TRANSIT ISSUES FOR UNIVERSITY CITIES

BY CHRIS CONNOLLY, CITY OF LINCOLN

SCOTT BOGREN, COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (CTAA)



CLEAN

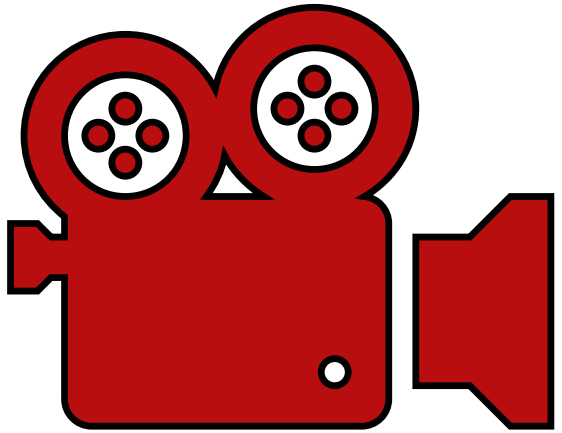
CLEAN

CLEAN SOME MORE

WHAT ARE TRANSIT SYSTEMS DOING?

STARTRAN'S DISINFECTANT FOGGER

{PLAY MEDIA}



WHAT ARE TRANSIT SYSTEMS DOING?

- REDUCED SERVICES
- FREE OR REDUCED FARES
- LIMITED CAPACITY
- FACE MASKS RECOMMENDED/REQUIRED
- IMPROVING AIRFLOW
- DRIVER SEPARATION
- BACK DOOR ENTRANCE AND EXIT
- ACCOMMODATING DISABLED PASSENGERS

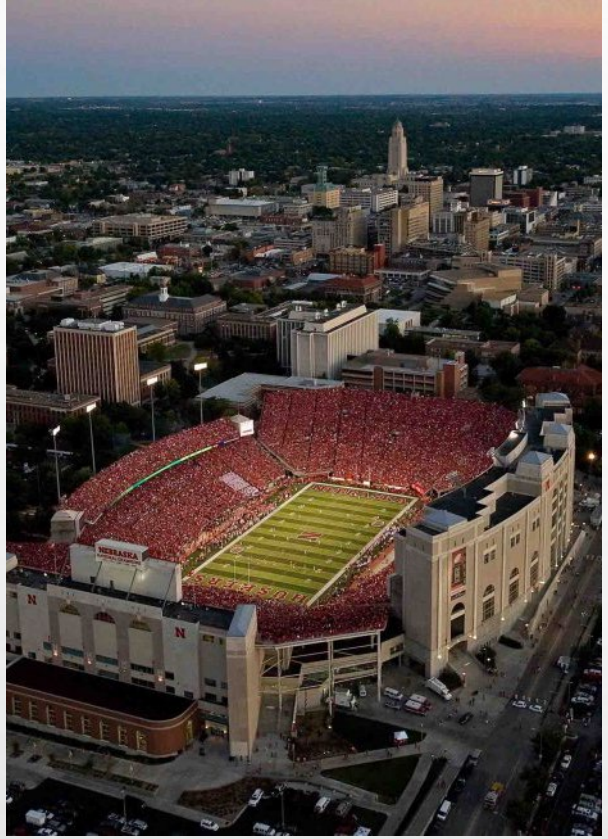
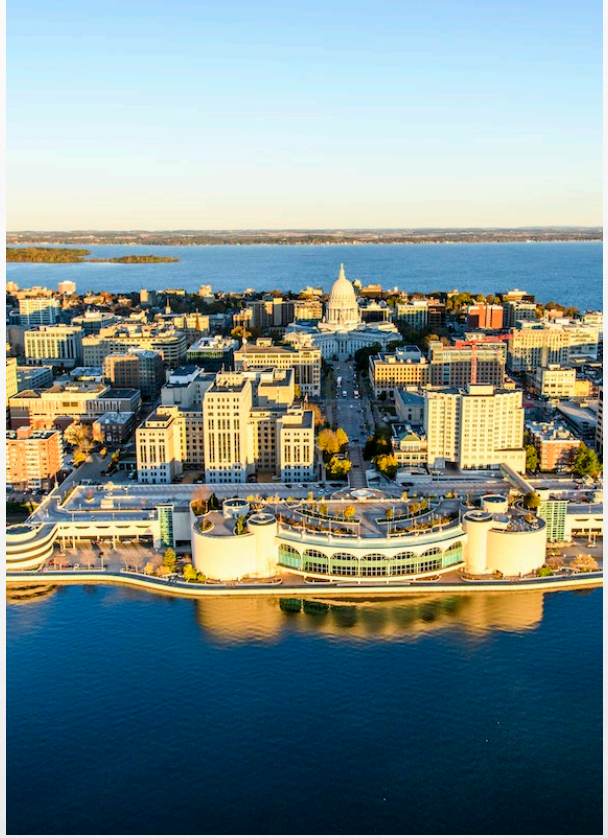
WHAT ABOUT FUNDING?

