**Project Title**  
Application of an Equity Rubric that Defines Purpose and Need for Rural and Low Density Communities In Megaregions

**University**  
Texas Southern University

**Principal Investigator**  
Carol Lewis

**PI Contact Information**  
lewis_ca@tsu.edu

**Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided**  
(by each agency or organization)  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Transportation</td>
<td>$65,338</td>
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<td>Texas Southern University</td>
<td>$32,669</td>
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**Total Project Cost**  
$98,007

**Agency ID or Contract Number**  
UTDOT Grant number: 69A3551747135

**Start and End Dates**  
10/1/2018 – 9/1/2019

**Brief Description of Research Project**  
Community advocates often express concern that rural low income, ethnic and senior residents are inadequately considered in transportation planning and decision making. Federal process requires a statement of need or purpose in order to address consideration of financing for transportation improvements. Showing need where congestion or safety are not problems is often based on sociodemographic variables and lacks a convincing, well established process. When transportation needs require crossing jurisdictional boundaries, additional challenges are created. The Texas Megaregion is anchored by the core triangle of Houston, Dallas, Austin/San Antonio. This work will apply a previously developed rubric to assessment of travel purpose and need for the residents in this IH10 corridor.

**Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes**  
(or why not implemented)

**Impacts/Benefits of Implementation**  
(actual, not anticipated)  
Project has not begun yet, so no impacts have been realized.

**Web Links**  
(to reports, project website, etc.)