Research Needs for Mobility and Freight Modes
Technical Advisory Group

Effective / Updated: 9/1/2023

1. Issue Identified:

Opportunities for leveraging state highway infrastructure for improved transit services.

2. Summary of Problem:

Highways under the jurisdiction and control of the Illinois Department of Transportation are used by transit operators across the state for the operation of local and regional bus service. These operations are characterized by a wide range of service types and intensities as well as supporting infrastructure. Transit service operation is provided by the transit agency, while the infrastructure’s construction, ownership, and maintenance are a mix of transit agency and IDOT responsibility, and in some cases, by a local municipality. This existing multi-jurisdictional framework can impede effective and coordinated decision-making, reducing the effectiveness of transit operations and access.

An inventory of existing transit operations, supporting infrastructure, and ownership/maintenance responsibilities on IDOT highways would provide the scope of these existing partnerships, aid in leveraging these partnerships for improved multimodal operations, and provide guidance for future policies and funding programs.

3. Desired Results / Outcome:

The research would include an inventory of existing transit operations, supporting infrastructure, and ownership/maintenance responsibilities on IDOT highways. It would identify the scope of these existing partnerships, identify best practices, and develop recommendations to aid local implementors in leveraging these partnerships for improved multimodal operations as well as provide guidance for future policies and funding programs.