

## International Transit Studies Program

The International Transit Studies Program provides US transit professionals with the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with top-level managers in public transport agencies in cities throughout the world. During meetings and technical tours, they discuss common concerns, share innovative ideas for overcoming challenges, and broaden and deepen their understanding of how public transport systems are planned, funded, and operated in communities of various sizes and structures.

The International Transit Studies Program (TCRP Project J-3H) is conducted by the Transit Cooperative Research Program and sponsored by the Federal Transit Administration.

A call for nominations for team members is issued approximately 4 months prior to each study mission. A separate call for applications for team leaders is issued at least a year prior to the mission.

All travel costs for team members and team leaders are covered by the International Transit Studies Program.

More information on eligibility, the nomination/application processes, and future and past missions is available at

[www.tcrpstudiesmissions.com](http://www.tcrpstudiesmissions.com)

or from the contractor for this project:

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*Over an intense 2-week period and through a mix of presentations, informal discussions, and technical tours, team members study an issue selected for its timely relevance to the US transit community. At the conclusion of the mission, team members summarize their findings in a report that is published by the Transportation Research Board and broadly distributed throughout the transit industry.*

### 2011 Study Missions

#### ***Sustainable Public Transportation—Environmentally Friendly Mobility***

Public transportation systems in the United States and other countries are increasingly being looked to as a means of reducing the impact of climate change. This mission will focus on public transport systems in India and China that exemplify the goals of livability and sustainability.

Participants will learn how public transport systems are reducing their power consumption to lower their carbon footprint, and how they are implementing innovative transit services that increase mobility and pedestrian and cyclist safety while reducing the amount of air pollution and greenhouse gases. The mission will take place over a two-week period during February, March, or April 2011.

Kevin Desmond, General Manager of King County Metro Transit, has been selected to serve as the team leader.

#### ***Integrating High-Speed Rail with Existing Public Transportation Systems***

As the United States gears up to build a network of high-speed rail service, public transportation agencies need to start planning for how those services will be coordinated with existing systems.

This mission will look at best practices in integrating high-speed rail service with existing commuter rail, heavy rail, light rail, and bus systems in Europe and Asia. Topics to be covered include fare integration and ticketing, marketing, customer service, multimodal stations, and safety. The mission will take place over a two-week period in September, October, or November.

Nat Ford, Executive Director/CEO of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, has been selected as the team leader.