Technology Applications are Improving Operations for Idaho Transit Providers

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Session T3: Emerging Technology for Rural Transit Providers

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Technology Is A Tool

- Improve operational effectiveness and efficiency
- Increase safety
- Enhance ability to collect data
- Enable coordination
- Expand awareness of transit options
- Increase ridership
- Improve customer satisfaction

Technology Enabling Activities

Idaho Historical Perspective

- Restructuring
 - Planning: IMAP, I-WAY, Local Mobility Networks, etc.
 - Vision: Coordinated and contemporary mobility management networks provide accessible and seamless services in an efficient, effective, and intelligent manner
 - Established partnerships
- Funding
 - 2005 ITS Grant
 - 2010 ARRA Grant
- Significant investments
 - 511 System
 - Idaho ITS Study (2007)
- Development of Transit Technology Initiatives

Major Idaho Transit Technology Initiatives

APTS

- Demand Response
 Dispatch Software
- Fixed Route Mgmt
- Automated Vehicle Location (AVL)
- Mobile Data Terminals (MDT)
- En-route signage

Traveler Information

- GTFS data management
- 511 Phone
- 511 Website
- Google Transit

Mobility Management System

 Idaho – Transportation, Reimbursement, Integration, and Performance System (I-TRIPS)

APTS Goals

- Improve operational efficiency
 - Demand Response
 - Fixed Route
- Enhance ability to collect data
- Enable coordination
- Do more with less!
 - Possibly expand services with same resources

Contracted with RouteMatch Software to provide APTS System

AVL/MDT

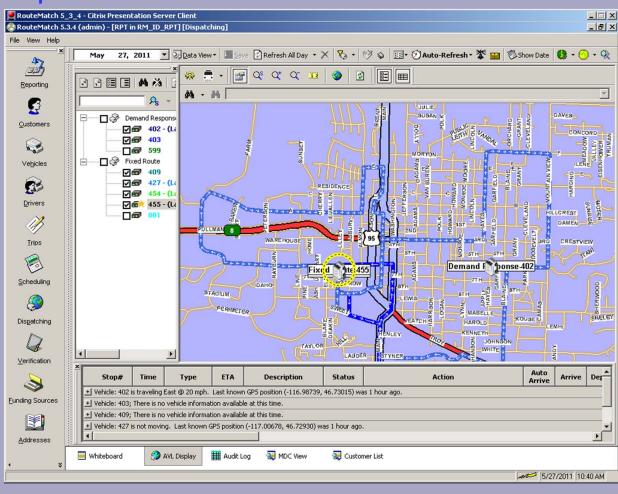
- Using GPS, locates buses and provides information to dispatchers
- Primary communication between buses and dispatch
- Logs information and sends to database
- Foundation for other technologies





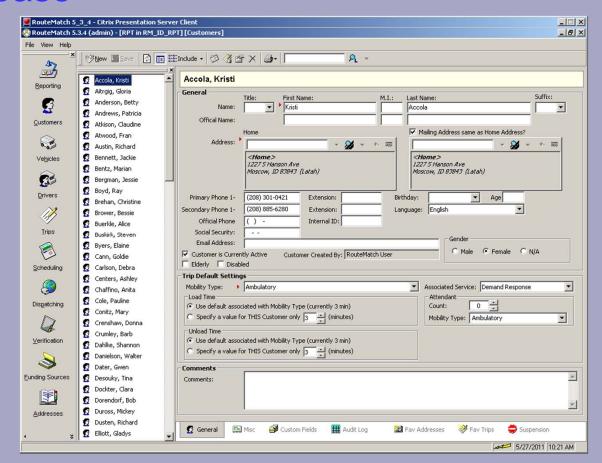
Vehicle Location and Tracking

- Map based bus location in real time
- Other information speed
- Playback function
- Precise stop location



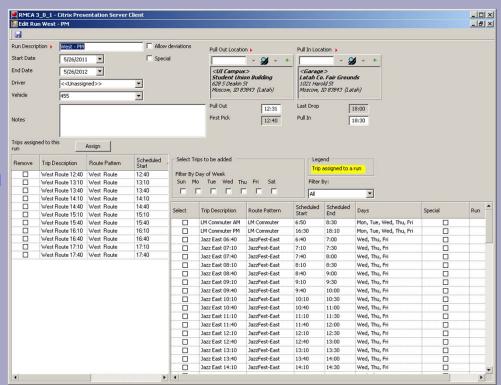
Demand Response Dispatch Software

- Customer database
- Trip scheduling
- Dispatching
- AVL display
- Reporting
- Billing



