



For immediate release
Contact: Donna Maurillo
831-234-4009
maurillo@mti.sjsu.edu

Mineta Transportation Institute Hosts Fact-Finding Group from Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority

Delegates met with MTI experts to continue discussions about security and crisis management best practices for their city's new metro system.

San Jose, Calif., January 28, 2010 – The [Mineta Transportation Institute](#) (MTI) hosted representatives from the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA), who continued discussions with MTI experts about security and crisis management for their city's new metro rail system. The ambitious project calls for three new elevated rail lines totaling nearly 40 miles, along with a monorail. Considering Mumbai's historic possibilities for accidents, terrorism, and other incidents, the Indian delegation was on a fact-finding mission to the United States.

“Mumbai has a very large rail and bus system, moving about 11 million people each day,” said Brian Michael Jenkins, director of MTI's National Transportation Security Center of Excellence (NTSCOE). “It's no longer adequate to serve a growing metropolitan area that now has 22 million people. Therefore, the city is facing a huge problem with mobility. But it also wants to ensure safety and security for its passengers, especially because Mumbai and the surrounding region have lost nearly 1000 people to terrorist attacks in the last decade.”

Mr. Jenkins had met with MMRDA a few months ago while in India as an invited expert discussing counter-terrorism. He invited representatives to come to the U.S. on a fact-finding mission to see how this country builds crisis strategy and security preparations into the transit systems.

MMRDA delegates were Vijaya Lakshmi, additional chief, Transport and Communications Division, and Anil Wankhade, deputy metropolitan commissioner. They were accompanied by Ronald Boenau, a senior transportation systems manager for the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, and Satish Kastury, a principal engineer with Environmental Consulting & Technology in Florida. Earlier this month, they attended the Transportation Research Board's conference in Washington DC before making on-site visits to Washington Metro, Amtrak, San Francisco area's BART, and other sites.

MMRDA wishes to include a security strategy, along with training, policies, and procedures that will help to protect its transit network. While at MTI, they met with Dr. Frances Edwards, deputy director of MTI's NTSCOE, who discussed options for creating a transportation security and emergency management certificate program; Rod Diridon, Sr., MTI's executive director, who covered topics related to high-speed rail systems; Chief Rob Davis of the San Jose Police Department; Dan Goodrich, emergency

SJSU Research Center
210 N. Fourth St., 4th Fl.
San José, CA 95112

Tel // 408.924.7560
Fax // 408.924.7565

www.transweb.sjsu.edu

Board of Trustees

Founder

Hon. Norman Y. Mineta

Honorary Co-Chairs

*Congressman James Oberstar
Congressman John L. Mica*

Chair

William W. Millar

Vice Chair

Mortimer Downey

Executive Director

Hon. Rod Diridon, Sr.

Ronald Barnes
Rebecca Brewster
Donald H. Camph
Thomas Carper
Anne P. Canby
Jane Chmielinski
William Dorey
Nuria I. Fernandez
Steve Heminger
Hon. John Horsley
Will Kempton
Brian Macleod
Hon. Norman Y. Mineta
Stephanie L. Pinson
Hans Rat
Dean David Steele
Paul A. Toliver
Michael S. Townes
David L. Turney
Edward Wytkind

preparedness coordinator for Lockheed Martin Space Systems, who covered the role of transportation in emergency planning; Dr. Wenbin Wei, MTI research associate and San Jose State University professor, who discussed rapid transit and light-rail systems; and John Schiffgens, manager of operations for Amtrak at Diridon Station.

ABOUT THE MINETA TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE:

The [Mineta Transportation Institute](#) (MTI) was established by Congress in 1991 as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and was reauthorized under TEA-21 and again under SAFETEA-LU. The institute is funded by Congress through the US DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, by the California Legislature through the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and by other public and private grants and donations, including the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The US DOT selected MTI as a national "Center of Excellence" following a 2002 competition.

The Institute has a Board of Trustees whose internationally-respected members represent all major surface transportation modes. MTI's focus on policy and management resulted from a board assessment of the industry's unmet needs and led directly to choosing the San José State University College of Business as the Institute's home. MTI conducts research, education, and information and technology transfer focusing on multi-modal surface transportation policy and management issues. Visit www.transweb.sjsu.edu

###