

**Call for Papers and Presentations
Proposed Paper Session for the
2010 Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting**

Emergency Management of Critical Transportation Infrastructure

Sponsored by: Critical Transportation Infrastructure & Protection (ABE 40), Emergency Evacuation Subcommittee (ANB10[4]), Systems Analysis, Integration and Operations Planning and Management Subcommittee, (ABE40[2]); General Structures (AFF10); Tunnels and Underground Structures (AFF60), Bridge Management (AHD35), Bus & Rail Terminals (AP045), Bus Transit Systems (AP050), Ferry Transportation (AP085), Intercity Transit (AR010), and Airport Terminals and Ground Access (AV050).

The TRB Committee on Critical Transportation Infrastructure & Protection (ABE 40), the TRB Subcommittee on Emergency Evacuation (ANB10[4]), The TRB Subcommittee on Systems Analysis, Integration and Operations Planning and Management, (ABE40[2]), the TRB Committee on General Structures (AFF10); the TRB Committee on Tunnels & Underground Structures (AFF60), the TRB Committee on Bridge Management (AHD35), the TRB Committee on Bus and Rail Terminals (AP045), the TRB Committee on Bus Transit Systems (AP050), the TRB Committee on Ferry Transportation (AP085), the TRB Committee on Intercity Transit (AR010), and the TRB Committee on Airport Terminals & Ground Access (AV050) invite you to submit papers for the upcoming TRB Annual Meeting in 2010.

Emergency Management of Critical Transportation Infrastructure

Understanding risk is essential to protecting critical transportation infrastructure assets. Identifying potential threats and vulnerabilities helps clarify where resources are needed most. Maintaining appropriate security measures enables continuity of operations while protecting the health and safety of workers in the surrounding community.

Critical Transportation Infrastructure is vulnerable to acts of terrorism, natural disasters and the effects of climate change. Assessing these risks and developing emergency plans ensures that emergency managers will be prepared when unexpected events do occur.

Examples of critical transportation infrastructure requiring emergency management include mass transit intermodal facilities, port facilities, airport terminals, rail stations, tunnels, ferry terminals and highway systems.

Recent examples of emergency management of critical infrastructure include:

1. Minnesota Bridge Collapse. The I-35W bridge over the Mississippi in Minneapolis collapsed during rush hour on August 1, 2007.

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The Minnesota Department of Transportation had an emergency plan in place when the disaster occurred, enabling emergency and transportation managers to implement transportation contingency plans and recovery measures immediately following the event, reducing peak hour congestion and allowing people to get to school and work following the disaster.

2. Terrorism Attacks on Public Transit Systems. One-third of terrorist attacks worldwide target transportation systems, and public transit is the most frequent transportation target.¹ Following the attacks on Transit Systems in Madrid, London and Israel, US Transit Officials have increased emergency management measures including emergency training programs, security patrols and increased video surveillance to ensure passenger safety.
3. Gulf Ports Hurricanes. 7 out of 10 of the largest US Ports are located in Louisiana and Texas² in an area damaged by numerous Hurricanes in recent years, including Hurricanes *Katrina*, *Rita*, *Gustav* and *Ike*. Gulf Port Emergency managers are taking a close look at critical transportation infrastructure in this region to be better prepared for future natural disasters.

Strategies and plans to improve emergency management of critical transportation infrastructure that should be considered by authors include approaches for developing the following types of plans and training exercises:

- Transit Emergency Management Plans & Training
- Port Emergency Plans & Training
- Airport Terminal Emergency Plans & Training
- Major Tunnel Emergency Plans & Training
- Major Bridge Emergency Contingency Plans
- Urban Area Evacuation & Detour Plans
- Ferry Transportation Emergency Plans
- Rail Station Emergency Plans
- Contracting between public and private transportation operators

Papers need to be submitted by August 1, 2009 in PDF format. Questions should be directed to Brian Wolshon (brian@rsip.lsu.edu), Jeff Western

¹ Prieto, Daniel B. "Mass Transit Security after the London Bombings." Testimony, August, 2005.

² Potter, J.R., V.R. Burkett, and M.J. Savonis, 2008: Executive Summary. In: Impacts of Climate Change and Variability on Transportation Systems and Infrastructure: Gulf Coast Study, Phase I, p. 25

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