

Integrating Access Management into the MPO Transportation Planning Process



Jeff Kramer, AICP

Senior Research Associate

Center for Urban Transportation Research

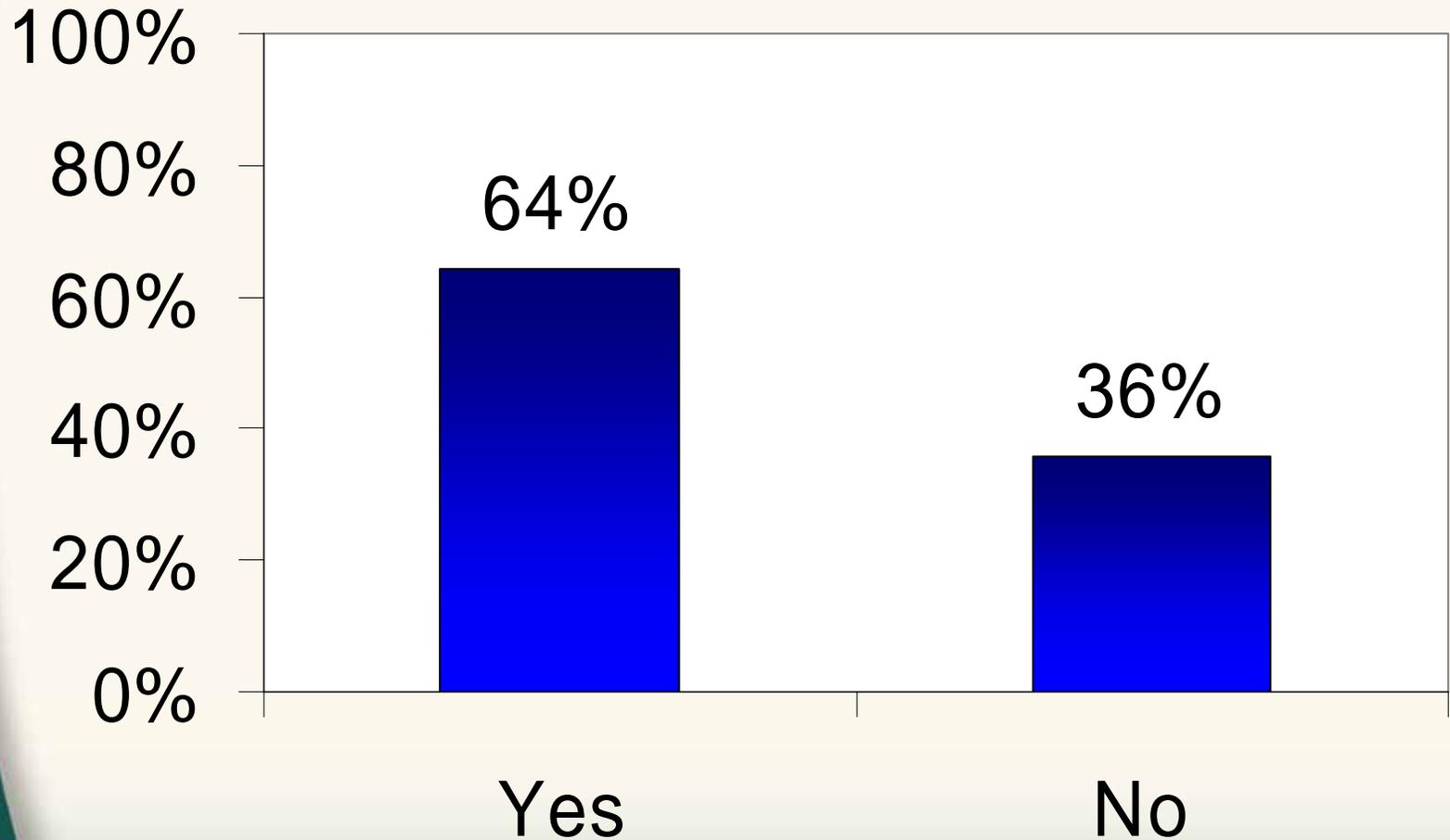
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NCHRP Project 8-46

- “A Guide for Including Access Management in Transportation Plans”
- Little research on how to address AM in the planning process
- Focus of paper on MPO planning
 - Survey of all MPOs in the country
 - Follow-up telephone interviews



AM Addressed in LRTP?



Survey Results

- 82% address AM in other activities
- 61% promote AM strategies in lieu of or in addition to roadway widening
- 59% fund AM improvements
- 19% monitor the effectiveness of AM
- 87% coordinate with other agencies

Key Observations

- MPO policies
 - AM-specific policies uncommon
 - Support broad policy objectives
- MPO activities
 - Varied
 - Facilitate implementation
- MPO coordination
 - Support statewide program
 - Take the lead where the state has not



Broad Policy Objectives

- Transportation/land use integration
 - Albany, NY & Lansing, MI
- Preserving functionality of existing system
 - Cincinnati, OH & Rockford, IL
- Enhancing safety
 - Duluth, MN
- Maximizing return on scarce resources
 - Florida Panhandle
- Character preservation
 - Pittsfield, MA

MPO AM Activities

- Model Regulations/Guidelines/Contracts
- Spearhead efforts to remove barriers to state and local implementation
- Corridor, Safety and Other Studies
 - Particularly useful in smaller MPOs
- Public outreach/education
- Project selection criteria for LRTP and TIP

MPO Coordination

- MPOs establish AM programs to support/conform with State Programs
 - Auburn, ME
- MPOs try to fill the gap where there is no state AM program
 - Little Rock, AR



Barriers/Challenges

- AM is an implementation issue
- Funding
- Limited authority
- Coordination
- Public perception
- Capacity first mindset



Success Factors

- Make AM a “tool” in the “tool box”
- Policies supporting roadway hierarchy
- Mechanisms encouraging coordinated transportation/land use decisions
- Separate \$ by project type
- Designate an AM “champion”
- Educate everybody

For Further Information

www.cutr.usf.edu



Jeff Kramer, AICP
Center for Urban Transportation Research
University of South Florida
813-974-1397