Fixed Route Management

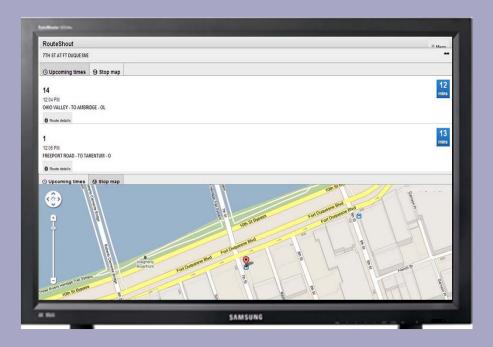
- Route/Stop Creation
- Vehicle/Driver/Run Assignment
- Dispatching
- On-Time Performance
- Ridership data collection
 - By route and stop
 - Boardings and alightings
- Fare collection
 - By type
 - By category



En-Route Signage

- Indoor/outdoor Monitors
- Outdoor signs at stops
- Information driven by AVL database
- Requires power and communication





APTS Project Accomplishments

Organization	AVL/MDT	Demand Response Dispatching	Fixed-Route Management	En-Route Signage	Status
MRTA	✓		✓	✓	Live with Fixed Route system; currently testing.
PRT	√	✓	√	√	Live with Demand Response and Fixed Route software; currently testing.
RPT	√	✓	√		Live with Demand Response software and Fixed Route systems. Currently testing.
Trans IV	✓	✓			Complete and accepted.
TRPTA	√	√	√		Live with Demand Response software. Fixed Route go-live scheduled in early September.
TVT	√	✓	√		Live with Demand Response software and Fixed Route systems. Currently testing.
VRT	√	√			Under a separate contract, Route- Match is deploying the Demand Response Dispatching software. Fixed Route is desired, but currently unfunded.
Lewiston Transit	√	√			Under a separate contract, Route- Match has deployed their Demand Response Dispatching software.

APTS - Impacts To Date

- Significant reduction in radio usage
- Able to provide same service with less resources
- Increased demand on dispatchers time
- Addressing few complaints from passengers
 - Service is not the same
- Fixed route software requiring extensive revisions – software updates nearing completion

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Idaho – Transportation,
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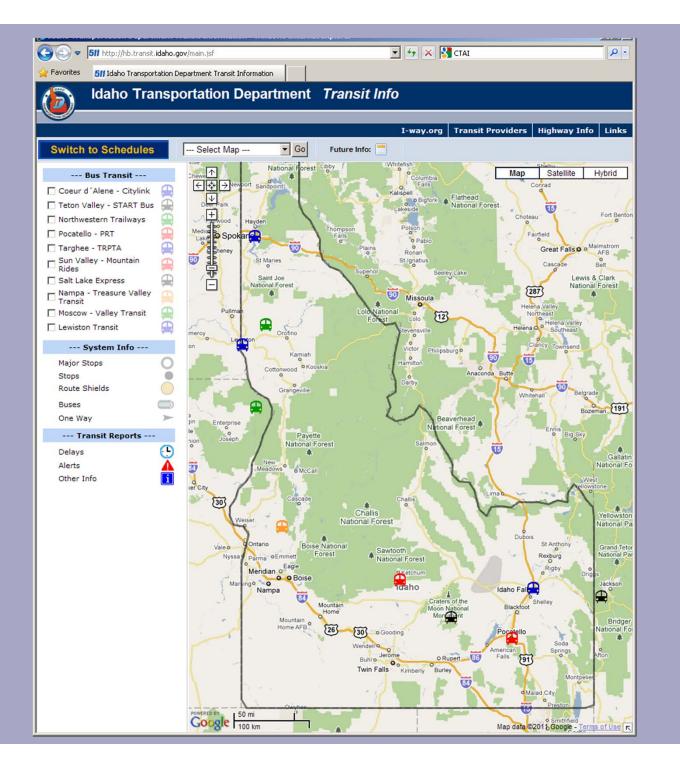
Traveler Information Goals

