

Wider benefits of public transport: an evolving concept with evolving uses

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Agenda

- 1. In the beginning... the benefits of transport
- 2. The origins and evolution of cost benefit analysis
- 3. Redefining the concept of "wider" benefits
- 4. Application, uses and issues to be resolved



(1) In the beginning...

Evolving motivations (and hence benefits) of passenger transport



Looking back... motivations for passenger transport

Private operators

2000 BC: Mesopotamia - caravans for trade



600 BC: Greece - carts for visits to the countryside



1500 BC: Egypt - Nile tourism "booze cruise"



1630: Boston – chartered urban ferry service, enabling city growth





Looking back... motivations for scheduled services

Private operators

1662: Paris - public omnibus to enable urban movement



1850's "rapid transit" concept



1890's electric underground to relieve surface congestion



Boston Tremont Street





Looking back... motivations for scheduled services

1850-1920 enabling urban centers to develop, bringing workers to jobs









Streetcar to Bates Rubber Company, Denver's Street Railways



Looking back... Development of "streetcar suburbs"

(1850-1920) streetcars sponsored by developers, enable middle class suburbs in N. America





Looking ahead... Public policy today

Public sector activities

Improving air quality



Enhancing remote airport access



Reducing congestion, increasing reliability



Enabling high tech business clusters





Intended investment benefits

- Recreation, tourism
- Access to jobs
- Urban development

industry tech clusters

- Saving time (rapid transit)
- Improving reliability (congestion reduction)
- Improving Intermodal access
- Quality of life (livability)
- Equity effects (socio-economic & spatial distribution)



(2) The origins and evolution of cost benefit analysis

...solutions and new problems...



Before Cost-Benefit Analysis

Pre 1936 - objective-based planning approach, …based on any of the following strategic goals:



Erie Canal, 1825+

Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost Congestion / reliability Safety

Access to jobs, business Intermodal connectivity

Recreation, tourism Urban commercial centers Regional economy Technology clusters **Pollution Emissions**

Freight Logistics



1 – Precursor of Cost-Benefit Analysis

1936 (US) – required efficient use of government waterway investment funds ... "the benefits to whomever they accrue [be] in excess of the estimated costs"



San Leaondro Waterway Army Corps of Engineers

Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost

Congestion / reliability Safety

Access to jobs, business Intermodal connectivity

Recreation, tourism Urban commercial centers

Regional economy

lechnology clusters

Pollution Emissions

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2 – Formalization of Cost-Benefit Analysis

1960s – welfare economics: concept of utility (value) to the user, based on price signals and willingness to pay, with "externalities" due to inefficiency in prices. (Assumes independence of effects.)

Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost

Congestion / reliability Safety **Pollution Emissions**

Sana Monica Freeway, 1963

Access to jobs, business Intermodal connectivity

Recreation, tourism Urban commercial centers Regional economy Technology clusters Freight Logistics



3 - Expanded Cost-Benefit Analysis

1970s and 1980s – Evolution of what we now refer
to as "Traditional Cost Benefit Analysis "
= expanded user value + pollution produced by users



Los Angeles Subway

Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost Congestion / reliability Safety

Pollution Emissions

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Recreation, tourism Urban commercial centers Regional economy Technology clusters reight Logistics



4 – Add "Wider Economic Benefits" in CBA

2005-2006 Eddington Transport Study, UK Dept. for Transport discussion papers, WebTAG guidance (agglomeration effects on GDP)



Crossrail plan (London)

Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost Congestion / reliability Safety

Access to jobs, business Intermodal connectivity

UK agglomeration, competition, labour force participation rate

Recreation, tourism Urban commercial centers Regional economy Technology clusters

Pollution Emissions

Freight Logistics

<u>Quanty of life, livability</u> Social-economic equity US supply chain delivery reliability



(3) Redefining the concept of "wider benefits"

...alternative perspectives



Economic Development Perspective

1960s – inter-industry, inter-region economic models 1990s – application of economic models for transport



(Massachusetts)

Plan for South Coast Rail

Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost Congestion / reliability

Access to jobs, business Logistics: technology adoption Intermodal connectivity

Recreation, tourism Urban commercial centers Regional economy Technology clusters **Pollution Emissions**

Safety

Quality of life, livability Social-economic equity

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US Inward investment & export substitution

Multi-Criteria Perspective

1960s – multi criteria decision analysis, appraisal table ...accounting for social factors and values Today – (US) dominant method for prioritization



Saving traveler time Saving traveler cost Congestion / reliability

Access to jobs, business Intermodal connectivity

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Freight Logistics



Examples of Multi-Criteria Rating Factors

Traveller Benefit & Environment (quantitative)

Efficiency: Travel time, cost, level of service Safety: collision rate and severity Pollution: emissions/greenhouse gases

Strategic (System Productivity) Benefit

Intermodal access & interchange Improve freight logistics

Social Goal Achievement (qualitative)

Location: area revitalization / regeneration Land use: cluster or in-fill development patterns Econ policy: support target industry growth Leverage: private investment, financial sustainability Inclusion: equity for underserved groups Supports health and quality of life

Macroeconomic Outcomes quantitative)

Job Growth, reduced unemployment Income and Gross Regional Product





(4) Applications, Uses and Issues

...how do they matter?



Decision steps

Formal Progression of Decisions & Plans:

- Policy Development
- Long Range Vision & Strategic Plans
- Short Term Project Prioritization
- Alternatives Analysis & EIS
- Implementation
- Asset Management





Required Information

- Overall Benefit and Cost
- Distribution of impacts:
 - elements of economy & society (who)
 - spatial locations (where)
 - Timing of impacts

(when)

• Policy Development

- Long Range Vision & Strategic Plans
- Short Term Project Prioritization
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Decision Information

Various decision-makers require data reflecting different perspectives.







Moving forward

Need to consider...

- Investment goals: public policy vs. contractor objectives
- Performance measures:
 broader outcomes vs. narrower outputs
- <u>Financial arrangements:</u> cost and revenue sharing opportunities
- <u>Tendering and contracts:</u> reflect goal and performance factors
- Evolution of arrangements: changing institutional roles and boundaries
- Apply CBA to assess wider effects of alternative contract regimes, including incentive structures, transaction and administration costs, and benefits to a wide variety of different stakeholder parties.

