THE ANNUAL WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI
SYMPOSIUM ON
TRANSPORTATION POLICY

PUBLIC TRANSIT FOR CHICAGO:
A SUSTAINABLE RIDE TO THE FUTURE

November 8, 2010
To Symposium Participants:

As the honorary host, I am happy to welcome you to the Fourth Annual William O. Lipinski Symposium on Transportation Policy. Our subject is Public Transit for Chicago: A Sustainable Ride to the Future. Chicago’s transit system has played a key role in assuring our economic success for more than 100 years. Today that system faces challenging times. At the core of these challenges is the need to assure that we have the resources necessary to sustain and grow public transit in our region.

We must face this challenge while the cry of “no new taxes” dominates political debate, and both riders and businesses alike decry service cuts made to meet budget constraints. The path ahead is not clear, and it may be necessary to make choices between expanding services to new and under-served markets and keeping the existing system functioning in a state of good repair.

Under these circumstances it is especially important that we make wise decisions about the future of our transit system. This is a time to consider innovations in technologies and service delivery that may help us to do more while we control costs, as well as in improving service coverage and quality in ways that will build public support for the best transit system in the nation.

Speakers and participants at the 2010 Symposium will lay out some of the key issues and options before us. We will hear from national, state, and regional leaders in the transit field, and we will learn about new ideas, opportunities, and values to help us achieve the transit system that our region needs in order to remain economically competitive and environmentally viable.

This Symposium will give us the forum to discuss strategies to make our public transit system effective, efficient, and sustainable in the years to come.

Sincerely,

William O. Lipinski
Member, 1983 - 2005
U.S. House of Representatives
AGENDA

THE ANNUAL WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI SYMPOSIUM ON TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Public Transit for Chicago: A Sustainable Ride to the Future

8:00 – 8:15 Welcome
Morton Schapiro, President, Northwestern University
(Introduced by Joseph L. Schofer, Northwestern University)

8:15 - 8:30 Perspectives on Chicago’s Transit System
William O. Lipinski

8:30 – 8:45 Charge to the symposium: Opportunities and challenges facing public transportation – Chicago and the nation
Joseph L. Schofer

8:45 – 9:45 The national challenges facing public transportation (each presentation followed by 15 minutes of open discussion)
Peter DeFazio, US Representative
Daniel Lipinski, US Representative

9:45 – 10:30 Critical Issues for Chicago’s Transit System
Richard L. Rodriguez, President, Chicago Transit Authority
William K. Tupper, Acting Executive Director, Metra
Thomas J. (TJ) Ross, Executive Director, Pace
Kristi Lafleur, Executive Director, The Illinois Tollway

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:00 Visions of the Future – Part I (each presentation followed by 10 minutes of open discussion)
Technologies for Connectivity and Reliability
Hani Mahmassani, Northwestern University

Financing a State of Good Repair
Robert L. Peskin, AECOM
12:15 – 1:45  Lunch
Pat Quinn, Governor of Illinois (invited)
Presentation of David F. Schulz Award to Samuel K. Skinner
(Presented by William O. Lipinski)

2:00 – 3:30  Visions of the Future – Part II (each presentation followed by 15 minutes of open discussion)
The Economic Development Connection
Glenn Weisbrod, President, Economic Development Research Group
Bus Rapid Transit – Global Perspectives
Gerhard Menckhoff, Institute for Transport Policy and Development
Transit Service Delivery Innovations
Philippe Payen, Chief Strategy Officer, Veolia

3:30 – 4:00  Break

4:00 – 5:30  Prospects for Progress
Michael J. Madigan, Speaker, Illinois House of Representatives
Tom Cross, Republican Leader, Illinois House of Representatives
John J. Cullerton, President, Illinois Senate
Christine Radogno, Republican Leader, Illinois Senate

5:30 – 5:45  What Have We Heard?: Summary of Ideas and Wrap-up Discussion
Joseph L. Schofer

6:00 – 7:00  Reception
U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR)
Chairman, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Congressman Peter DeFazio was first elected to the U.S. Congress in 1986. He is the dean of the Oregon House delegation, represents southwest Oregon, and has developed a reputation as an independent, passionate and effective lawmaker.

