

<b>UTC Project Information</b>	
Project Title	Analyzing the Effects of Transit Network Change in a Decentralized, Mid-Sized US Metropolitan Area on Transit Agency Performance and Transit Riders: A Case Study of Tallahassee, Florida
University	San José State University Mineta National Transit Research Consortium
Principal Investigator	Jeffrey Brown, Ph.D.
PI Contact Information	Mineta Transportation Institute San José State University 210 N. 4 <sup>th</sup> St., 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor San José, CA 95112 jrbrown3@fsu.edu 850-644-8519
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	Research and Innovative Technology Administration University Transportation Centers Program (\$30,266)  California Department of Transportation Office of Research—MS42 (\$30,266)
Total Project Cost	\$60,532
Agency ID or Contract Number	DTRT12-G-UTC21
Start and End Dates	June 2012 – April 2013
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>On July 11, 2011, StarMetro, the local public transit agency in Tallahassee, Florida, restructured its entire bus network from a downtown-focused radial system to a decentralized, grid-like system that local officials and agency leaders believed would better serve the dispersed local pattern of population and employment. The new, decentralized network is based on radial routes serving the major arterial roads and new crosstown routes linking the outer parts of the city, where population and employment is growing. Local officials and agency staff hoped the change would increase transit's attractiveness and usefulness to the community.</p> <p>One year after the service restructuring, overall performance results are similar to those experienced in other cities that have implemented major service changes. Overall ridership and productivity are lower than before the service restructuring, due to the short time frame for rider adjustments and longer-than-anticipated headways, but new ridership has appeared in previously un-served or under-served corridors and neighborhoods. The service restructuring resulted in longer walks to bus stops, due to the removal of stops from many neighborhoods and their relocation to major roads, but overall</p>

	<p>transit travel times are shorter due to more direct routing. No particular neighborhoods or community groups disproportionately benefited from or were harmed by the change.</p> <p>The service restructuring was supported by some segments of the community who viewed the older system as ill-suited to the increasingly decentralized community, while it was opposed by other community stakeholders who worried about the loss of service in some neighborhoods and issues of access and safety, particularly affecting elderly and disabled riders, at new stop locations. StarMetro’s extensive public outreach efforts and ongoing service adjustments have reduced the intensity of the opposition to the service restructuring over time, although some segments of the community continue to voice their concerns about the effects of the change on transit-dependent, disabled, and elderly riders.</p>
<p>Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)</p>	<p>Bhattacharya, Torsha, Brown, Jeffrey, Jaroszynski, Michal A., and Batuhan, Tuna. (2013). "Restructuring from a Central Business District–Focused to a Decentralized Transit System Case Study of StarMetro in Tallahassee, Florida, to Determine Restructuring Effects on Riders and Accessibility to Destinations." <i>Transportation Research Record</i>, 2350, 17-25.</p> <p>Jaroszynski, Michal, Brown, Jeffrey, Batuhan, Tuna, and Bhattacharya, Torsha. "Understanding the Effects of System-wide Transit Network Restructuring in a Decentralized US Metropolitan Area on Transit Agency Ridership and Performance: a Case Study of StarMetro in Tallahassee, Florida." Presentation at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC, January, 2013.</p> <p>Bhattacharya, Torsha, Brown, Jeffrey, Jaroszynski, Michal A., and Batuhan, Tuna. "How Does Restructuring from a CBD-Focused Transit System to a Decentralized Transit System Affect Transit Riders and Their Accessibility to Destinations: A Case Study of StarMetro in Tallahassee, Florida." Presentation at the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC, January, 2013.</p> <p>Bhattacharya, Torsha, Brown, Jeffrey, Jaroszynski, Michal, and Batuhan, Tuna. "The Effects of Perception vs. "Reality" on Travel Behavior after a Major Transit Service Change: The Case of Tallahassee, Florida." <i>Journal of Public Transportation</i>, Vol. 17, No. 2, 2014.</p> <p>Jaroszynski, M. and Brown, J. (2015). "An Examination of the Relationship between Urban Decentralization and Transit Decentralization in a Small-sized U.S. Metropolitan Area." <i>Urban Studies</i>. 40 pages. doi:0.1177/0042098015626687.</p>

Place Any Photos Here



Pictures of Downtown Tallahassee

Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)

Web Links

Final report (MNTRC Website):

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reports</li><li>• Project Website</li></ul>	<a href="http://transweb.sjsu.edu/project/1102.html">http://transweb.sjsu.edu/project/1102.html</a>
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