

- Workshops
- Webinars
- MOD Learning Center
- White Papers



Mobility Performance Metrics (MPM) as a Perspective on Objective-Driven Data Sharing for Transit Agencies in Mobility Partnerships

July, 10 2019

Murat Omay FTA Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation (TRI-10)



Key Challenges in Mobility Management

- Data-driven challenges:
 - Data availability (lack of data and abundance of data)
 - Data sharing and integration
 - Data security
- Organizational challenges:
 - Integration and coordination of multiple systems
 - Harmony between multiple agencies/providers
 - Mismatch of objectives of providers in the regional mobility system
 - Capability maturity of agencies/providers (e.g., technical, resource, culture)
- Objective-driven challenges:
 - Clear objectives for performance measurement (agencies)
 - Clear objectives for regional mobility performance measurement



Current State of Mobility Performance Measurement

- Current performance indicators tend to focus on:
 - measuring operational adequacy of travel modes in isolation
 - measuring system efficiency from operator perspective
 - evaluating system performance based on unlinked trip data
- Limited <u>feedback</u> from travelers (experience, expectancy, alignment with travelers' objectives)
- Indicators to measure the performance of the <u>integrativeness</u> do not exist
- Indicators to measure the <u>value of options</u> within a mobility system do not exist
- Systemwide performance is not captured, thus supplemental performance indicators to complement existing ones are needed



Objectives of Mobility Performance Metrics





Measure how well the integrated mobility system meets the needs of its individual travelers (closeness of qualitative and quantitative supply/demand)



Measure how effectively and efficiently the system performs while meeting its travelers' demands



Impact of the mobility system regionally from multiple perspectives (e.g., regional mobility, sustainability, reliability, accessibility, social, programmatic, environmental, employment/healthcare/educational opportunities, economic development)



Impact of the mobility system nationally from multiple perspectives (e.g., meeting USDOT/National goals, sustainability, economic benefits, financial benefits, accessibility, effectiveness of social programs, efficiency of USDOT investments, environmental and workforce impacts)



What are we trying to measure?

Traveler	 Traveler-centric: Impact to individual traveler Complement existing metrics such as ridership by introducing additional data/granularity such as linked trip data Explore new measures such as spontaneity, availability, value-based affordability, mobility and transfer options, impact of reliability, etc. Futureproof through dynamic target-setting strategies and monitoring the dynamicity of supply/demand equilibrium
System	 System-centric: Impact to the multimodal transportation or mobility system (not transit) Measure a system's ability to meet travelers' needs and preferences Measure performance from user experience perspective Measure the system performance from multiple perspectives: Effectiveness of the system: to implement demand-specific indicators based on traveler and user expectancies Effectiveness of the system: to create opportunities for right-sizing of fleet and operations/capture/service, effective service planning and delivery, targeted service, converging of services such as specialized transportation/paratransit Safety of the system: to engage strategic planning activities to reduce exposure to unsafe conditions Effectiveness (e.g., price points, incentive strategies, fare policies, value-based affordability, behavioral changes) Sustainability of operations and collaborations/partnerships
Region	 Region-centric: Impact to cities and regions Multi-perspective impact: Regional mobility, safety, and congestion Economy and economic development opportunities Workforce, employment, education, and healthcare opportunities Financial impacts and benefits/disbenefits Environmental impacts and air quality implications Social equity and effectiveness of social programs
Nation	 National: Impact (or contribution) to the Nation's indicators and resources Long-term impacts of collaboration and integration to the overall economy Multi-perspective impact: Economy, Workforce, Financial, Environmental, Social Equity, Safety, Security







Transit agencies are looking to partner with new mobility companies.

Reaching data agreements has been a persistent challenge.

Our paper:

...provides a strategic approach to help agencies form a data-sharing agreement with their project partner

... is NOT a strategy for regulating or requiring data about the general direct-to-consumer operations of private mobility service providers









Objective-Driven Data Sharing







Common MOD Service Data Needs





Common Multimodal Trip-Planning Data Needs



Vehicle availability Wait time (est.) Travel time (est.)

...



Booking How do I reserve my multimodal trip?

Account information Provider API

...



Fare structures Discount eligibility Payment API

...