- Actively manage and keep up-to-date GTFS information in the properly formatted files
- Expand dissemination methods of transit route, stop, and schedule information
 - Awareness of transit options
- Increase ridership
- Improve user satisfaction

Castlerock developing transit traveler information system

511 Transit System

- MODES transit management software
 - Adjust daily schedules
 - Enter "events"
 - Database for map displays
- 511 Transit webpage
 - Displays agencies, routes, stops, and schedules
- 511 Phone
 - Currently can be transferred to transit provider's phone
- Google Transit
 - Information provided for trip planning



MODES DEMO



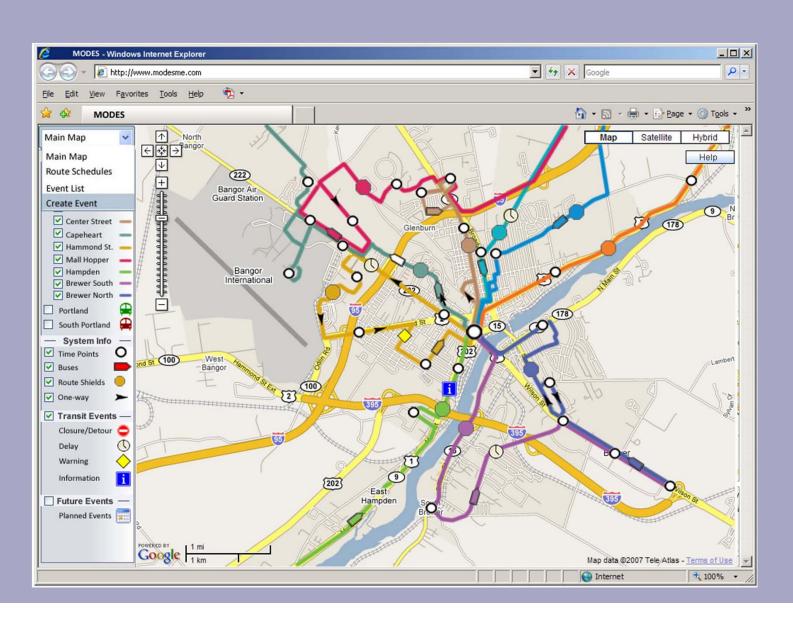
511 DEMO



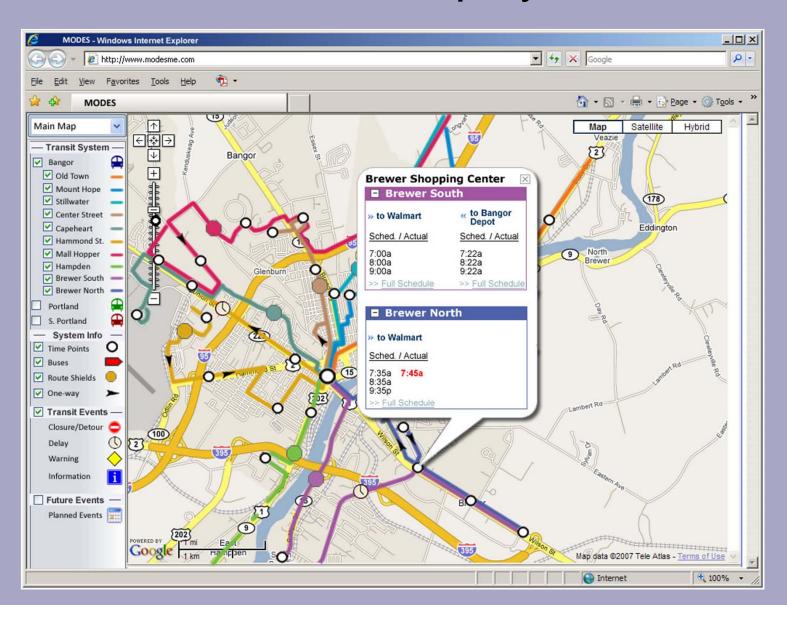
GOOGLE DEMO



Routes and Stops Displayed



Schedules Displayed

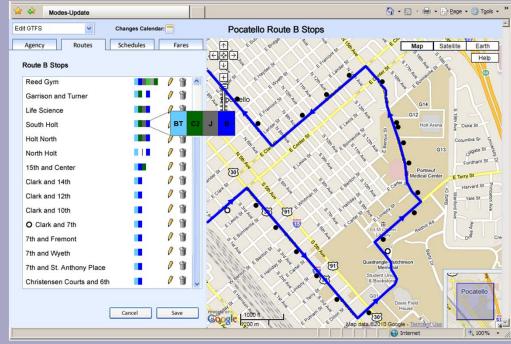


Traveler Information Accomplishments

Organization	Initial GTFS file Generated	Information Displayed on 511 Transit	Information Available On Google Transit	511 Phone Transfers to Providers
CityLink	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northwestern Trailways	✓	✓	✓	√
RPT	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lewiston Transit	✓	✓	✓	✓
TVT	✓	✓	✓	✓
VRT	✓	Coming Soon	✓	✓
MRTA	✓	✓	✓	✓
PRT	✓	✓	✓	✓
Salt Lake Express	✓	✓	Not accepted*	✓
TRPTA	✓	✓	✓	✓
START Bus	✓	✓	✓	✓

GTFS Tool Status

- MODES UPDATE (new tool)
 - Agency
 - Routes/Stops
 - Schedule
 - Fares
 - Enable use of "Rainbow" lines
