“Overcoming Roadblocks to Project Excellence”
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Every project has a context -- The CSD/CSS approach applies everywhere.

NCHRP Report 480 Documents ‘Best Practices’ for CSD/CSS
• Review of Literature
• Phone and personal interviews
• Visits to Pilot States
• Synthesis of documents and studies
• Collection of Case Studies
• Development of ‘Best Practices’ Guide and CD
A Framework for Achieving Context Sensitive Solutions

“Transportation planning must reflect the desires of communities, and take into account the impacts on both the natural and human environments”

Source: A Citizen’s Guide to Transportation Decisionmaking (FHWA)

Where CSS Fits in the Project Development Process
Too often managers “jump to solutions” and the solution to Problem A becomes Problem B
• Jump!

Best Practices for Development of Transportation Solutions
• Consider all viable transportation modes and technologies
• Consider design and operational/policy solutions
• Follow a logical screening process w/ screening criteria
• Document all decisions for later reference

Alternatives should align solutions to the underlying causes

Typical Problem
– Demand that exceeds system capacity
– Through traffic on residential streets
– Lack of system or route continuity
– Safety
– Infrastructure in disrepair

Transportation Solutions
– Transit improvements
– Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
– Traffic control improvements
– Law Enforcement
– Access management
– Transportation demand management strategies
– Traffic calming
– Increased capacity along existing facility
– Construction of new roads
Defining problems in ways that lead to solutions

- Stated in terms of underlying causes
- Not mode specific
- Linked to travel markets
- Derived from existing and future conditions

Alternatives Development

Strategy Table - River Crossing Problem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterborne Travel</th>
<th>Pedestrian &amp; Bikes</th>
<th>Transit</th>
<th>Traffic Capacity</th>
<th>Freight Railroads</th>
<th>TDM</th>
<th>TSM</th>
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<td>None</td>
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<td>Passenger Ferry Service</td>
<td>Pedestrian Walkway/Busway</td>
<td>Enhanced Bus Service</td>
<td>Expansed One Bridge with 2 Lanes</td>
<td>New Railroad Bridge</td>
<td>Telecommute Program</td>
<td>Optimize Signal Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freight/Cargo Operations</td>
<td>Slotted Bidirectional Bridge</td>
<td>Expansed One Bridge with 2 Lane Busway</td>
<td>Expansed One Bridge with 4 Lanes</td>
<td>Rail Road Added to Existing Bridge</td>
<td>Freight Traffic On-Peak</td>
<td>Peak Period Traffic on Shoulder Lanes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slotted on New Bridge</td>
<td>New Bridge with 2 Lane Busway</td>
<td>Expansed Two Bridges with 2 Lane</td>
<td>Parking Lanes</td>
<td>Reserved Lanes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike/Lane Reduction Existing Bridge</td>
<td>New Bridge with 2 Lane Busway</td>
<td>New 2 Lane Bridge</td>
<td>Employee Access for Non-Auto Routes</td>
<td>Contact 3 LA 310-7680</td>
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Transportation Planning Process

Linking Transportation Planning

“Programmatic” Case Study
Ohio’s 14-Step Project Development Process (PDP)
Why did ODOT need to improve?

- Blown estimates and timeframes,
- Scope creep...
- Poor or incomplete decisions.

Overall Goal
Need the right level of information to make the right decisions at the right time!

Step 1 - Work with Stakeholders to Understand Problems, Needs, and Goals

- Define the study area
- Identify and work with stakeholders, including environmental justice populations
- Develop Public Involvement Plan
- Develop stakeholder goals and measures of project success
- Refine Planning Study Scope of Services
Step 2 - Conduct Research and Technical Studies

- Identify data needs
- Review existing data and analyses and conduct needed additional research and analysis
- Prepare base maps
- Prepare existing and future conditions report
- Confirm study area
- Develop Red Flag summary
- Prepare Draft Purpose and Need Statement

Step 3 - Identify and Evaluate Conceptual Alternative Solutions

- Identify conceptual alternative solutions
- Develop cost estimates for conceptual alternative solutions
- Quantitatively compare and evaluate conceptual alternatives
- Document analysis, alternatives elimination process, and reasoning

Step 4 - Develop Strategic Plan or Planning Study Report

- Recommend design concept and scope
- Revise draft Purpose and Need Statement
- Determine NEPA requirements
- Recommend funding, timetable, and delivery strategy
- Reach consensus and concurrence on recommendations by stakeholders and, if appropriate, seek MPO Major Investment Study approval (Concurrence Point #1)
- Update cost estimates and milestone dates
Questions?

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