Coordinated Transit Planning

The Mississippi Experience
Coordination

• A “Process” through which stakeholders from different agencies, organizations and client groups work together to achieve one or all of the following goals:
  More efficient service delivery
  More cost effective service delivery
  Increased capacity
  Easier access
  A better quality of life
Today’s Situation

• Coordination does exist in our State (e.g. coordinated providers, shared vehicles, contracts)
• History of coordination includes Interagency agreements, joint project selection (ITC) and work groups
• More must be done
Transit Providers
Why don’t we have “the answer?”

• The level and effectiveness of coordination achieved and process of getting there is often unique to each region
• Local needs and resources must be considered
• Original assumptions may no longer be valid
Coordinated Planning: A Six Step Process

- Understand Requirements/Opportunities
- Identify/ Educate Stakeholders
- Get Initial “Buy IN”
- Implement Regional Planning Process
- Promoting process and products thru success
- Modify MDOT Policies and Procedures
Step 1 - Understand Requirements/Opportunities

- Participated in Listening Sessions
- MTAP/DOT Roundtable at CTAA
- Gathered information from other States
- Provided comments on proposed guidance
Step 2-Identify/Educate Stakeholders

- Met with Interagency Advisory Committee
- Statewide United We Ride Meeting – Feb.2006
- Presentation before Legislative BORPSAT
- Participated in Statewide Coordination Coalition
- CTAA’s Coordination Institute
July 31-August 3, 2006
Washington, D.C.
The Objective

To enhance mobility for all by supporting communities in their effort to deliver coordinated human services transportation.
How to Achieve This Objective?

• Give community representatives the opportunity to work together as a team
• Educate teams on the steps to coordination
• Promote networking among teams
• Foster understanding across disciplines
• Support the teams after the Institute with technical assistance and close follow-up
The Process

• 20 teams were selected from 43 applications
• Teams came from 17 states—representing rural, urban, suburban, and statewide communities
• Mississippi was one of three statewide teams
Mississippi State Team

Vision Statement

A network of inclusive, seamless, coordinated transportation systems that are accessible, reliable and promotes independence through a continuous strategic planning process
Mississippi’s Team

- Workforce Development
- Health Care
- Aging and Adult Services
- Public Transit Operator
- Disability Advocacy
- Regional Planning Body
Mississippi State Team

Action Plan Highlights

• Apply for CTAA and MDOT technical assistance and planning grants
• Governor's proclamation & media blitz
• Legislative information campaign
• Participate in Mississippi Transportation Coalition
• Presentations at meetings and conferences (e.g. Statewide Coordination, MPTA; MS Long-Term Care; MS Municipal League and PDD Conferences)
Step 3 - Getting Initial “Buy In”

- Mass mailing of Statewide Action Plans
- Identified lead entity for regional planning meetings
- Focused on Planning and Development Districts (PDD’s) and County Supervisors
- Correspondence from MDOT Executive Director targeted to PDD Directors, Presidents of County Boards of Supervisors and State Agency Heads
- Meetings with Human Service Agency Exec’s
- Application Workshops
Step 4-Implement Regional Planning Process

• Established Regional Planning Groups
• Regional coordinated planning meetings-May thru August 2006
• Compiled Regional Plans- based on Framework For Action Community Assessments
• Disseminated Regional Plans to revised stakeholder universe
Step 5—Promoting Process and Products

• Statewide Coordination Summit
• Regional Advisory Group Meetings
• Identify Regional Planning Resources:
  Contract with Jackson State University for data collection
  Planning funds programmed for regional groups
  Coordinate statewide and regional initiatives (e.g. *Mississippi Rides* and *Delta Rides*)
Step 6- Modify Policies and Procedures

• Revise 5310 and 5311 applications
• Expand the ITC
• Revise project selection criteria
• Update State Management Plan
Next Steps

• Share University research with regional groups
• Revise regional plans based on MDOT’s Plan Template
• Regional Coordinated Community Transportation Plans adopted by:
  Regional groups
  PDD’s
  MPO’s
• Statewide Transit Plan