



Norman Y. Mineta
International Institute for
Surface Transportation
Policy Studies

Created by Congress in 1991

College of Business
San José State University
San Jose, CA 95192-0219
Tel 408/924-7560
Fax 408/924-7565
e-mail: mti@mti.sjsu.edu
http://transweb.sjsu.edu

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Hon. Norman Y. Mineta

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World in Motion

Spring 2005

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Appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger in November 2004, Mr. Kempton is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of California's state transportation system. As leader of Caltrans, Mr. Kempton oversees an annual operating budget of more than \$9 billion, 22,000 employees, and \$7 billion worth of transportation improvements under construction.

Mr. Kempton began his career in transportation with Caltrans in 1973. He held management positions in finance and the director's office prior to being appointed as Assistant Director of Legislative and Congressional affairs. In these positions, Mr. Kempton developed a broad understanding of transportation programs and policies at all levels of government. He is particularly knowledgeable in the area of transportation finance and legislative point of view.

As executive director of the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority, Mr. Kempton delivered nearly one billion dollars in highway improvements in less than 10 years. That sales tax program is widely viewed as one of the most successful ever undertaken in the state. Mr. Kempton mobilized California's sales tax programs into an effective coalition of "self help" counties. Selected by his peers to head this group, he marshaled a confederation of agencies and successfully lobbied Caltrans and the state legislature for the creation of a state match for locally-funded projects. To date, the state/local partnership program has provided more than \$1.5 billion in matching funds for local transportation projects. This creative approach to achieving favorable objectives and the ability to build interest group consensus characterize Mr. Kempton's management style.



Profile of
Will Kempton

Mineta Transportation Institute
Board of Trustees Member and
Director of Caltrans

In January of 2003, Mr. Kempton joined the City of Folsom as Assistant City Manager, Community Services. He was responsible for overseeing the operations of the Folsom's Community Development, Neighborhood Services, Parks and Recreation, Utilities, and Public Works Departments. Prior to his appointment, he served as a Parks and Recreation commissioner for eight years.



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Research Update

by Trixie Johnson, Research Director

Getting Back on Track

News stories have outlined problems associated with the long delay in passing the federal transportation authorization bill. Though we don't make the headlines, or even the footnotes, the university transportation centers funded by the bill have all been dealing with the uncertainty. At MTI, one result has been the delay of research projects, particularly those selected through our Request for Proposals (RFP) in the spring of 2004, and the release of the 2005 RFP.

Finally, the 2004 projects are beginning to make their way through the contracting process, and most should be submitted and approved by the end of June 2005. Two projects recently received approval – the second part of the study examining high-speed rail progress in the United States (Dr. Allison de Cerreño), and one of the two projects looking at barriers to use of fixed-route transit by seniors (Dr. Michael Peck). Still in the wings as of this writing are:

- A major project to develop a statewide information system for the historical, cultural and archeological properties that require special attention before transportation projects can proceed (Eric Ingbar).
- The other study looking at barriers to serving seniors with fixed- route transit (Dr. Susan Shaheen).
- An examination of recruiting students into the transportation profession (Dr. Asha Weinstein).
- A study of the relationship between neighborhood crime and travel behavior (Chris Ferrell).
- The final phase of Robert Johnston's modeling research, this one focusing on simulation policies affecting welfare to work transportation.
- Additional work on urban transportation models and air quality planning (Dr. Caroline Rodier).
- More detailed studies of pedestrian preferences (Dr. Marc Schlossberg).
- And finally, the team now looking at smart growth around airports will be tackling the difficult issue of collaborative funding to facilitate airport ground access. This project will start after the current study is completed (Dr. Geoffrey Gosling).

The RFP for 2005 will be released in late June, with project selection occurring in early fall. Depending on how rapidly Congress passes the reauthorization bill, there is a possibility of another quick RFP round in the winter.

MTI and Caltrans Working on BRT Guidebook

In April, the Caltrans Office of Research and Innovation requested MTI's assistance in completing a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) guidebook. We are joining a Caltrans team that is aided by many advisors who want to assist Caltrans staff and other stakeholders approach this growing transit mode in a positive, proactive manner. When BRT is proposed for a state facility, adjustments are required. The Guidebook will provide some technical assistance, but will primarily inform those involved about the many options, decisions, considerations and approaches that will produce a service that enhances mobility for the greatest number of travelers possible, whether they are on the bus, in a car, or walking across a BRT facility.

MTI's role is to complete the research, write, and produce the guidebook. Veteran MTI Research Associates George Gray, the Principal Investigator, and Norm Kelley will be joined later by Tom Larwin on this time-constrained project. MTI's new Project Manager Jim Swofford will assist with project logistics and other tasks as needed. The project is to be completed by the end of September.

I am pleased that Caltrans brought this project to MTI. The end product should exemplify what we hope our research can always do – provide real assistance to transportation professionals facing real world issues.

BART Forum

by James Swofford, Project Manager

BART Hot-Spot Forum

Extending BART to Silicon Valley is the greatest public works challenge facing Santa Clara County. If, when, and how the Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor project will proceed was the subject of a Mineta Transportation Institute Hot-Spot Forum on April 21, 2005.