Real-time information, APIs







Challenges Areas

- Privacy
- Competitiveness
- Public Records Laws
- Data Security
- Aggregation
- National Transit Database and Performance-Based Funding
- Capability Constraints



Challenges

Competing interests can lead to divergent data-sharing preferences



Solutions



Mutually Agreeable Data Aggregation

Select examples from transit-ride hailing service partnerships

Agency / Project	On-Demand Project Type	Reporting Frequency	O/D Spatial Resolution	O/D Temporal Resolution
MBTA – The RIDE On-Demand (Boston area)	Service for ADA paratransit users	Monthly	Individual trip – ZIP Code	Aggregated begin and end times for trips
Arlington, Texas – Rideshare	Microtransit	Periodic	Individual trip – requested locations	Individual trip times
Pierce Transit – Limited Access Connections (Pierce County, WA)	First/last-mile (free fare)	Monthly	Individual trip – census tract	Individual trip – time of day (AM peak, midday, PM peak)
PSTA – Direct Connect (Pinellas County, FL)	First/last-mile (subsidized fare)	Monthly	Total trips – No spatial information	Total trips - No temporal information

Public Records Laws

- Created to increase transparency in government
- Usually predate large-scale data collection
- Government records presumed public unless exempted
- Exemptions often include personally identifiable information (PII) and business secrets, but provisions vary in language and interpretation by jurisdiction



Public Records Laws

- Public Records Exemptions
 - Sound Transit, King County Metro ("Via to Transit"): Use information pertaining to Fare Payment Media (PII)
 - LA Metro MOD agreement with Via: Travel Pattern Data from Electronic Transit Fare Collection (PII), Trade Secrets
- Modernization with help from agencies
 - TriMet \rightarrow Oregon Revised Statutes 192.345
 - DART \rightarrow Texas Transportation Code Section 451.061
 - Should be politically uncontroversial
 - Need considerations for protecting origin-destination data



Third Party Repositories

- Disaggregated data resides with third-party
- Academic, government, non-profit, or private-sector entities
- Warehousing, management, and/or analysis
- BUT, not a preferred solution for most MOD partnerships
- Instead, a growing solution for understanding general travel patterns
- Planning phase for MOD projects?



API Requirements for Trip-Planning Apps

- Data about vehicle availability, booking, etc; NOT trip data
- Arlington, VA
 - Open API requirements for all micromobility operators
- Finland Transport Codes
 - Open data requirements for all transport operators (public and private)
- Without requirements, need one-off agreements with every provider





A thought process for forming data agreements for your MOD projects

Considers **project-level** decisions and **policy-level** decisions

Tradeoffs for each decision





Example:

MOD Service Project

- → Trouble with agreeing on data aggregation due to public records laws
- → If laws can't be changed, consider repository
- → If repository feasible, then form your agreement
- → If not, then reconsider aggregation levels with partner





Example:

Multimodal Trip-Planning App

- \rightarrow Try establishing API requirements
- \rightarrow If this is not feasible, develop API agreements with individual providers
- → Develop metrics and data needs that serve objectives
- → Reach mutually agreeable aggregation and manage data in-house
- \rightarrow Form your data agreement





Key Questions to Ask Yourself

Project-level decisions

- What data resolution is sufficient to understand if my project is achieving the intended outcomes?
- Do I have the capability and infrastructure to manage and analyze data?

Policy-level decisions

- Will the time frame for policy change align with my project schedule?
- Do relationships need to be built with other agencies or legislators?



Conclusions

- Agencies should select a partner with whom they can find a **mutually agreeable data parameter set and aggregation**.
- If constraints related to public records disclosures or agency capability are impediments, agencies should explore using a third-party repository.
- Transit agencies and supporting organizations can proactively influence the modernization of public records laws.



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Conclusions

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- Transit agencies, together with states or cities, can establish API requirements to open up basic data parameters needed for trip-planning apps.
- Federal involvement can encourage data management strategies
- Follow a structured approach \rightarrow Decision Tree







Check Out the Paper!



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Executive Summary available. Full Paper to be released shortly! www.sharedusemobilitycenter.org/publications



Acknowledgments

Federal Transit Administration LA Metro King County Metro Sound Transit Pierce Transit Dallas Area Rapid Transit TriMet University of Washington City of Arlington, TX Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Vermont Agency of Transportation

Additional references in full white paper.



Thank you!

Questions?

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For questions about the FTA Integrated Mobility Innovation funding opportunity, see www.transit.dot.gov/imi