CARES Act

Coronavirus aid, relief, and economic Security (CARES) Act

- PROVIDED $25 BILLION FOR OPERATIONS OF TRANSIT SYSTEMS
- 100% FEDERAL SHARE- NO LOCAL MATCH
- NO RESTRICTIONS ON 5307 OR 5311 FUNDS
- WAIVES LIMIT ON USE OF 5307 AND 5311 FUNDS FOR PARATRANSIT SERVICES
- THIRD-PARTY OPERATOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS
- FARES LOST DUE TO GOING FARE-FREE CAN BE REIMBURSED
- TRANSIT WORKERS WITH COVID-19 CAN BE PAID AND WAGES CAN BE REIMBURSED
- FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT HTTP://WWW.TRANSIT.DOT.GOV/CARES-ACT
- INVEST IN AMERICA ACT




CITIES SELECTED

- Austin, Texas
- Lincoln, Nebraska
- Madison, Wisconsin
- Santa Cruz, California







CITIES SELECTED

- State College, Pennsylvania
- Tallahassee, Florida
- Tucson, Arizona

AUSTIN, TEXAS

- HOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS – AUSTIN
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: CAPITAL METRO
- 368 BUSES; 55 METRORAPID; 10 TRAINS;

  108 HANDIVANS
- POPULATION: 964,254
  - METRO AREA: 2,053,000



LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

- HOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA – LINCOLN
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: STARTRAN
- 67 BUSES; 13 HANDIVANS
- POPULATION: 290,000



MADISON, WISCONSIN

- HOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: MADISON METRO
- 215 BUSES
  - PARATRANSIT SUBCONTRACTED OUT TO 3 COMPANIES
- POPULATION: 258,000
  - METRO AREA: 659,927



SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

- HOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – SANTA CRUZ
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: SANTA CRUZ METRO BUS
- 94 BUSES; 32 MINIVANS
- POPULATION: 64,725



Photo: Pi.1415926535

STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA

- HOME TO PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: CENTRE AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CATA)
  71 BUSES; 8 PARATRANSIT MINI-BUSES
- POPULATION: 42,352



TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

- HOME TO FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY, FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY, & TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: STARMETRO
- 70 BUSES; 6 DIAL-A-RIDES
- POPULATION: 200,000



TUCSON, ARIZONA

- HOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
- TRANSIT SYSTEM: SUNTRAN
- 198 BUSES; 42 SUN VANS
- POPULATION: 545,987
  - METRO AREA: 971,000



DOES THE UNIVERSITY PROVIDE SOME CAPITAL OR REIMBURSEMENT FOR OPERATIONAL COSTS?

- **AUSTIN**
  - STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES PAY FOR SHUTTLE SERVICE
  - NOT RAISED IN 10 YRS
  - NEW AGREEMENT
- **LINCOLN**
  - UNIV. OF NEBRASKA PAYS FOR THE COST OF THE SERVICE USING AN HOURLY RATE
- **MADISON**
  - MULTIPLE CONTRACTS WITH UW
  - SOME DIRECT 100% SUBSIDIES, BUT ALSO ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE
- **SANTA CRUZ**
  - UCSC PROVIDES ASSISTANCE WITH OPERATING COSTS ONLY

DOES THE UNIVERSITY PROVIDE SOME CAPITAL OR REIMBURSEMENT FOR OPERATIONAL COSTS?

- **STATE COLLEGE**
  - PSU PAYS HOURLY RATE BASED ON COST OF SERVICE
  - STATE LAW REQUIRES MATCHING MUNICIPAL FUNDS FOR BOTH CAPITAL AND OPERATING EXPENSES
  - PSU CONTRIBUTES TO MATCHES FROM CITIES
- **TALLAHASSEE**
  - FSU IS CHARGED AN HOURLY RATE
  - FAMU IS PAYING 98 CENTS PER BOARDING
  - TCC PAYS FOR NORMAL FARES, NO CHARGE TO STUDENTS
- **TUCSON**
  - UNIVERSITY SUBSIDIZES 50% OF THE COST OF A SEMESTER OR ANNUAL PASS

ARE THERE AGREEMENTS THAT I CAN REVIEW?

