

Research Resources for Rural Transportation Planning

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**National Rural Transportation
Peer Learning Conference
September 2006**



Three Themes

- 1. TRB & the Committee on Transportation and Economic Development**
- 2. Other Sponsors of Rural Research: ARC, FHWA, Universities, Consultants**
- 3. Core Issues for Rural Research**



Transportation Research Board

- International Organization
- State & Federal Supported Research
- Hundreds of Committees on all aspects of Planning Practice
- National Conference
- Dozens of Specialty Conferences
- Thousands of Publications

www.trb.org

Conferences 10-06 to 9-07

- Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation
- TRB 86th Annual Meeting
- Key Issues in Transportation Programming
- Incident and Special Events Management
- Disaster Planning for the Car-less
- Harbor Safety Conference
- Agricultural and Food Truck Transport for the Future
- Transportation Planning Applications
- North American Landslide Conference
- Performance Measurement
- Transport for Elderly & Disabled People
- Low-Volume Roads
- Transportation Planning and Land Use
- Symposium on Cold Region Development

www.trb.org

- TED2006 Conference – cosponsored by FHWA, ARC, NADO, AMPO, IEDC
- Workshop on Economic Development Methods
- Annual Conference Sessions –Road Investment Benefits; Rail & Air Abandonment Impacts
- Web site links to TRIS, NTL, other resources.

www.tedcommittee.com

Links to Guides on Transportation & Economic Development

- *Internet Guide to Benefit-Cost Analysis in Transportation
Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis of Investment Projects
- *Assessing the Economic Impact of Transportation: How to
Match the Appropriate Technique to Your Project
- *Guidebook for Assessing Social & Economic Effects of
Transportation Projects
- *Current Practice for Assessing Economic Development
Impacts from Transportation Projects
- *Economic Impacts of Transport Projects: Toolbox for
Regional Policy

www.tedcommittee.com → links

FHWA-Funded Research

Economic Development Web Page

- * State Economic Development Highway Programs
- * Guide to Measuring Economic Impact of Highways
- * Economic Effects of Rural Interstates (case studies)

Economic Growth from Transportation Improvements: Does it or Doesn't it?

- US Economic Development & Benefit-Cost Policy
for Transportation

www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/econdev



Forms of Highway-Oriented Development

Highway Strip Development



Highway Bypass



Industrial Parks



Lack of Development





Appalachian Regional Commission

- * Handbook for Assessing Economic Opportunities from New Appalachian Highways
- Intermodal Opportunities and Economic Benefits of Intermodal Efficiencies
- * Global Competitiveness of Key Industries and Clusters in Appalachia
- * Appalachian Development Highways: Economic Impact Studies
- * ARC-LEAP: Local Economic Assessment Package