DeFazio is a senior member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee where he serves as Chairman of the Highways and Transit Subcommittee, and also serves on the Aviation and Railroad Subcommittees. In 2005, DeFazio served as the ranking Democrat on the Highways Subcommittee where he helped negotiate a five-year federal highway and transit spending bill called SAFETEA-LU.

DeFazio also serves on the House Committee on Homeland Security and sits on the Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee and the Management, Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee, as well as on the House Natural Resources Committee, where he sits on the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands.

DeFazio has refused congressional pay raises while the federal government is deficit spending, and has linked his pay to Social Security cost-of-living adjustments. Instead, he has turned his pay raises into scholarships at Oregon’s five southwestern community colleges; by the end of 2009 DeFazio will have contributed over $300,000 in after-tax salary to fund 187 scholarships.

U.S. Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)
U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Having grown up near Midway Airport, U.S. Representative Dan Lipinski is a proud native of Illinois’ Third Congressional District, which he has represented since 2005. The district includes large parts of south and southwest Chicago, as well as numerous suburbs in west and southwest Cook County, and is one of the most diverse and vibrant areas in the entire country.

As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Lipinski has been a leading advocate for the CREATE modernization program, a $15 billion public-private partnership to reduce rail and road congestion throughout the Chicago region. Lipinski also serves on the Science and Technology Committee, where he is chairman of the Research and Science Education Subcommittee and sits on the Energy and Environment and Technology and Innovation Subcommittees. On the Small Business Committee, he belongs to the Regulations, Health Care, and Trade Subcommittee.

Lipinski taught Political Science at the University of Tennessee and at the University of Notre Dame. He served on the staffs of former House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt and Congressmen Lane Evans, James Oberstar, George V. Voinovich, George E. Brown, the House Administration Committee, and the House Democratic Policy Committee, and worked for the U.S. Department of Labor and the Illinois General Assembly’s Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation.

Lipinski earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Northwestern University, a Master’s Degree in Engineering-Economic Systems at the Stanford University, a Master’s Degree in Engineering-Economic Security and sits on the Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee and the Management, Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee, as well as on the House Natural Resources Committee, where he sits on the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands.

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Lipinski earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Northwestern University, a Master’s Degree in Engineering-Economic Systems at the Stanford University, a Master’s Degree in Engineering-Economic
Systems from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Duke University. Lipinski and his wife, Judy, reside in Western Springs.

Illinois Rep. Michael J. Madigan (D-22nd Dist.)

Speaker Michael J. Madigan, a Democrat, is the longest serving speaker in Illinois history, having held the position continuously since 1983, except for the years 1995-1996. Madigan was born April 19, 1942 in Chicago. After attending St. Ignatius College Prep and the University of Notre Dame, Madigan graduated from Loyola University’s law school. He worked as a hearing officer for the Illinois Commerce Commission and in the City of Chicago’s law department. In 1969, he was elected as a delegate to the 1970 Constitutional Convention, and the following year as state representative for the 22nd District, a post to which he has since been re-elected every two years. He was elected House Democratic Leader in 1981 and 1995, and served as Majority Leader from 1977 through 1980. His work in the Legislature has been consistently marked with honors and distinctions from a wide range of civic, community, educational, and business organizations.

Madigan became the Chairman of the Democratic Party of Illinois in 1998 and is a member of the Democratic National Committee. Under his leadership, Democrats have won majorities in each chamber of the General Assembly, both U.S. Senate seats, and all statewide constitutional offices. In 2003, Madigan achieved the distinction of being the only Illinois state legislator to win for re-election with the disapproval of fewer lawmakers to serve alongside his child, when his daughter, Lisa, was elected to the Illinois Senate from the 17th District. In 2002, Lisa was elected to serve as the state’s first female Attorney General.

Madigan and his wife, Shirley, are also the parents of daughter Tiffany, who is married to Jordan Matyas, a daughter Nicole, and a son, Andrew. Lisa and her husband, Pat Byrne, have two daughters, Rebecca and Lucy.