- AUSTIN
  - AGREEMENT PROVIDED
- LINCOLN
  - NEW AGREEMENT BEING NEGOTIATED
- MADISON
  - AGREEMENT PROVIDED
- SANTA CRUZ
  - NEW AGREEMENT BEING NEGOTIATED
- STATE COLLEGE
  - AGREEMENT PROVIDED
- TALLAHASSEE
  - AGREEMENTS PROVIDED
- TUCSON
  - AGREEMENTS PROVIDED

ARE THERE ANY ONGOING ISSUES WITH THE UNIVERSITY?

- **AUSTIN**
  - DECREASING RIDERSHIP DUE TO MORE ON-CAMPUS HOUSING; REDUCED ACCESS TO CAMPUS FOR SHUTTLES DUE TO PEDESTRIAN MALL
- **LINCOLN**
  - A LITTLE FRICTION AS WE NEGOTIATE A NEW DEAL, BUT NOTHING DIFFICULT
- **MADISON**
  - TIMELINESS OF COMMUNICATIONS, BUT OTHERWISE OKAY
- **SANTA CRUZ**
  - DISRUPTIONS TO SERVICE WHEN USCS HAS A STRIKE OR UNION ACTION
- **STATE COLLEGE**
  - STRUGGLE WITH GETTING AN HOURLY RATE THAT PSU WILL PAY
- **TALLAHASSEE**
  - NONE, OTHER THAN DIMINISHED REVENUES DUE TO COVID-19
- **TUCSON**
  - NONE

ARE THERE CHANGES PLANNED FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR?

- **AUSTIN**
  - UT OPENING TO 40% CLASSROOM CAPACITY
  - SOME CHANGES IN SHUTTLE SCHEDULE
  - CAMPUS SHUTTLE SUSPENDED TO REALLOCATE RESOURCES
- **LINCOLN**
  - ONE ROUTE ELIMINATED (PLANNED PRE-COVID)
  - SERVICE MAY BE REDUCED; FEWER RIDERS, FEWER PASSENGERS PERMITTED
  - MICRO TRANSIT IMPLEMENTED, ONE OF THE FIRST SYSTEMS TO COMMINGLE OR INTEGRATE PARATRANSIT AND MICROTRANSIT
- **MADISON**
  - FULL SERVICE, BUT WITH LIKELY FEWER RIDERS; FEWER PASSENGERS PERMITTED
- **SANTA CRUZ**
  - MAJOR CHANGES EXPECTED BUT UNKNOWN FOR NOW
  - CONCERN ABOUT LAYING OFF DRIVERS AND BEING ABLE TO HIRE THEM BACK
- **STATE COLLEGE**
  - DO NOT KNOW YET; REGULARLY HAVE 60 STUDENTS ON EACH BUS
- **TALLAHASSEE**
  - UNKNOWN RIGHT NOW
- **TUCSON**
  - NO PLANNED CHANGES TO SERVICE

ANY QUESTIONS?