Transportation, political, and community leaders engaged in a lively, yet collegial, discussion representing various points of view. A project overview was presented by Carolyn Gonot, Chief Development Officer of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA).



Carl Guardino, President and CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, presented the results of a public opinion survey about the project. Guardino said current data shows the measure would win by a higher margin today than in 2000, stating, “the improvements ...truly are what our residents want.”



In the discussion that followed, Dennis Kennedy, Mayor of Morgan Hill and former two-term member of the VTA Board and presently an alternate, said, “I am very concerned that the projects that benefit South County... are not cut or deferred to fund an extremely expensive BART.”

Ron Swegles, Vice Mayor of Sunnyvale and a VTA Policy Advisory Committee member said, “Developing a new plan based on consensus is essential.”

Cindy Chavez, Vice Mayor of San Jose and Vice Chair of the VTA Board said, “...we have to think about this as regional leaders, not just being institutionally interested in the cities we represent, but looking at our roles countywide.”

California Department of Transportation Director Will Kempton, in his keynote speech, challenged the panelists to explore project development alternatives and commended MTI for providing a forum to help them move toward consensus.

KLIV radio News Director George Sampson moderated the forum and led the question-and-answer session, assisted by Irene Sampson of the Santa Clara County League of Women Voters. Nearly 200 people attended the event, which was co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Club of California, the California State Automobile Association, and Caltrans.



Garrett Morgan

by James Swofford, Project Manager

2005 Garrett Morgan National Sustainable Transportation Symposium Students seek alternative fuels for sustainable transport

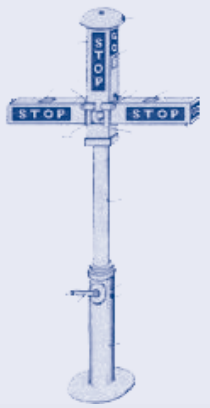
Fossil fuels will go the way of the dinosaurs if the students in the 2005 Garrett Morgan symposium have their way. Alternative fuel sources were a common topic during the May 12th videoconference presentations.

Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta welcomed students from the five schools participating in this year's event and encouraged them to pursue careers in transportation, saying, "Whether we are moving cargo or moving people, we are going to need bright, motivated, energetic people like all of you to pave the way to the future."



Kemps Landing Magnet School of Virginia Beach, VA won this year's competition and the \$500 prize. The students proposed a UniModal™ system of electric Maglev personal pods to operate throughout the Hampton Roads Transit service area. The ADA-compliant pods and stations would connect at intermodal terminals to other transit, including a BRT shuttle operating through a tunnel under the bay. The team did comparative costs with other transit modes, and they proposed build-operate funding alternatives to reduce taxpayer subsidies. Like all good academics, they listed their research sources in a bibliography.

Morgan Traffic Signal
Patented, 1923



Garrett Augustus Morgan
African-American Inventor
(1877 - 1963)



The fuel-conscious students from Argyle Middle School in Silver Spring, MD proposed a hybrid airplane powered by ethanol and solar cells and a hydrogen-powered car.

Meadows Elementary School in San Jose, CA came up with Biomass Banshees, a pair of motorcycles operating on methane gas recovered from landfills.

Leonardtown High School in Leonardtown, MD proposed the GeoTanic, a giant turbine-powered cruise ship using geothermal energy.

Homestead High School in Homestead, FL presented Project Ocean Drive that uses water for hydrogen fuel cells to produce electrical energy, emitting oxygen and water vapor as by-products.

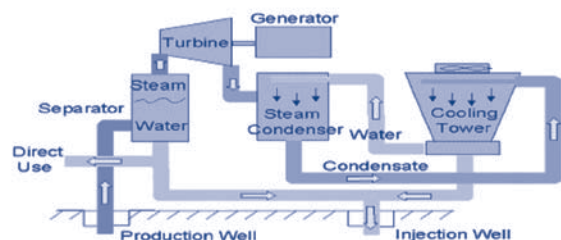
MTI appreciates Secretary Mineta, the sponsors, school districts, teachers, and enthusiastic students for making this year's symposium a huge success.

The New Runway Design

With this new runway design, not only will planes be able to get into the air quicker, but it will cost less, because the distance will be shorter.



GeoTanic Thermal Heating System Single Flash Power Plant



Education Program

by Dr. Peter J. Haas, Education Director

Student and Alumni News

MSTM Alumna Sarah Picker (Class of '01) is serving on the conference planning committee for the first Western Region Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Economic Summit/Conference to be held in Oakland, CA in June 2005. Attending the conference will help DBEs, prime contractors (constructors), and DOT agencies/grantees from Arizona, Nevada, and California.



Construction/Senior Transportation Engineer Ahron Hakimi (Class of '03), working for Caltrans District 6-Bakersfield, is a Major in the U.S. Army Reserves and serving in the Iraqi reconstruction effort. He is part of a seven-soldier army reserve facility engineer team. The team acts as army base directors of public works, similar to the operation of any large city in the United States with respect to the planning, designing, and the building of roads, street signs, pedestrian facilities, and speed limits. Under the direction of his commanding officers, Ahron submitted a master plan for new roads that included the improvement and widening of existing roads. His plan was approved and four days after he briefed the plan, the road was built and in full operational use.

