

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual US/China Transportation Forum  
Working Group Read-Out Session  
January 12, 2012  
1:45-2:15 PM**

***Urban Congestion Working Group Readout – Industry***

**Deputy Secretary Porcari, Vice Minister Xu, and organizers of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual US/China Transportation Forum, thank you for your leadership in this year's Transportation Forum and for inviting the industry to be a part of this important exchange.**

**On behalf of the American Public Transportation Association and the many industry professionals we represent, we found this year's Urban Congestion Working Group Workshop to be extremely valuable and educational as we were presented with the public transportation challenges and successes in both countries, and gained a better understanding of how the industry can contribute to confront these challenges at this annual exchange.**

**Thank you to Rita Daguillard and the Federal Transit Administration, and Mr. Wang Shuiping and the People's Republic of China Ministry of Transport for organizing this discussion.**

**The industry had the opportunity to share our perspective during the day long workshop. The need for an overall atmosphere of cooperation between the designers, consultants, engineers, financiers, and operators, as well as the U.S. and Chinese Governments, to ensure the success of one common goal - the provision of safe, efficient, and effective transportation systems for our two nations - was very apparent.**

**Private sector participants added value to these conversations by sharing their expertise of the technologies, systems, and practices that need to be addressed.**

**Through these discussions, it was extremely evident that both of our nations face similar economic situations. The importance of balancing fiscal constraints with the public's growing demand for public transportation is imperative.**

**U.S. and Chinese industry experts shared experiences with bus rapid transit, and identified this rapidly growing mode of transportation as an option that offers the qualities of rail-like service with the flexibility and cost savings of buses. The Working Group would like to continue to incorporate BRT into our discussions and promote activities to exchange technical expertise in this area in order to improve BRT development.**

**At the workshop, it was agreed that both the U.S. and China find accessibility for people with disabilities and the elderly to be crucial in the planning and implementation of public transportation services. Our laws must enforce elimination of barriers and elimination of discriminating against users. While it was determined that both nations still have much to learn and share when it comes to providing services to riders with disabilities and the elderly, it was clear that both nations believe that all users have equal right to the use of public transportation.**

**Urban Public Transportation Standardization was also a part of the workshop dialogue. My colleagues at American Public Transportation Association introduced our Standards Program and the benefits of having such standards available to the industry. We will continue to discuss this area with our new partner, the China Academy of Transportation Sciences, in support of our new Memorandum of Understanding.**

**The industry looks forward to continuing to share our experiences and practices so that we can do our part to provide technologies, strategies and solutions to these common challenges in order to improve transit service provided in our two nations, and with hopes of improving public transportation offered around the world.**