Hani S. Mahmassani
Director, Northwestern University Transportation Center, Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Northwestern University

Dr. Hani S. Mahmassani specializes in multimodal transportation systems analysis, planning and operations, dynamic network modeling and optimization, transit network planning and design, dynamics of user behavior and telematics, telecommunication-transportation interactions, large-scale human infrastructure systems, and real-time operation of logistics and distribution systems.

Mahmassani received his Ph.D. in Transportation Systems from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1982, and M.S. in Transportation Engineering from Purdue in 1978. He chairs several technical and professional committees in the U.S. and internationally, and is the incoming Editor-in-Chief of Transportation Science, and Associate Editor of Transportation Research C (Emerging Technologies). He has served on the Paper Review Chair of the Traffic Flow Theory and Characteristics of the Transportation Research Board since 1989, and is the immediate past president of that committee. He is a past president of the Transportation Science Section of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences, and the immediate past President of the International Association for Travel Behavior Research. He has published over 175 refereed articles and conference proceedings, and over 100 technical reports. He has served as Principal investigator on over 95 funded research projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation, The Advanced Technology Program, General Motors Research Laboratories, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Governor’s Office, Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, U.S. Department of Transportation, and Federal Highway Administration, and served as consultant to several companies and government agencies in the areas of transportation modeling, operations, logistics, and intelligent transportation systems. He has served in an advisory capacity to various institutes and programs, and has performed several program assessments of leading international research institutes and corporate R&D departments.

Gerhard Menckhoff
Institute for Transport Policy and Development

Gerhard Menckhoff is an independent transport consultant specializing in sustainable solutions, such as bus rapid transit, other public transport, traffic demand management, and non-motorized transport. He is closely associated with the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) and the Clean Air Institute for Latin America.

For the last ten years, Menckhoff has worked for the World Bank on infrastructure operations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. While his main specialty is in urban transport, he was also responsible for projects dealing with non-urban transport and municipal development.

Before joining the Bank’s staff, he was at a large U.S. consulting firm for 17 years, assigned to offices in New York, Helsinki, São Paulo, Brisbane, Dublin, London, Aigiers, and La Paz (Bolivia). He holds engineering degrees from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and Ohio State University.

Philippe Payen
Chief Prospective Officer
VEOLIA Transport

Philippe Payen, currently the Chief Prospective Officer of VEOLIA Transport, has been responsible for research and sustainable development since 2008.

Payen received his degree in Engineering at The École Polytechnique (Paris) and at the Corps des Mines.

In November 1999 Payen was appointed CONNEX (former name of Veolia Transport) Major Transport Projects Director. From 1999 until July 2003, Philippe played an important role in the development of Connex, especially in the USA and in the Light Rail PPP projects (Barcelona, Dublin, Jerusalem).

In August 2003, he was promoted as the Deputy Director of Development with a special assignment on the strategy of the group. He has extensive engineering, commercial and operating experience in large infrastructure projects and in the transportation industry. He brought his industrial background to the development of the transportation service market.

He was appointed Director of Strategy in July 2006. Since 2008, he has been Chief Strategy Officer for Veolia Transport, in charge also of the Research and Sustainable Development Departments.

Robert L. Peskin
Senior Consulting Manager, AECOM Transportation

Robert L. Peskin, PhD, is Senior Consulting Manager in the transportation consulting practice of AECOM, a global provider of professional, technical, and management support services to a broad range of markets, including transportation, facilities, environmental, energy, water, and government. Dr. Peskin has 33 years of experience in the areas transportation financing, planning, and management. He has been with AECOM (and an acquired predecessor company) throughout his entire career, providing his expertise in the service of the transit industry and government agencies at the local, state, and federal levels. He pioneered analytical methodologies in the areas of transportation financial planning, analysis of transportation infrastructure capital needs, and operating & maintenance cost modeling. His work focuses on the application of quantitative information to support transportation decision making. He works with public agency staff in integrating financial, capital, and operating data from all functional areas including planning, engineering, transportation, and maintenance. Dr. Peskin supports transportation agency executive staff and governing boards as they commit limited public resources to major capital investments and make difficult budgeting decisions.

