

Peer cities with transportation directors

I began my research by looking at similar cities by population and transportation culture – good transit, walking, and biking options as well as the need to limit driving into the central core. Some of these that have clear transportation divisions and coordination are listed below.

In addition, I looked at some of the cities that we might wish to be regardless of size. These are cities with which we often compete in the quality of life contests as well as in competition for economic development and employees: Boulder, Portland, San Francisco, Minneapolis.

What I found is that some of the cities clearly have departments of government divisions that coordinate all aspects of transportation, including planning, project oversight, operations and maintenance, and policy. However, others simply have a person at the cabinet level that assures that all these functions work together. However, in all cases there is a go-to person that outside funders, elected officials, the business community, and the public knows is overseeing all policy and functions.

Finally, in some of the larger cities – specifically Portland, San Francisco, and Minneapolis – there is a regional body that fulfills this function. It may be the MPO, the RPC, or another elected regional governing body. But again, the key element is that all interested parties know who is ultimately in charge of transportation programs.

Madison lacks that “buck stops here” person or even department. No one knows whether they need to talk to Planning (where the Transportation Planner sits), Traffic Engineering, City Engineering, Metro, or even the MPO. And to people who are interested in both understanding and influencing transportation decisions, it often seems that these entities do not coordinate with each other very well. Outreach and communication to the public is poor, and there is a lack of a clearly-stated transportation policy or set of priorities.

Salt Lake City Transportation Division:

What We Do

The Transportation Division is responsible for the planning, design and operation of the transportation system. We plan for all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit and auto travel. Our goal is to provide the community with choices in travel. We are also responsible for determining the necessity and placement of all traffic control devices on Salt Lake City streets, including signs, markings, signals, lighting and other devices used to guide, control, and inform travelers in the public right of way.

<http://www.slcgov.com/transportation>

From [press release](#) when new transportation director was hired:

Salt Lake City Announces New Transportation Director

In her new position Hutcheson will manage programs for sustainable transportation modes such as bicycle and pedestrian travel and streetcar network development as well as lead evaluations of transportation issues, traffic operations and parking. As director, she will contribute to policy development to support Salt Lake City's livability goals, focusing on key transportation initiatives to improve mobility, access and quality of life.

Tucson Department of Transportation

The Transportation Director is under the Public Works Department, which also has the following management positions:

- Public Works Director (vacant)
- Environmental and General Services
- Tucson Water Director

Here are the programs under the Transportation Department

Department of Transportation

Proposed Naming-Airmen Memorial Bridge

Road Recovery Bond Program

Bicycle & Pedestrian Program

Engineering

Floodplain Administration

Graffiti Removal Program

Landscape

LED Lighting Project

Management Services

Maps and Records

Mural Art Pilot Program

Park Tucson

Real Estate

Regional Transportation Authority

Special Events and Parades

Stormwater Management

Streets & Traffic Maintenance

Sun Link

Survey

Title VI

Traffic Engineering

Transit Services Division

Transportation Planning

Transportation Projects

Travel Reduction Ordinance

Raleigh NC

"The Department of Transportation consolidates all aspects of transportation and related infrastructure from planning, operation, and to maintenance in order to optimize service delivery and position the City for ongoing growth. Services include transportation planning, traffic engineering, transportation field services, parking operations, GoRaleigh transit services, and highway maintenance."

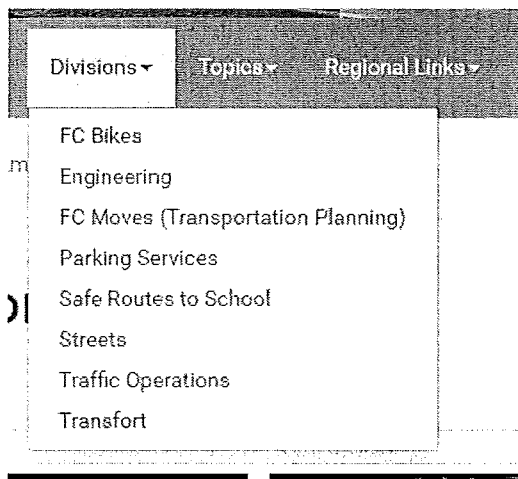
From a July 2016 press release when they hired a new Transportation Director:

The Transportation Department was created as a result of organizational changes proposed earlier this year. The new department consolidates all aspects of transportation, from planning and operations to maintenance, in order to optimize service delivery and position the City of Raleigh to meet current and future needs. Services include transportation planning, traffic engineering, field services, parking operations, GoRaleigh transit services, and street maintenance. Mr. Rogers' experience in implementing a major reorganization and introducing Bus Rapid Transit are examples of the skillset he will bring to address the transportation challenges and opportunities in Raleigh.

"The City's new organizational structure, strategic plan and future planning around infrastructure and transit suggest that transportation is a key priority for the City of Raleigh," Mr. Rogers said. "I am excited to join the City at such a critical point and to build on the outstanding services and quality of life that the citizens of Raleigh expect."

Fort Collins, CO

<http://www.fcgov.com/transportation/>



Fort Lauderdale

Has both a department of Department of Transportation and Mobility and a Transportation Division.

Transportation Division about has both multimodal language and TDM language.

Transportation is a division of the City's Transportation & Mobility Department. The division's mission is to promote the livability, health, and economic benefits of a bicycle-, pedestrian-, and transit-friendly environment by creating a safe, effective, and connected network of transportation options for our neighbors and surrounding communities.

With South Florida's population continuing to increase, road congestion and mobility problems stemming from additional vehicles on the road will exacerbate an already congested roadway system. The days of widening roads to create more capacity have come to an end. With the cost of owning a car or multiple cars continuing to grow, the family budget in the current scenario has taken a hit.

[snip]

The [Transportation and Mobility] Department encompasses the Executive Airport, Transportation, and Parking Services divisions and the Performing Arts Center Garage. These functions, previously performed by five other City departments, were brought together to implement the City's vision of providing coordinated transportation planning and engineering; utilize Complete Streets principles to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders; encourage sustainable practices in project design and construction; and enhance the City's aviation, multi-modes of transportation, and parking infrastructure through a comprehensive capital improvement program.

TAM coordinates with multiple regional partners, including the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association (TMA), the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (BMPO), South Florida Regional Transit Authority (SFRTA), Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs), the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to provide a safe, efficient, and viable transportation network.