


UTC Project Information	
Project Title	Exploring Bicycle and Public Transit Use by Low-Income Latino Immigrants: A Mixed-Methods Study in the San Francisco Bay Area (FORMER TITLE: Bicycling and Access to Transit by Low-Income Immigrants)
University	San José State University Mineta National Transit Research Consortium
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Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	Research and Innovative Technology Administration University Transportation Centers Program (\$30,500) California Department of Transportation Office of Research—MS42 (\$30,500)
Total Project Cost	\$61,000
Agency ID or Contract Number	DTRT12-G-UTC21
Start and End Dates	August 2013 – May 2016
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>Public transportation is a vital link in meeting the mobility needs of low-income individuals and immigrants to the United States. Roughly 2% of all trips nationwide are made by public transit, but immigrants who live in households that earn less than \$25,000 per year take nearly 9% of their trips by public transportation (FHWA 2009). Because it is nearly impossible for transit to provide door-to-door service, it is critical to examine the characteristics of the “last mile” segments that connect origins and destinations to transit, 88% of which are walk trips and 0.5% of which are bicycle trips in the low-income immigrant population (FHWA 2009). A focus group study that included primarily low-income Mexican immigrants identified a need to improve public transit, partially through improving the links among home, work, and transit (Handy et al. 2008; Lovejoy and Handy 2007).</p> <p>Despite their importance, few studies have examined these access and egress trips and none we are aware of have done so for low-income immigrants. To fill this gap, we will conduct a travel survey that will oversample low-income immigrants as well as those who access and egress transit via bicycle, focusing on Alameda County.</p>

Alameda County has a large percentage of low-income immigrant residents and relatively high transit mode share. The county population is 31% foreign-born, 19% of whom earn less than \$25,000 per year, compared to 9% of the native-born population (US Census 2013). Twelve percent of county residents take public transportation to work (US Census 2013). Although transit agencies do not collect data on nativity, 52% of bus riders and 13% of rail riders are of low income (BART 2008; Public Research Institute 2010).

For transit riders, the survey will collect information on the characteristics of trips to and from transit stops. Respondents who do not use transit will be asked questions about what barriers stop them from doing so. Prior to the survey we will conduct interviews with low-income immigrants, allowing us to have a better understanding of issues regarding access to and from transit stops as well as barriers to transit use among this group. The interviews will be of interest in their own right, but will also enable us to craft culturally and behaviorally relevant survey questions.

Recruitment to the survey will be conducted using two methods. One portion of the respondent pool will be recruited via an intercept method at a sample of transit stops in the East Bay, with a mail-back survey. The sample of bus and rail stops will be stratified to include neighborhoods with a high immigrant population and a high likelihood of bicycle access. The second portion of the respondent pool will be recruited by means of non-probability sampling techniques—convenience and snowball sampling—at immigrant-serving social service agencies and businesses, also with a mail-back survey, but we will also consider the possibility of doing in person interviews with this group to increase the response rate. This second recruitment approach will ensure that we obtain a significant number of responses from low-income immigrants who access transit via bicycle, as well as providing a share of respondents who do not access transit. The survey will be conducted in English and Spanish. Although the majority of foreign-born residents in Alameda County are from Asia, 30% of foreign-born residents are from Latin America, a larger proportion of which have lower incomes and are less proficient in English compared to Asian immigrants (US Census 2013).

The results of the study will help transit and transportation planners better understand how low-income immigrants access transit stations and what barriers and constraints they face in accessing transit.

<p>Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)</p>	<p>Research in progress.</p> <p>Chatman, Dan. "Barriers to Travel: The Stories of Low-Income Latino Immigrants." Presentation at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 2014</p> <p>Chatman, Dan. "Low-income Immigrant Travel Behavior in the San Francisco Bay Area: Findings from an Intercept Survey." Presentation at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference, Houston, TX, October 24, 2015</p>
<p>Place Any Photos Here</p>	 <p>http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/sites/tcdailyplanet.net/files/imagecache/HugeColorbox/bike_0.jpg</p>
<p>Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)</p>	
<p>Web Links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports • Project Website 	<p>Final report (MNTRC Website):</p> <p>http://transweb.sjsu.edu/project/1202.html</p>

	Final report (TRB Website): https://trid.trb.org/view/2016/M/1407481
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