Dr. Peskin is an active alumni volunteer for Northwestern. He is co-director of the Alumni Admission Council of Washington, D.C., where he manages 200 alumni volunteers in outreach to undergraduate applicants to Northwestern and organizes an annual interview weekend involving 200 applicants and 60 volunteers. Dr. Peskin is a member of the McCormick Advisory Council, which advises the Dean and the faculty of the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science at Northwestern University on educational and research programs that most effectively meet the needs of business and industry and the region and national economy. He is also a member of the Northwestern Alumni Association Board of Directors, representing the Alumni Admission Council.

Illinois Senator Christine Radogno (R-41st Dist.)

Illinois Senate Republican Leader

Christine Radogno is the Senate Republican Leader and the first female Caucus Leader in Illinois General Assembly history. She has served in the Illinois Senate since 1997, and she currently represents the 41st District, which includes Deerfield, Northbrook, Northfield, Buffalo Grove, and Will counties. Radogno is a leading budget expert and negotiator for the Senate Republican Caucus, and is widely respected for her knowledge of the state budget process and her commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Before running for the Senate, Radogno served as Village of LaGrange Trustee (1989-1996). Prior to her experience as a trustee, she
worked as a social worker at Mercy Center for Health Care Services. Radogno has received numerous awards throughout her legislative career, notably awards honoring her commitment to health care and human services, economic development, and Illinois agriculture.

Senator Radogno was educated in the Chicago area. She holds a Master of Social Work degree and a Bachelor’s degree from Loyola University. She graduated from Lyons Township High School.

Senator Radogno lives in Lemont, and she and her husband have three adult children.

Richard L. Rodriguez
President, Chicago Transit Authority

Richard L. Rodriguez is President of the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), which is the nation’s second-largest public transit system and serves the City of Chicago and 40 neighboring communities.

Prior to joining the CTA, Rodriguez served as the Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation, which oversees the Chicago Airport System. During his tenure, O’Hare and Midway International Airports transported nearly 95 million passengers and shipped more than 1.7 million tons of cargo each year, generating nearly $45 billion in economic activity and 540,000 jobs in the city, state, and region.

Rodriguez, an attorney, began his extensive public service career as legal counsel to the Office of the Attorney General of Guam. He went on to become Deputy Director of the Disaster Recovery Office in the Guam Governor’s Office and later joined the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

In Chicago, Rodriguez oversaw procurements for the Chicago Public Schools and worked as Managing Director of Operations for the Chicago Housing Authority. He joined the City of Chicago as Executive Director of Construction and Permits and managed a merger with the Department of Buildings, where he then served as Commissioner.

Rodriguez has Bachelor’s Degrees in Sociology and Communications from College Un.Leters, Arts and Sciences until 2000, Chicago-Kent College of Law. He is a Metropolitan Leadership Institute graduate, Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow, and board member of Daughters of Charity Ministries of Chicago, DeVry University, and Casa Central.

Thomas J. Ross
Executive Director, Pace

Thomas (TJ) Ross is the Executive Director of Pace Suburban Bus System, headquartered in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Pace was created by the Regional Transportation Authority Act for Northeastern Illinois in 1984 and is responsible for the regional ADA paratransit service, suburban fixed-route bus service, regional van-pool and car-pool services, and the suburban dial-a-ride service that provide public transit for 8 million residents in northeastern Illinois. Pace employs over 2,500 people directly or through private contractors, using a fleet of over 2,500 vehicles that range in size from compact sedans to heavy-duty transit buses.

Ross has been Executive Director of Pace since 1998. His transit career includes 19 years in the private sector and 19 years in the public sector and has held the positions of planner, engineer, maintenance director, general manager, and executive director.

Mr. Ross holds Masters’ Degrees in Civil Engineering and Public Administration. He is a registered Professional Civil Engineer.

Morton Schapiro
President, Northwestern University

Morton Schapiro became the 16th president of Northwestern University on September 1, 2009. He is a Professor of Economics in Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management and the School of Education and Social Policy. Schapiro is among the nation’s leading authorities on the economics of higher education, with particular expertise in the area of college financing and affordability.