www.arc.org → research reports



Highway Impacts on Regional Economic Development

Given Local Conditions – Resources, Constraints and Opportunities

Decision Criteria on Most Appropriate Growth Path(s) to Pursue

Trade
Center
Strategy

Agglomeration
Strategy

Learning-
based
Strategy

Asset-
based
Strategy

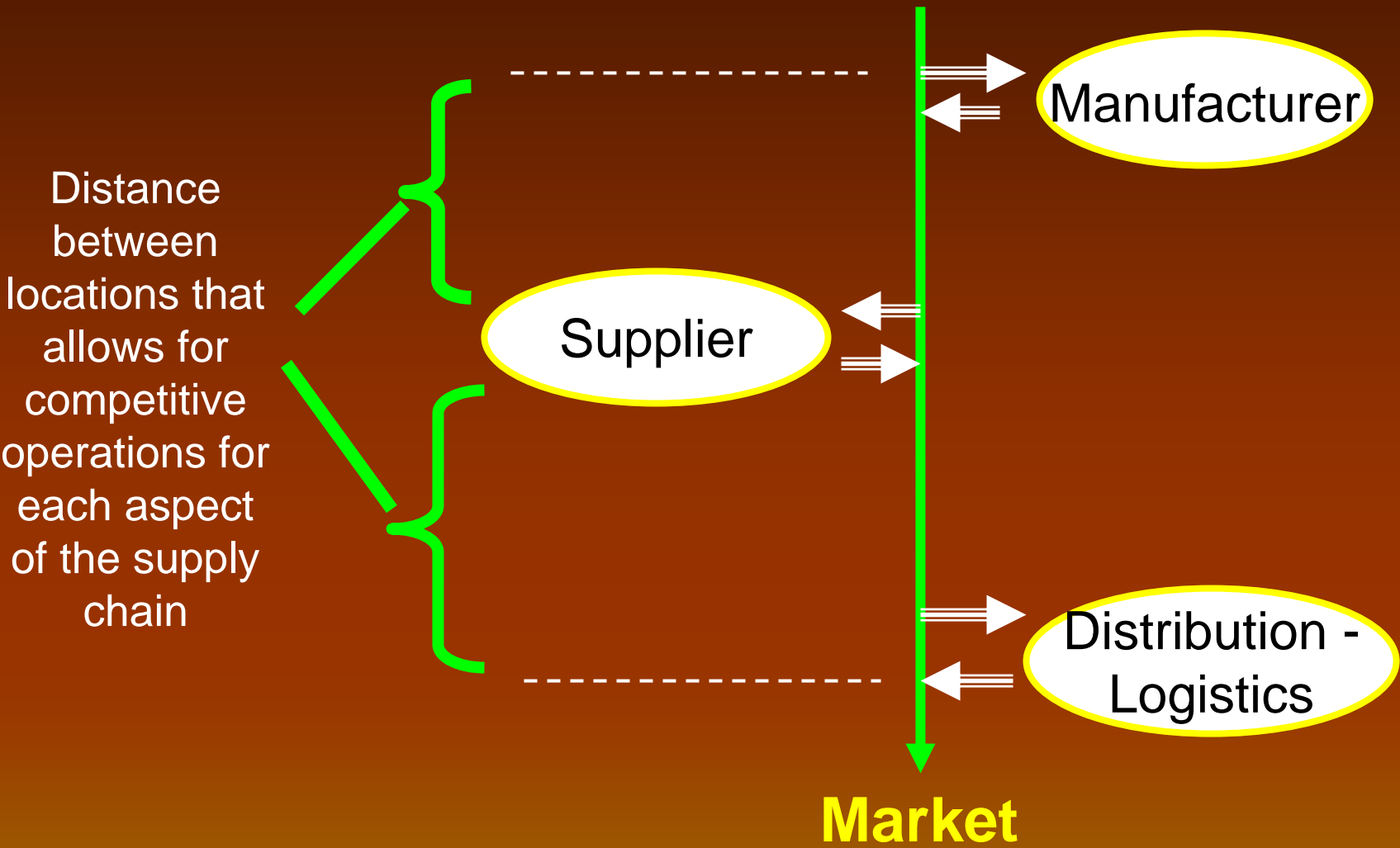
Supply
Chain
Strategy

Performance Evaluation – gauging progress on a growth path

Goal – Improved Economic Development

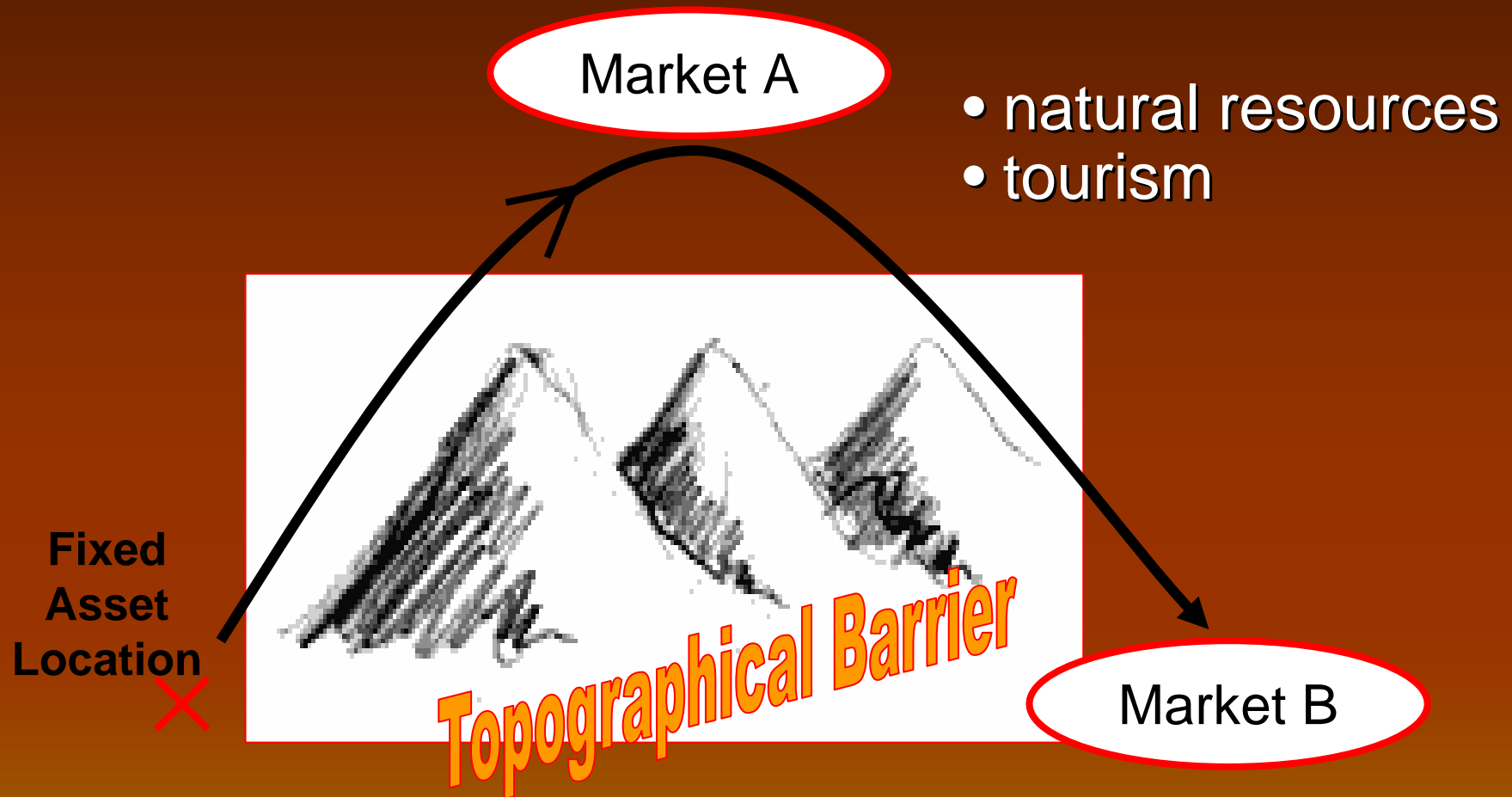


Consider Supply Chains





Markets for Asset-based Activity



Library of Web Links on Economic Development & Transport

- Economic Concepts
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Economic Implications: General Transportation (all modes)
- Economic Implications: Air, Sea, Rail, Road, Bike, Pedestrian Modes

www.edrgroup.com → Library

LEAP/TREDIS: Transport Affect on Economic Growth

Basic Requirements

- Land
 - Infrastructure
 - Labor Force
 - Materials
 - Markets
- } *Premises*
- } *Access*

- Highways
- Truck to Freight Train
- Truck/Car to Airport
- Truck/Rail to Marine port

Other Considerations

- Industry Clusters/Links
- Quality of Life
- Business Climate
- Regulations
- Taxes/Incentives

www.edrgroup.com/tredis/leap

Spreadsheet Tools

- Scenic Byways Economic Impact Tool (ABRC)
