



UTC Project Information – Cooperative Mobility for Competitive Megaregions (CM²)

Project Title	Mega-Travel in Megaregions: An Update on Growth Trends and Research Needs
University	University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas at Austin
Principal Investigator	Dean Frederick Steiner, Robert Yaro, and Ming Zhang
PI Contact Information	fsteiner@design.upenn.edu, yaro@rpa.org, zhangm@austin.utexas.edu
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	U.S. Department of Transportation: \$125,697.42 University of Pennsylvania: \$35,909 University of Texas at Austin: \$26,940
Total Project Cost	\$188,546.42
Agency ID or Contract Number	UTDOT Grant number: 69A3551747135
Start and End Dates	10/1/2017 - 5/31/2020
Brief Description of Research Project	The proposed project updates the knowledge base on megaregions. It considers both global and domestic (USA) shifts in economic and political environment, demographic changes, and technological innovations that have occurred since the first round of megaregion studies around twelve years ago.
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)	As part of this project, teams of Master's degree and PhD candidates from both universities participated in a weeklong Charrette in Manchester, England from February 9-17, 2019, hosted by the UK 2070 Commission. This trip provided a unique opportunity for CM2 researchers and students from two CM2 institutions to learn from international initiatives that address megaregional mobility as well as conduct technology transfer of current CM2 research at a global scale. In addition, the knowledge gained from this timely event fulfilled CM2's goals of promoting multimodality for diverse populations and communities, promoting strategic transportation planning and smart infrastructure investments, and facilitating public-private partnerships in mobility planning.

Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)	<p>Attending this charrette helped the center achieve our Technology Transfer goals, particularly in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enlarging the pool of trained transportation professionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Students expanded their network of industry professionals internationally and can now list this experience in their resumes. • Increased cooperation by governments and transportation agencies regarding megaregion and inter-regional issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ We hope to continue our working relationship with our new international counterparts and learn from their experience. • Enhancing the knowledge base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This includes the knowledge base of our students and faculty as well as of the charrette participants abroad, who now know more about our center and research. • Increasing our web presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The trip was shared on our website and social media channels; the agencies involved in the charrette now follow our social media accounts and are subscribed to our newsletter. • Informed decision making on public policy and transportation infrastructure investments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The insights gained from this trip abroad will help guide decisions regarding investments in the Northeast Corridor and the Texas Triangle megaregions.
Web Links (to reports, project website, etc.)	http://sites.utexas.edu/cm2/2019/04/23/planning-for-megaregions-uk-presentation/



Figure 1. CM2 Manchester Charrette Researchers



Research Team site visit to The Peak District National Park