University Cities

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION

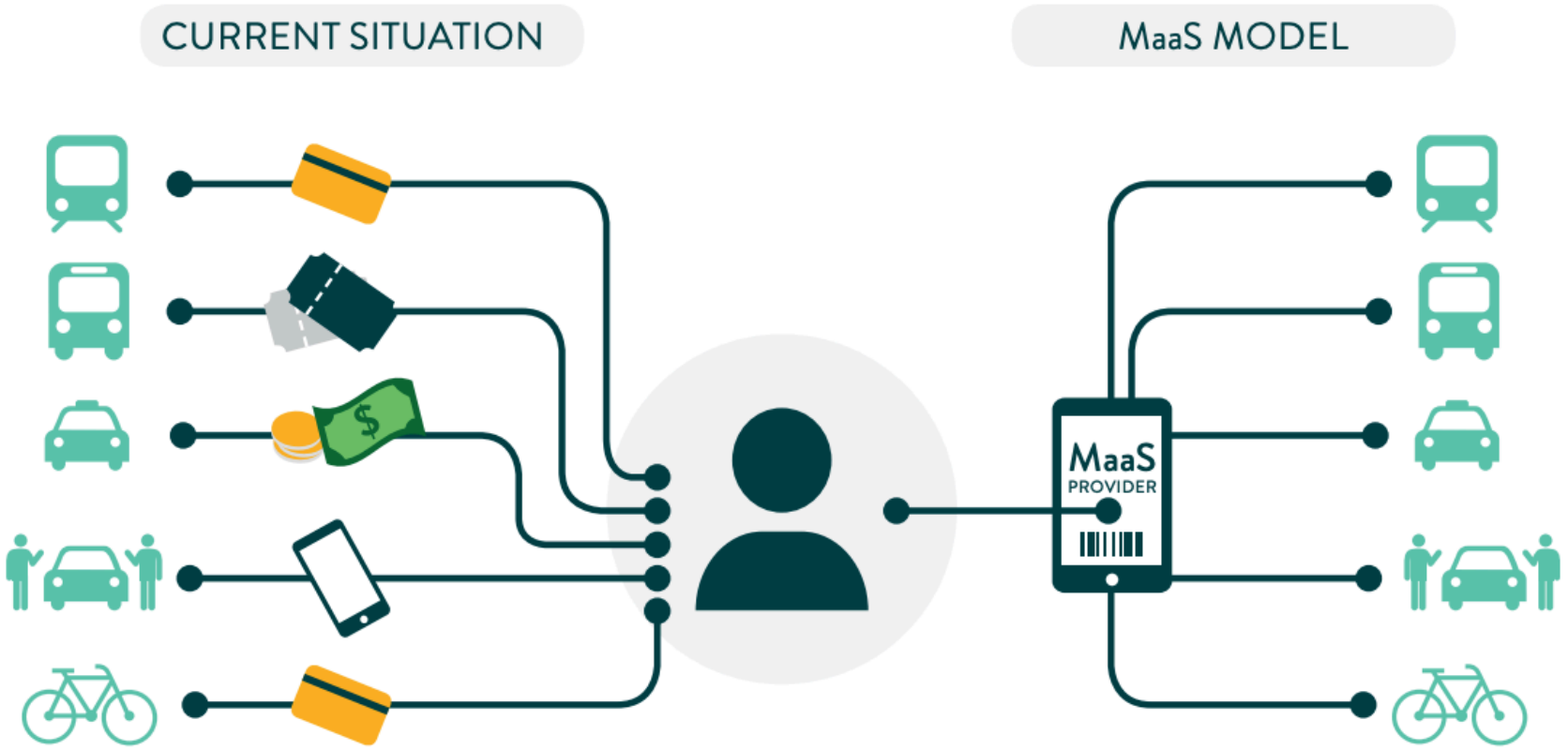
The Future: A Technology-Enabled, Seamless Network of Services that's Simple to Use



