UTCA Research Project Description

TITLE: Transit Evacuation Planning: Two Case Studies

ABSTRACT: This project addresses the transit emergency evacuation of individuals without personal vehicles or the means to acquire them, during coastal extreme events. It will be a joint effort of the University Transportation Center for Alabama (UTCA) and the Center for Transportation Policy Studies (CTPS) at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, and will use Mobile, Alabama and Wilmington, North Carolina as simultaneous case studies. The result will be detailed plans for both cities that include time tables, procedures for pre-identification of the evacuating population, communication, coordination, collection of evacuees, staging, medical attention, efficient passenger loading, optimum flow of busses for line haul to destinations, and similar issues.

This project will utilize and expand known protocols and software to develop a detailed evacuation plan that identifies individuals with the need and desire for evacuation, enrolls them in a data base, contacts them to communicate procedures and time tables, develops initial pick up and delivery to a staging area, develops triage and loading protocols, develops best routing and timing for line haul from the city, and optimizes all transportation portions of the overall scenario. The project will include extensive interactions with city, regional, and state emergency management authorities, and will identify appropriate volunteer agencies or groups for involvement in communication to and support of the evacuees as the process is initiated and conducted.

At the conclusion of the project, Mobile County, Alabama, and Wilmington, North Carolina, will have functional, well developed plans for emergency evacuation of indigent residents. The plans will have been developed hand-in-hand with state, regional and local emergency management officials, and will be customized to fit the citizens, resources and needs at each site.

START DATE: 01/01/2008

END DATE: 6/30/2009

PROJECT STATUS: Active

BUDGET: $133,187

CONTRACT/GRANT NUMBER: UTCA 08112

SECONDARY PROJECT NUMBER: DTRT06-G-0047
PROJECT URL:
http://utca.eng.ua.edu/projects/project_num_results.asp?project_num=08112

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES:
None

SUBJECT CATEGORIES:
Education and Training

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:
University Transportation Center for Alabama
The University of Alabama
Box 870205
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
(205) 348-9925
(205) 348-6862 fax
http://utca.eng.ua.edu/

PERFORMING ORGANIZATION:
University Transportation Center for Alabama
The University of Alabama
Box 870205
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
(205) 348-9925
(205) 348-6862 fax
http://utca.eng.ua.edu/

PROJECT MANAGER:
Hardin, Dr. Michael J.
The University of Alabama
(205) 348-8901
(205) 348-2951 fax
mhardin@cba.ua.edu

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:
Turner, Dr. Daniel S.
Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering Dept.
(205) 348-9925
(205) 348-6862 fax
dturner@eng.ua.edu