The Innovative DOT: A handbook of policy and practice

Al Biehler & Roger Millar
September 28, 2012
SSTI webinar
The Innovative DOT: A handbook of policy and practice

A new resource for state transportation officials

Developed by Smart Growth America and the State Smart Transportation Initiative

September 2012
The State Smart Transportation Initiative promotes transportation practices that advance environmental sustainability and equitable economic development, while maintaining high standards of governmental efficiency and transparency.

- As a community of practice
- As a source of direct technical
- As a resource to the wider transportation community
About Smart Growth America

Smart Growth America is the only national organization dedicated to researching, advocating for and leading coalitions to bring smart growth practices to more communities nationwide.

www.smartgrowthamerica.org
The Innovative DOT: A handbook of policy and practice

• Describes strategies states can use to achieve the greatest outcomes at the least cost with transportation investments.

• Documents innovative approaches state leaders are already using to make systems more efficient, government more effective and constituents better satisfied.

• Provides information on 31 policies and practices
  – The benefits of each policy
  – Steps for implementation
  – Cases studies
  – Resources for further information
What The Innovative DOT Adds

Pulling it together

• Compiles the innovative strategies states are using in one place

• Full program for smart transportation
What The Innovative DOT Adds

Bridging the gap

• Provides concrete strategies for operationalizing high-level policy goals.
Process for Developing the Handbook

Project team

- Geoff Anderson, SGA
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- Mary Ebeling, SSTI
- Anthony Gad, SSTI
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- Bill Holloway, SSTI
- Tom Madrecki, SGA
- Roger Millar, SGA
- Sam Munger, SSTI
- Eric Sundquist, SSTI
- Robbie Webber, SSTI
Advisory Committee of Experts

Provided feedback at various stages throughout the process.

- Allen Biehler (Chair), Former Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
- Paul Morris, Deputy Secretary, North Carolina Department of Transportation.
- Adetokunbo “Toks” Omishakin, Assistant Commissioner/Chief of Environment and Planning, Tennessee Department of Transportation.
- Lynn Peterson, Transportation and Sustainability Policy Advisor to Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber.
Process for Developing the Handbook

Reviewers:

Niles Annelin, Michigan Department of Transportation
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Lina Chapman, Michigan Department of Transportation
Aarne Frobom, Michigan Department of Transportation
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Polly Kent, Michigan Department of Transportation
Chris McNeill, Michigan Department of Transportation
Michelle Myers, Michigan Department of Transportation
Jim Ritzman, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Jennifer Toth, Arizona Department of Transportation
Kim Young, Michigan Department of Transportation
Selecting the Policies and Practices

Criteria for Inclusion

Policies must address the current funding reality and provide a means for getting the best outcomes out of transportation investments:

• Improved access to destinations, with greater choice for users
• More prosperous states and regions
• Preservation of existing infrastructure
• Reduced environmental impacts
• Healthier communities
• More transparent and accessible governance
What’s in the Handbook?

Eight Focus Areas

1. Revenue Sources
2. Revenue Allocation and Project Selection
3. Pricing
4. Increasing Transportation System Efficiency
5. Improving Options for Mobility and Access
6. Providing Efficient, Safe Freight Access
7. Integrating Transportation and Land Use Decision-Making
8. Improving DOT Processes
Focus Area 2: Revenue Allocation and Project Selection
Develop a Performance- and Outcome-Focused Project Selection Process
Remove Barriers to Off-System Investments
Focus Area 5: Improving Options for Mobility and Access
Make Urban and Metropolitan Transit A Key Partner
Support Statewide Transit for Job Access and Economic Growth
Enact Policies that Support Complete Streets
Putting the Policies and Practices into Action

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- **Washington:** Working to weave TDM and other demand-side considerations into planning and project development being undertaken in the Moving Washington framework.

- **Delaware:** Collaborating with DOT-owned transit system and local stakeholders to reconsider routes and staging to make transit a more robust player in the Wilmington area.
Massachusetts: Performing a program review of MassDOT’s three-year-old reorganization to document efficiencies and better outcomes achieved, as well as continuing opportunities.
Putting the Policies and Practices into Action

Smart Growth America

- **Oregon**: Engaged a working group of 50+ transportation providers and stakeholders to evaluate the non-roadway transportation funding need in Oregon and identify viable funding mechanisms to fill the need.

- **Tennessee**: Partnered with TDOT to evaluate current planning and project development processes and identify strategies for removing barriers to smarter transportation investments.
Putting the Policies and Practices into Action

Smart Growth America

- **Vermont**: Conducting a review of Vtrans policies and programs to identify strategies for strengthening Vermont’s economy through better alignment between transportation investments and the state’s smart growth policy.
Putting the Policies and Practices into Action

Smart Growth America

- **Michigan**: Partnering with MDOT, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Executive and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to develop mobility management strategies for five regions in the state.
Help Us Improve It

Send comments, suggestions and additional case studies to:

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More information

To download the handbook or browse topics:

http://www.ssti.us/2012/09/the-innovative-dot/

http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/the-innovative-dot
Upcoming SSTI webinars

Innovative, sustainable funding options for state DOTs

*October 29, 2012, 1:00 PM (2:00 PM Eastern)*

Paul Morris, Deputy Secretary for Transit, North Carolina DOT

Bus Rapid Transit: Planning and executing a successful system

*November 29, 2012, 1:00 PM (2:00 PM Eastern)*

Annie Weinstock, BRT Division, ITDP

Joe Calabrese from the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
This report was produced with the generous support of the Rockefeller Foundation.

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This project was also supported by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

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