



## **TRANSIT FORUM GOSCON SESSIONS**

### **Thursday October 12th**

#### **Session 1 9:15a – 10:15a**

##### **Transit Software Alternatives Analysis – Using Open Source as a Baseline Alternative for an MMTPS**

Gerry Tumbali, PMP,  
Manager, Engineering & Technology,  
Regional Transportation Authority of Chicago

The Regional Transportation Authority of Chicago was awarded an FTA grant to develop a Multimodal Trip Planner System (MMTPS). The concept of the MMTPS is to integrate transit trip itineraries, driving directions, and real-time roadway and transit information.

This presentation will review the technologies considered for achieving the trip planning functionality as well as the analytical framework that will be used to select the final solution. Open Source was the baseline alternative to which all others were considered. Current wireframes will also be demonstrated.

Open discussion will follow the presentation. Topics include:

- Should all FTA funded software development be OS?
- What role do the vendors have?
- What is required for portability?

#### **Session 2 11:00a -12:00p**

##### **Web Mapping Alternatives Analysis**

Bibiana Kamler McHugh,  
IT Manager, GIS and Location Based Services  
TriMet

With the advent of new technologies and the growing customers' needs (and expectations) to facilitate transit information spatially, TriMet studied several alternatives to facilitate internet mapping: Google Maps Enterprise API, Yahoo Maps API, ArcIMS, ArcGIS Server, MapServer, and GeoServer. The latter two options are Open Source solutions. Please join us as we share our results and future plans for development.

#### **Session 3 1:30p – 2:30p**

##### **Release of the TimeTable Publisher Application**

Frank Purcell,  
Software Engineer,  
TriMet

Michael J. Berman  
Program Manager GIS  
Management Information and Transit Technology

## **Release of the TimeTable Publisher Application (cont.)**

Raw scheduling data requires preparation for public use that is normally a tedious and time-consuming manual process for most transit agencies. The TimeTable Publisher is a single system that takes raw scheduling data as input from various sources, and outputs timetables into various formats for public use. TriMet began development on the TimeTable Publisher in early 2006 with the intention of sharing it with other transit agencies.

This will be a round table discussion, where ideas and issues can be exchanged, and interest in the project can be gauged. To kick-start the discussion, the following topics will be introduced:

- Brief overview and demonstration of the TimeTable Publisher.
- Multiple agency use: portability aspects will be shared from a test implementation at King County Metro
- This tool will leverage the Google Transit Feed Specification file format (which Google intends to make an open standard) as the primary data input for raw scheduling data.
- Topic: how the TimeTable Publisher (and tools like it) will benefit from the Google Transit Feed Spec. One goal of the TimeTable publisher is minimal coding / configuration to be up and running. With multiple agencies readying their data for Google Transit in a common data format, that minimal coding goal has a reasonable chance for success.

## **Session 4     3:00p – 4:00p**

### **Transit Data Models as a Foundation for “Open” Interfaces and Data Sharing**

Paula Okunieff,  
Senior Engineer,  
Consensus Systems Technologies Corp.

Mike Gilligan  
Software Engineer,  
TriMet

As most established industries, transit agencies differ in their description and use of transit data concepts. These differences, though subtle, are an impediment to sharing data, deploying shared applications or deploying open source software. This has been recognized by several standard development efforts worldwide that are deploying web services for related industries. Among the efforts include the Geo-Spatial One Stop and TransModel (European Union transit reference’s data model effort). Several regional initiatives developed reference data models or database systems to accommodate and integrate schedule and related data sets from various public transportation organizations in particular the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Schedule Data Profile and Transit Data Portal Development effort.

The presentation will review the scope and benefits of these reference models, their derivative implementation standards and deployed projects will be described. A comparison of several models and the Google Transit Feed Specification file format will also be previewed. A discussion following the presentation will address whether Transit should coalesce around one reference model or whether several models are needed.

## TRANSIT FORUM GOSCON Conference Agenda Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

7:30a – 8:30a Continental Breakfast - TransitForum Steering Committee Meeting

### Session 5 9:45a – 11:00a

#### 9:45-11pm Google Maps and Transit

Stephanie Hannon is Product Manager for Google Transit. Prior to taking over Transit, she was Product Manager for Gmail, Google's webmail product. Stephanie started her career as a software engineer at Cisco Systems, where she worked for six years. Stephanie has a B.S. Computer Systems Engineering and M.S.E.E. from Stanford University and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

Fred Fang is Sales Engineer for Google Transit and Google Maps. Prior to joining Google, he worked as a consultant for Accenture developing applications and processes for insurance clients. Fred has a B.S. Industrial Engineering from Cornell University.

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful. The Google Transit Trip Planner is an initiative to bring transit information into Maps. This tool will help users find alternative methods of transportation besides their car when going to work, out on the town, or on a trip. The Transit Trip Planner is made possible through partnerships with public transportation agencies who are willing to provide timetables and station information. Come hear more about this initiative and learn about an open common feed format specification for sharing your data.

### Session 6 11:15a -12:15p

Transit Participation in the **Open Source GIS Session** is encouraged.