EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - *updated October 2021*

USDOT Tier-1 University Transportation Center

CM2

Cooperative Mobility for Competitive Megaregions

Megaprojects for Megaregions: Global Cases and Takeaways (#CM2-47)

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Project Information Form:
shorturl.at/iuzC3

MEGAPROJECTS FOR MEGAREGIONS:
GLOBAL CASES AND TAKEAWAYS

As global metropolitan areas grow bigger and more interconnected, the importance of inter-metropolitan transportation infrastructure investments grows in tandem. These investments are becoming increasingly essential to connecting labor markets, moving goods, spurring innovation, and under some circumstances, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

There is much to be learned about "best practice" megaproject development from history, but even more to be learned from current practice abroad. There have been a number of recent works on this subject, most notably books and articles by Bent Flyvbjerg et.al. (2003) and Harry Dimitriou et.al. (2005, 2011, 2013).

This research project will build on prior research in the U.S., the U.K., and Europe to produce a "transportation megaregion/mega-project best practices manual" aimed at regional and metropolitan transportation planners and decision-makers primarily in the U.S. The proposed manual will include a series of 10-12 recent roadway, rail, airport, and seaport megaproject case studies from around the world including, where relevant, the U.S.

Each case study will follow the same format, identifying: (i) how and why each project was initiated, and by whom; (ii) how each project's physical, environmental, market, and financial feasibility was assessed; (iii) how each project was financed; (iv) how the project construction process was managed; (v) issues that emerged once the project was completed and entered service; (vi) whether the project is on target to achieving its goals; and, (vii) critical takeaways for U.S. transportation planners and funders.

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