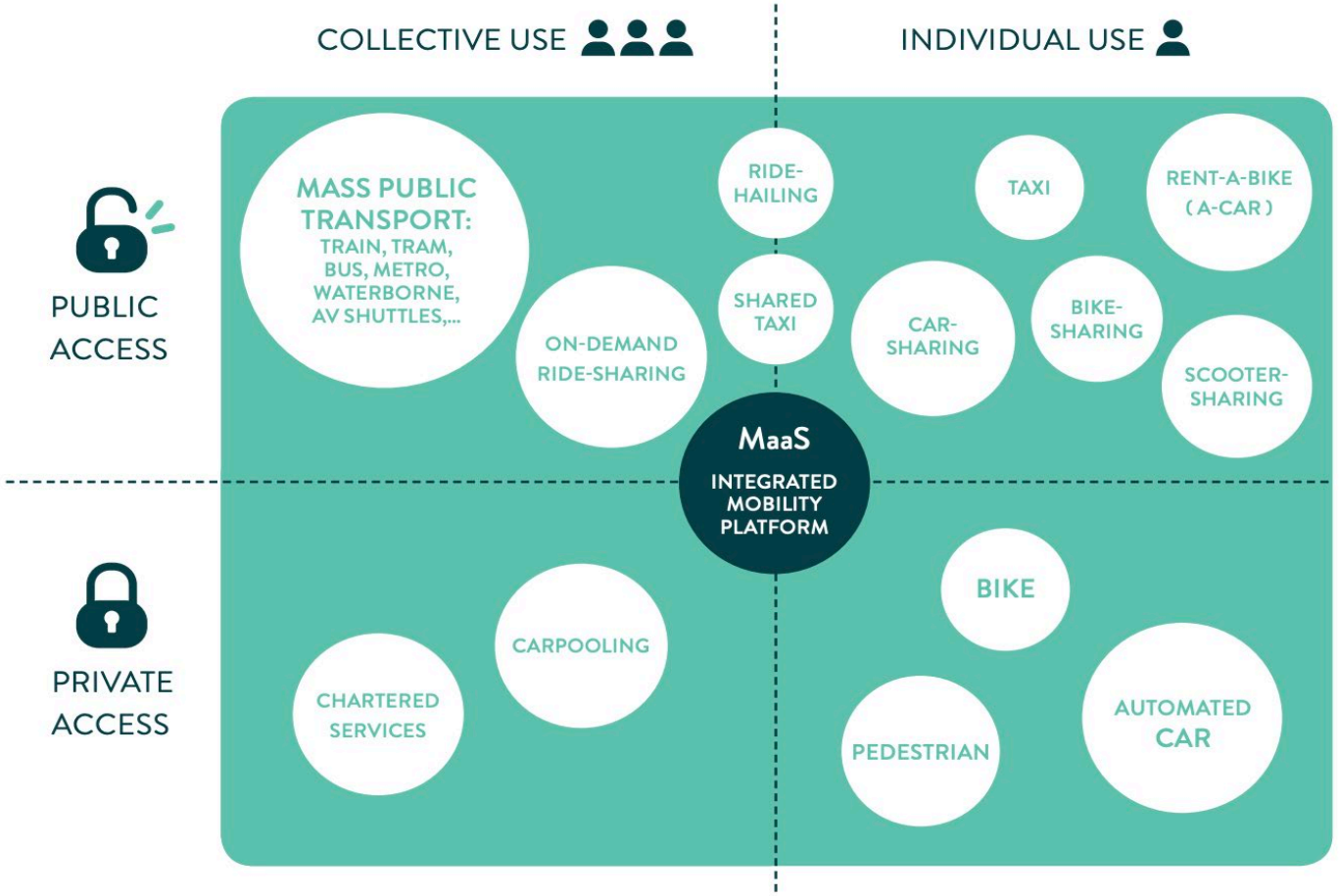
A New Set of Acronyms

- MaaS – Mobility as a Service
- MOD – Mobility on Demand
- BRT – Bus Rapid Transit
- BEB – Battery Electric Buses
- STIC – Small Transit Intensive Cities

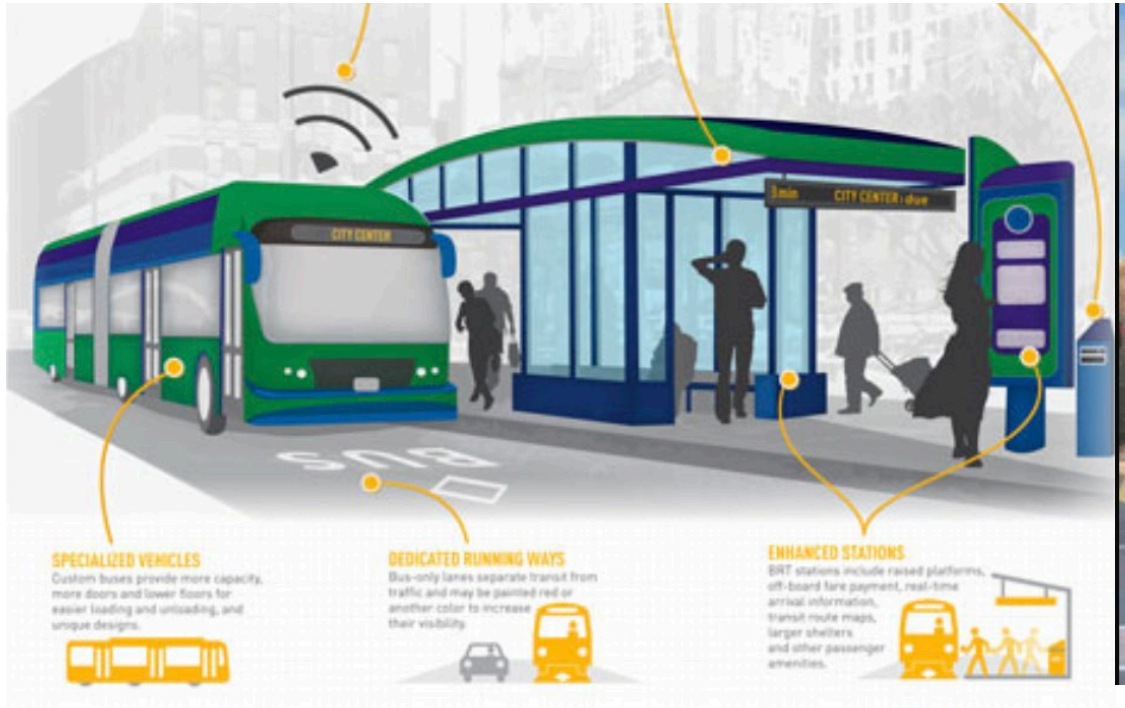
MaaS



Mobility on Demand



Bus Rapid Transit





Battery Electric Buses





Cash-less Fare Integrations





STIC



Each factor plays into how much funding a transit agency receives.