Schapiro was president of Williams College from 2000 to 2009, where he served in the positions of planner, engineer, maintenance director, general manager, and executive director.

Schapiro has written more than 100 articles and five books, and he has edited two others, most with his longtime co-author Michael McPherson. He has received research grants and contracts from the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, the World Bank, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, the College Board, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and other groups.

Schapiro and his wife Mimi have three children: Matt, Alissa, and Rachel.

Joseph L. Schofer
Director, Infrastructure Technology Institute, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Associate Dean of the Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Northwestern University

Joseph Schofer is Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Associate Dean of the Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Director of the Infrastructure Technology Institute at Northwestern University. He has served as chairman of his department and as interim Dean of the McCormick School.

His expertise is in transportation policy and planning, including travel behavior market research and system and service evaluation. His recent research and professional work include civil infrastructure planning and management, data as an asset for transportation system decision making, sustainability of cities and their transportation systems. His work in transportation decision making and policy setting focuses on linking understanding of user behavior to system performance, outcomes, and decisions. He has published over 130 articles and book chapters and more than 50 technical reports.

Schofer serves on the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Committee on National Data Needs, TRB’s Section on Data and Information Systems, TRB’s Advisory Committee on Capacity for the Strategic Highway Research Program (II), The Board of Advisors of the University of California, Davis Institute for Transportation Studies, The Transportation Committee for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, The (Chicago) Mayor’s Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Citizen’s Advisory Board of Pace, Chicago’s suburban bus transit operator. He is a Life Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

Schofer earned his B.E. degree in Civil Engineering from Yale University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in transportation engineering from Northwestern University.

Samuel K. Skinner
Of Counsel, Greenberg Traurig (Chicago Office), and Chair, Chicago Governmental Affairs Practice

Samuel K. Skinner, Of Counsel with Greenberg Traurig’s Chicago office, has had a distinguished career in both the governmental and private sectors. He consults with clients in a variety of areas, including strategizing on complex litigation matters, state and federal regulatory matters, governmental matters, transportation issues, and corporate governance. Skinner is the retired chairman, president and CEO of USF Corporation, one of the nation’s leading transportation and logistics companies. Before joining USF, he was president of the Commonwealth Edison Company and its holding company, Unicom Corporation, one of the nation’s largest electric utilities.

Prior to that, Skinner served as Chief of Staff to President George HW. Bush after working for three years in the President’s cabinet as Secretary of Transportation, where he was credited with numerous successes, including the development and passage of landmark legislation in aviation and surface transportation. He also developed our country’s “Open Skies” policy, which liberalized U.S. international aviation policy and significantly increased the number of international flights to and from the U.S. In addition, Mr. Skinner acted as the President’s point person in numerous crisis situations, including the 1998 terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, the Eastern Airlines strike, the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the northern California earthquake, Hurricane Hugo, and the 1991 national rail strike. Washingtonian magazine twice gave Skinner his highest ranking for his performance as Secretary of Transportation, and he has also received numerous awards from the transportation industry.

While practicing law, Mr. Skinner also served as Chairman of the Regional Transportation Authority of northeastern Illinois, the nation’s second largest mass transportation district. In this capacity, he developed the RTA’s first strategic plan that was used as a blueprint for a multi-billion dollar service expansion and capital development program.
William K. Tupper
Acting Executive Director, Metra

William K. Tupper has served as Acting Executive Director of Metra since May 2010. Mr. Tupper began his career with Metra in 1982, in Metra’s Engineering Department. From 1984 to 1990, Mr. Tupper served as Metra’s Assistant Chief Engineering Officer, becoming Chief Engineering Officer in 1990. From 2006 to 2009, Tupper served as Chief Operations Officer, responsible for all aspects of Metra’s operations including transportation, mechanical, engineering, safety, rules, and industrial hygiene. In 2009, he was appointed Metra’s Deputy Director of Operations.

Prior to Mr. Tupper’s 28 years with Metra, he served the New York Department of Transportation, Rock Island Railroad, and Regional Transportation Authority.

