TRANSPORTATION PLANNING IN PHILADELPHIA

CONGESTION MANAGEMENT

Congestion Management Process (CMP) is a vital operation in ensuring the efficiency of transportation by motorized vehicles. At the internship, I worked with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission to update appropriate strategies for Philadelphia corridors. I identified Philadelphia districts that are affected by the congested corridors and updated strategy guidance according to the recommendations in Philadelphia2035 district plans. Through analyzing and comparing the transportation patterns in Philadelphia and in the intersecting congested corridors, I identified priority strategies for CMP database updates and future implementation.

WOMEN & YOUTH FRIENDLY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

In preparation for a white paper to be released this year, I conducted research on studies, policies, and best practices from other major cities around the world on making transportation friendly for vulnerable populations such as women and youth. Through the research, I learned of issues surrounding specific and varying needs of different types of population and what it means to plan for transportation that benefits all populations in the increasingly diverse cities that we live in today.

INTERACTIVE BIKE MAP

As part of 2015 updates to the Philadelphia Pedestrian & Bike Plan, I collaborated with the GIS Division to launch an interactive web-based app for Philadelphia’s Existing Bike Network, Upcoming Projects, and Long-Term Priority Expansions. My main duties were to conduct research on best practices from other cities, collect and sort through GIS files and metadata needed for the map, and to provide guidance on decisions such as the color scheme, legend items, and information in the map.

PRAXIS EXPERIENCE

Learning Objectives:
1. To know the tools and methods that professionals use to develop plans and policies for urban areas.
2. To assess and formulate policies or strategies for sustainable and user-oriented transportation development in cities.
3. To understand the complex relationship between transportation planning and fields such as politics, sociology, and public health.

What I Have Learned:
The Praxis Independent Study helped me develop the critical thinking and experiential skills necessary to analyze urban transportation planning problems. At the same time, I was exposed to the complexities of collaboration and the importance of communication in this profession. I think I have additionally gained a greater appreciation for the field and the work that we do, which is a collaborative process involving hard work by many individuals in order to create better cities for people.

SPRING 2016 PRAXIS INDEPENDENT STUDY
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