- Development underway
- Training and role-out
 - Summer 2011



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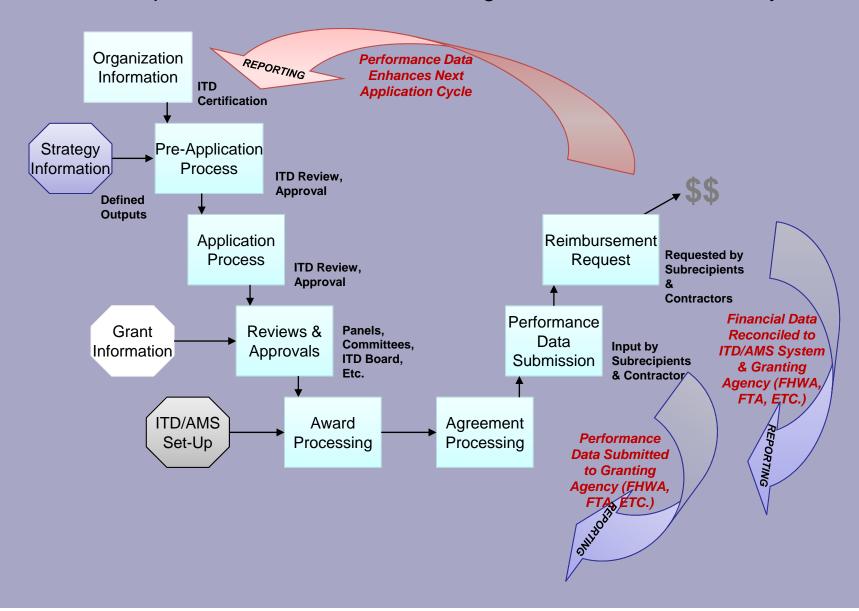
 Idaho – Transportation, Reimbursement, Integration, and Performance System (I-TRIPS)

I-TRIPS Goals

- Fully automate grants management process
 - Application Agreements Reimbursement
- Establish database of grant and operational data
 - NTD data collection
 - Foundation for performance management
- Track information to common thread
 - STRATEGIES
- Improve ability to REPORT performance

Mobility Management System

Idaho - Transportation, Reimbursement, Integration and Performance System



I-TRIPS Status

- System design to be complete by November 2011
- Begun system development (on designed components)
- System testing in December January
- System available for data entry January 2012
- Role out
 - Operational data collection and reimbursement requests in Spring of 2012
 - New application cycle in January 2013

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Focus on the Future

APTS

- Expand deployments to additional providers
- Database sharing for enhanced coordination
- Integrated automated passenger counters, stop annunciators, smart card system

Traveler Information

- Integration of AVL data for real time bus location
- Apps for web info on enabled phones
- 511 phone next bus information

I-TRIPS

- Expanding grant funding types
- Integrated asset management functionality