Mr. Tupper received his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from the University of Buffalo in 1972.

Glen Weisbrod
President, Economic Development Research, Inc.

Glen Weisbrod is the President of Economic Development Research Group, Inc. (EDR Group). For the last 32 years, he has conducted research on the relationship of economic development to public transportation, as well as air, marine, railroad and highway investments. These activities have spanned Japan, Scotland, Australia, Italy, South Africa, Canada and the Netherlands, as well as around the U.S. and Canada. He has served as Chair of the National Academies’ TRB Committee on Transportation and Economic Development, and he previously served on the Board of Directors of the Council for Urban Economic Development, now the International Economic Development Council. He was also formerly Sr. Vice President of Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

For the American Public Transportation Association, Mr. Weisbrod coauthored studies of the economic impacts of public transportation investment. For the U.S. Conference of Mayors, he coauthored studies of the implications of high speed rail for economic development of cities. For the Strategic Highway Research Program, he developed a national database on highway and economic development consequences. He has also authored guidebooks on assessing the economic impacts of transportation for the American Society of Civil Engineers, U.S. Dept. of Transportation and Transportation Research Board.

He and his firm have worked in the Chicago area assessing economic impacts of spending and capital investment by RTA and METRA, as well as freight futures and broader regional transportation needs for Chicago DOT and Chicago Metropolis 2020. Mr. Weisbrod is the author of over 30 published articles. He holds an MS in Transportation Engineering and MCP in Planning from M.I.T., and BA in Economics from Brandeis University.
The David F. Schulz Award for Outstanding Public Service in Transportation and Infrastructure is presented at the William O. Lipinski Symposium on Transportation Policy. This award commemorates the lifelong commitment of David F. Schulz (1949-2007) to transportation infrastructure. Founding Executive Director of Northwestern University’s Infrastructure Technology Institute, David was an articulate spokesman and advocate for transportation throughout his career as a public servant, elected official, university leader and teacher.

The Schulz Award is intended to honor individuals for technical or legislative innovation in solving a problem in the fields of transportation or infrastructure, or for public-policy leadership in calling attention to problems in transportation or infrastructure. Eligible recipients include: elected and appointed officials at all levels of government; authors, writers or members of the news media; leaders from the transportation industry or engineering community; and researchers or members of the academic or nonprofit communities. Awardees are selected by a committee comprised of a representative designated by the Dean of Northwestern University’s Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science (MEAS), a representative designated by the president of Northwestern University and a representative or representatives designated by the host or hosts of the Symposium.

Nominations may be made at any time by writing to The David F. Schulz Award, c/o Dean of MEAS, Northwestern University, 2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208-3101.
The Infrastructure Technology Institute at Northwestern University was established in 1992 with a mission of research, technology transfer, management and policy studies, and education to improve the nation’s transportation infrastructure. The Institute is an interdisciplinary center within Northwestern’s Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science. It is located on the University’s campus in Evanston, Illinois, and funded by a grant from the US Department of Transportation.

Research

The Institute’s research activities are focused on development and deployment of advanced technologies for structural health monitoring, advanced infrastructure materials, analysis and testing techniques, and new tools for integrating infrastructure condition and performance information into system management, investment, and policy decision processes.

It is our objective to make ITI a national focal point for the development and exchange of ideas and methods for assessing and assuring the structural and functional health of the nation’s transportation infrastructure.

Technology Transfer

The Institute partners with public and private infrastructure agencies to deploy innovative technologies in real-world situations. Deployment partners include state departments of transportation, municipal governments, railroads, and private engineering firms.

Education

The Institute is active in transportation and infrastructure education at all levels from elementary school to Ph.D. studies and professional development.

Management & Policy

The Institute is actively engaged in transportation policy discussion at the local, regional, and national levels. The Institute Director and sponsored faculty are frequently consulted by public and private transportation and infrastructure agencies, including the Chicago Transit Authority and the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority. The Institute also sponsors several annual symposia on transportation issues.

MORE INFO AT:
HTTP://WWW.ITI.NORTHWESTERN.EDU