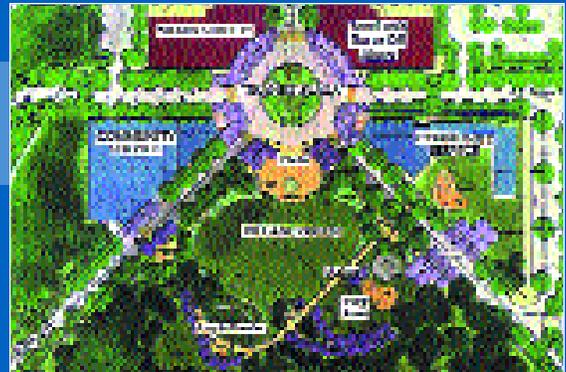




U.S. Department of Transportation

# BUILDING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES WITH TRANSIT --TableofContents



## PLANNING, DEVELOPING, AND IMPLEMENTING COMMUNITY-SENSITIVE TRANSIT



THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION  
LIVABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE



Federal Transit Administration

## MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATOR

*Vice President Gore recently launched a comprehensive Livability Agenda to help communities across America grow in ways that ensure a high quality of life and strong, sustainable economic growth. This billion-dollar initiative will strengthen the federal*



*government's role as a partner with the growing number of state and local efforts to build "livable communities" for the 21st century. Recognizing that our business is about more than concrete, steel, rail, and rubber, the Federal Transit Administration is completely committed to the use of improved transit in the development of livable communities.*

*As we seek to meet the mobility needs of the American public and commit ourselves to what Secretary Slater refers to as the human dimension of transportation, our Livable Communities Initiative, described in this booklet, equips communities with the tools to develop transit facilities and services that meet their needs—with intelligent land use planning, pedestrian access, and urban design.*

*Enhancing personal mobility while building stronger, more vibrant communities will both build transit patronage and improve the quality of life. These community-sensitive facilities make customer information readily available, help customers feel safe and secure, ensure sufficient open space, provide pedestrian and bicycle access, and manage parking carefully.*

*Customer-friendly, community-oriented transit facilities and services don't just happen. They are the result of a coordinated and participatory community-based planning process and people-oriented design. I encourage you to review this booklet thoughtfully and carefully. It will help all of us work together to meet the challenges of tomorrow.*

*Gordon J. Linton*

# PREFACE

**A**cross the country, communities are becoming actively involved in enhancing the connections between transit and local quality of life. This is being accomplished by locating development near transit stops and stations so that walking to and from these facilities requires little effort. Better connections between different modes of transportation are making it easier to transfer from one transportation mode to another. Local governments are implementing transit supportive policies such as mixed-use zoning, parking management, and traffic calming. Additionally, special attention is being given to creating accessible transit for people with disabilities and the elderly, and communities are asking for transit stations and stops which are safer and more secure.

This booklet presents some of the successes—in terms of planning, development, and implementation—of the community-sensitive transportation facility development process. Although a comprehensive process is described here, not every project involves the full range of steps. By applying the techniques outlined in this booklet, transportation agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, and communities can help achieve transportation goals beyond “asphalt, concrete, and steel”—to reap quality-of-life rewards involving the economic, social and environmental benefits of transit investments. States and local governments are implementing transit supportive policies such as smart growth legislation, mixed-use zoning, parking management, and traffic calming.