- Highway Bypass Economic Impact Tool (CalDOT)
- Left Turn Restriction Impact Tool (NCHRP)
- New Highway Economic Opportunities Tool (ARC)
- Highway Market Access Estimation Tools (NCHRP Guide to Social and Economic Factors)
- Others: National Transportation Library, TRIS Transportation Research Information System, National Cooperative Highway Research Program

www.tedcommittee.com → links

Core Analysis Issue: Avoid the Urban Model for Rural Areas !

Urban Model

- Demand patterns (O-D flows) are given;
- Invest to functionally meet demand;
- Benefit is primarily in minimizing VMT and VHT (delay due to congestion).



Core Analysis Issue: Adopt Appropriate Models for Rural Areas

Traditional Perspective

- Basic accessibility requirements are given;
- Invest to provide connectivity (linkages);
- Benefit is primarily in maximizing accessibility to resources & markets.



Core Analysis Issue: Seek Rural Challenges & Strategic Opportunities

Service Challenges

Trucking: Higher Cost, Lower Availability (deadheading)
Rail: Higher Cost, Lower Availability (intermediate location)
Market Access: Geological and Density Challenges



Access Opportunities

Strategic Connections with Commercial Corridors
Intermodal Terminal Connections
Development of “Micropolitan” Market Centers

Download this Slide Show at www.edrgroup.com