

Foreword from the 2007 Program Chair

The Proceedings of the 48th Annual Forum of the Transportation Research Forum contain presentations that cover a wide range of topics that reflect the diversity of challenges that are currently confronting those involved with the transportation sector. The particular themes of the 2007 conference were the Rising Costs of Energy, Financing of Transportation Infrastructure Investment, Securing Transportation Logistics, Educating the New “Transportation Professional”, and Accessing International Transportation hubs.

The papers at the conference addressed these themes from a variety of perspectives, both in terms of theoretical considerations and empirical analysis, with authors, as is the tradition of the TRF, coming from academia, practitioners, and those from various levels of government. The papers do not just take a U.S. perspective but also include contributions from a large number of other countries that adds to the richness of their contributions.

Many people are responsible for the 48th Annual Forum and for the production of these proceedings together with the TRF website. Patrick Nichols of North Dakota State University handled all of the technical aspects including the design of the website and of the CD. Sue Hendrickson, also at North Dakota State University, took care of the administration of the conference and ensured its smooth running. The team at the Center for Transportation Studies at Boston University, the meeting’s venue, and particularly Laura Guild, provided crucial support. The Forum would not have been as successful as it proved without the numerous sponsors who supported particular panels, meals, and receptions. Numerous members of the TRF executive council provided help and guidance at many of the stages in the preparation of the meeting and it would not have taken place without this.

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