

UTC Project Information	
Project Title	A study of the Usage Potential of a Proposed Expanded Commuter Rail Station at Chicago State University
University	NEXTRANS Chicago State University
Principal Investigator	Daniel Block Director, Neighborhood Assistance Center Chicago State University dblock@csu.edu
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Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	\$40,000 NEXTRANS \$40,000 Chicago State University
Total Project Cost	\$80,000
Agency ID or Contract Number	DTRT12-G-UTC05
Start and End Dates	06-01-2013
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>Chicago State University, through the Fred Blum Neighborhood Assistance Center, will perform outreach for the NEXTRANS Center to community organizations needing assistance with transportation and accessibility related GIS projects on the South Side of Chicago and southern suburbs.</p> <p>The specific research project CSU will work on will be a study of the potential effects of the expansion of a commuter rail station that is adjacent to campus. The station is currently underutilized. Trains only stop at the station once every one to two hours. If expanded, the station would become an express stop, with much more frequent service and would better link Chicago State to Chicago's growing southern suburbs. The station also currently has security issues. A new station, located in closer proximity to the center of campus, with adequate</p>

	<p>security, is likely to increase public transportation usage to and from campus, and hypothetically could boost enrollment. CSU is currently working to gain funding for the station from the USDOT. The CSU NEXTRANS team would work with the CSU administrative group working on this issue to perform a GIS analysis of current and potential CSU students, to model commute times by car and public transportation currently and with the opening of the station. In addition, the CSU RA team will work to develop a survey of current students focusing on how the building of the station might affect their transportation to and from CSU, as well as whether the new station might affect the enrollment decisions of potential students in areas served by the rail line.</p>
<p>Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)</p> <p>Place Any Photos Here</p>	
<p>Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)</p>	
<p>Web Links</p>	

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