MSTM student Tom Little was promoted to Department Manager of Security and Threat Assessment for the Orange County Transportation Authority, his current employer

Faiz Khan (Class of '04) is teaching the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in transportation planning at San Jose City College to dislocated high-tech workers in the Silicon Valley. The three-month evening certificate program began April 18.

Fellowship Awardees Announced

The following MSTM students were awarded \$1,000 fellowships in support of their pursuit of their degrees. The fellowships, which are funded by private donations to MTI, help to make the MSTM degree more affordable to students who maintain continuous and satisfactory enrollment in the program. Congratulations to all awardees and thanks to our donating individuals and organizations!

Joe Basuino-Caltrans

Glen Mark Collins-Amtrak

Zahir Gulzadah-City of San Jose

Edujie Imoisili-Caltrans

Kenneth Kao-Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Michael W. Lewis-Caltrans

Wishing John Lima-Caltrans

Sharad Mulchand-Metropolitan Transportation
Authority, Los Angeles

Wajahat Nyaz-Caltrans

Jaime Rodriguez-City of Milpitas

Joseph Rye-City of Santa Maria

Florante Tanada-Valley Transportation Authority

William D. Sutherland-Caltrans

The following Certificate in Transportation Management (CTM) students were awarded \$500 fellowships:

Russel Taft-City of San Jose

Abeba Haile-Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Other News

Other News

by Dr. Peter J. Haas

MSTM Education Director Peter Haas is heading up a research team that will perform a “quick study” concerning the use of “ridership enhancement techniques” for the Federal Transit Administration. The study will examine the use of such ridership-building techniques as Eco-passes, Guaranteed Ride Home programs, and multi-day fare passes among the largest transit agencies in the U.S.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Summer Transportation Institute, sponsored by MTI and the Federal Highway Administration, will be held on the San Jose State University campus this July. The Institute connects area high school students to information about careers in transportation. Student participants receive lectures from transportation professionals, engage in hands-on activities related to the transportation industry, and visit area transportation sites (such as Caltrain and the Bay Bridge).

New Publication

by Sonya Carter

Modeling Long-Range Transportation and Land Use Scenarios for the Sacramento Region, Using Citizen-Generated Policies will be published soon. The principal investigator for this report is Robert Johnston/PI, Research Associate – Professor, Division of Environmental Studies, UC Davis, with major work by two of his graduate students – Michael Clay and Shengyi Gao -- and assistance from Dr. Michael Pogodzinski, Research Associate – Professor, Economics Dept., SJSU.

The authors of this report worked with environmental and social equity community groups to define scenarios that would reduce emissions, serve lower-income travelers better, and preserve habitats and agricultural lands in the Sacramento region. These were then incorporated in an integrated transportation and land use model and compared with the outcomes of the more traditional transportation model used by the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG).

TransWeb Gets a New Look

by Barney Murray

The MTI website is currently undergoing a major renovation. This updating will change the total look and feel of the website. We assessed the web statistics for the last couple of years to help us understand how you, our customer, use the site. Our objective is that the changes incorporated will enhance your user experience. The graduate education section has been expanded and will launch early this summer; the MTI site will be available in late summer.

Directions

by Rod Diridon, Sr., Executive Director

Garrett Morgan National Videoconference Symposium: We just completed our fifth annual national videoconference symposium on sustainable transportation with middle school students. Our objective is to encourage this age group to take math and science in high school so that they can take the technical courses in college that lead to transportation careers. Special thanks to the following MTI Trustees for hosting the videoconference sites: MTI Chair and AASHTO Executive Director John Horsley, MTI Trustee and APTA President Bill Millar who also hosted Secretary Mineta, MTI Past Chair and Hampton Roads Transit GM Mike Townes, Miami-Dade Transit Deputy Director and APTA First Vice Chair Ron Barnes, and San José State University College of Business Dean Dave Conrath. The schools and locations are summarized in the article by MTI Project Manager Jim Swofford, who is doing a fine job.

Annual Board of Trustees Meeting and Graduation/Scholarship Banquet: Our 14th annual board meeting and banquet are set for June 25 in San Jose with a star-studded cast of visiting dignitaries, scholarship donors, professors, Research Associates and students attending. The highlight of the banquet will be the hooding of our eight Master of Science in Transportation Management candidates and the commencement talk by Caltrans Director Will Kempton. [Call 408-924-7561 for more information.](tel:408-924-7561)

College of Business Dean Change: Our wonderfully supportive Dean David Conrath and his wife Diane are returning to Canada at the end of June. Dean Conrath has attended all of the MTI Trustees meetings and has been very supportive as the California State University system experienced uniquely difficult fiscal challenges. We wish Dave and Diane the most wonderful retirement and hope they will visit often. We welcome new COB Dean Bruce Magid, who will be featured in our next newsletter.

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San José State University
San Jose, CA 95192-0219



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Mineta Transportation Institute,
call (408) 924-7560 or e-mail us at
mti@mti.sjsu.edu