**Postdoctoral Researcher Mentoring Plan**

The postdoctoral scholar position is vital to the completion of the proposed project given the advanced technical and analytical skills needed. It is also fair to assert that this position will acquire the greatest professional benefit from the proposed project. This is because of the interdisciplinary nature of the project which brings together threads of literature from (in alphabetical order): architecture; economics; geography; planning; public administration; public policy; statistics; and urban studies. This means that the postdoctoral scholar will be highly marketable for academic positions after completing their work given the trend toward interdisciplinary collaboration. Likewise, there is great potential for the postdoctoral scholar to develop their writing and presentation skills given that there is a multitude of journal articles that are presently in the earliest stages of development by the principal investigator. For example, the co-principal investigator is writing a comprehensive, practitioner-grounded State of the Art Report for the U.S. Department of Defense on critical infrastructure and grid security. This effort is ideal for a junior scholar to learn how to write a comprehensive, but focused, literature review as well as learning how to conceptualize and model event outcomes; in this case, predictive electric outages. These kinds of experiences will be invaluable for the postdoctoral scholar when the time comes for them to develop a job talk based on their contribution to the project.

The principal investigator and co-principal investigators can also mentor this junior scholar through the pitfalls of the submission and resubmission process. The principal investigator is well-suited for this mentoring role given that most of his publications are single-author efforts which invariably required many resubmissions due to the highly technical nature of the modeling involved in those original submissions. It is envisioned that the postdoctoral scholar will assume a similar position on co-authored submissions as past co-authors of the principal investigator; that is, the postdoctoral scholar will write the first draft and then the co-authors will take turns rewriting the manuscript until both are satisfied with its worthiness for publication.

Finally, the postdoctoral scholar will have the opportunity to interface with stakeholders from different levels of government in order to apply the decision support tool developed in the project to help solve the policy problem of perpetual shortfalls in public transportation operational revenue. Making oneself available to the stakeholder community to inform policy decisions as an academic expert is not as straightforward as most doctoral students or postdoctoral scholars may be aware. This is because of all of the competing interests and all of the political machinations of the decision making process which are not always clear even to more senior scholars. In fact, sometimes stakeholders view their collaborations with academic experts as part of their community outreach mandate; this is especially true of local stakeholders who are engaging with academic experts from public institutions of higher education. In that eventuality, it is prudent to clearly articulate the expectations of both parties and develop a written agreement as to the time frame for any deliverables from either party. Given the principal investigators extensive experience engaging with stakeholders from many different levels of government on many funded and unfunded projects in the fields of geography, planning and transportation, the postdoctoral scholar is expected to benefit greatly from their stakeholder engagement through this project.