



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# *ITS ePrimer*

## Introduction and Overview

**ITS Professional Capacity Building  
Program**  
**ITS Joint Program Office**  
**U.S. Department of Transportation**

# Instructor

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**Pat Noyes**

Principal

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Boulder, CO, USA

# Learning Objectives

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- Understand the history and current status of ITS
- Be familiar with the 16 subject modules
- Know how to access and use the ITS ePrimer

# What is ITS?

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- ITS applies information, technology, and systems engineering to the management and operation of surface transportation facilities
- It is an engineering discipline that encompasses
  - Research
  - Planning
  - Design
  - Integration
  - Deployment

# Introduction to ITS

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- ITS brings diverse disciplines together to deliver
  - Safe
  - Efficient
  - Sustainable transportation
- ITS enhances transportation infrastructure investments
- ITS supports system management and operation
  - Multimodal
  - Local, regional, state

# Examples of How ITS Enhances Our Lives

Adaptive signal control technology uses real-time traffic information to

- Cut costs
- Reduce congestion
- Improve traffic flow
- Reduce emissions
- Respond to incidents, special events, and recurring congestion



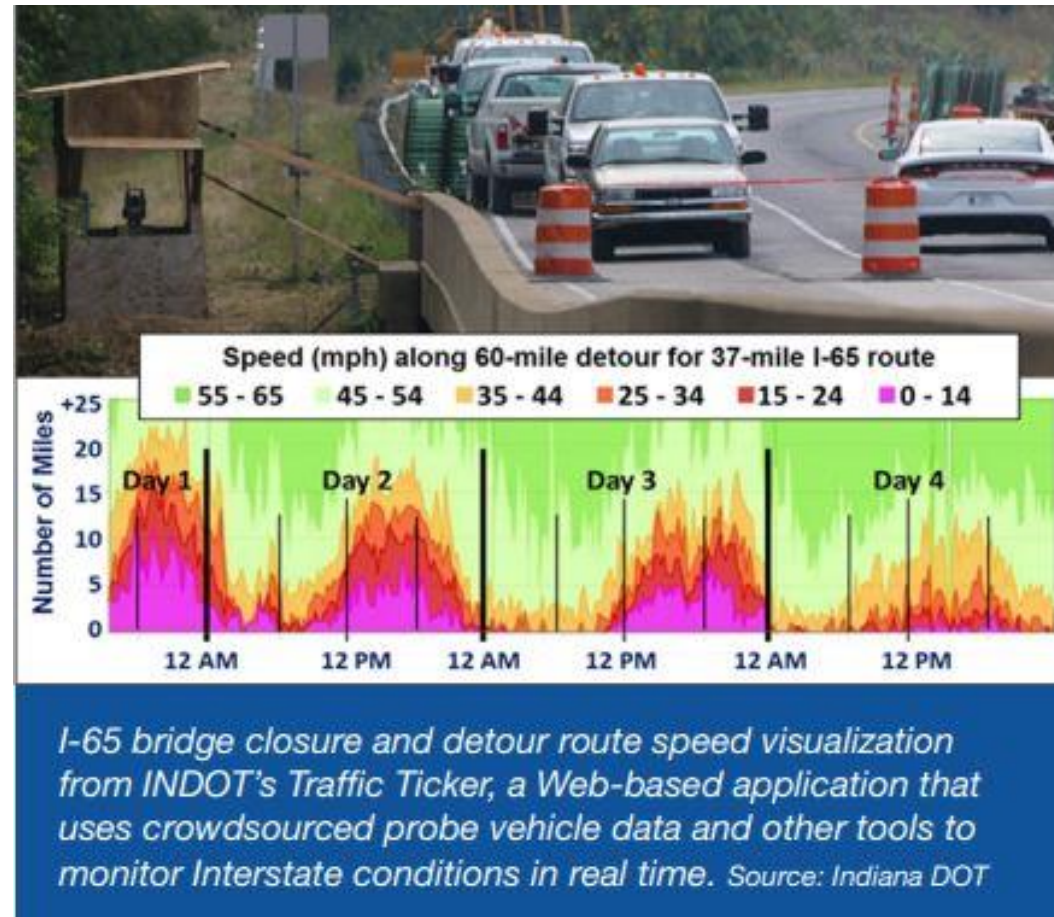
Source: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/everydaycounts/technology/adsc/intro.cfm>.



# Examples of How ITS Enhances Our Lives (cont'd)

## Crowdsourcing for Advanced Operations

- Provides real-time information on travel speed and time, traffic incidents, travel behavior, and vehicle operation
- Data can be used by TMCs to manage the system and provide traveler information



Source: [Crowdsourcing for Advancing Operations EDC-6 Factsheet](#)

# Where ITS Can Be Applied

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## ■ Multimodal

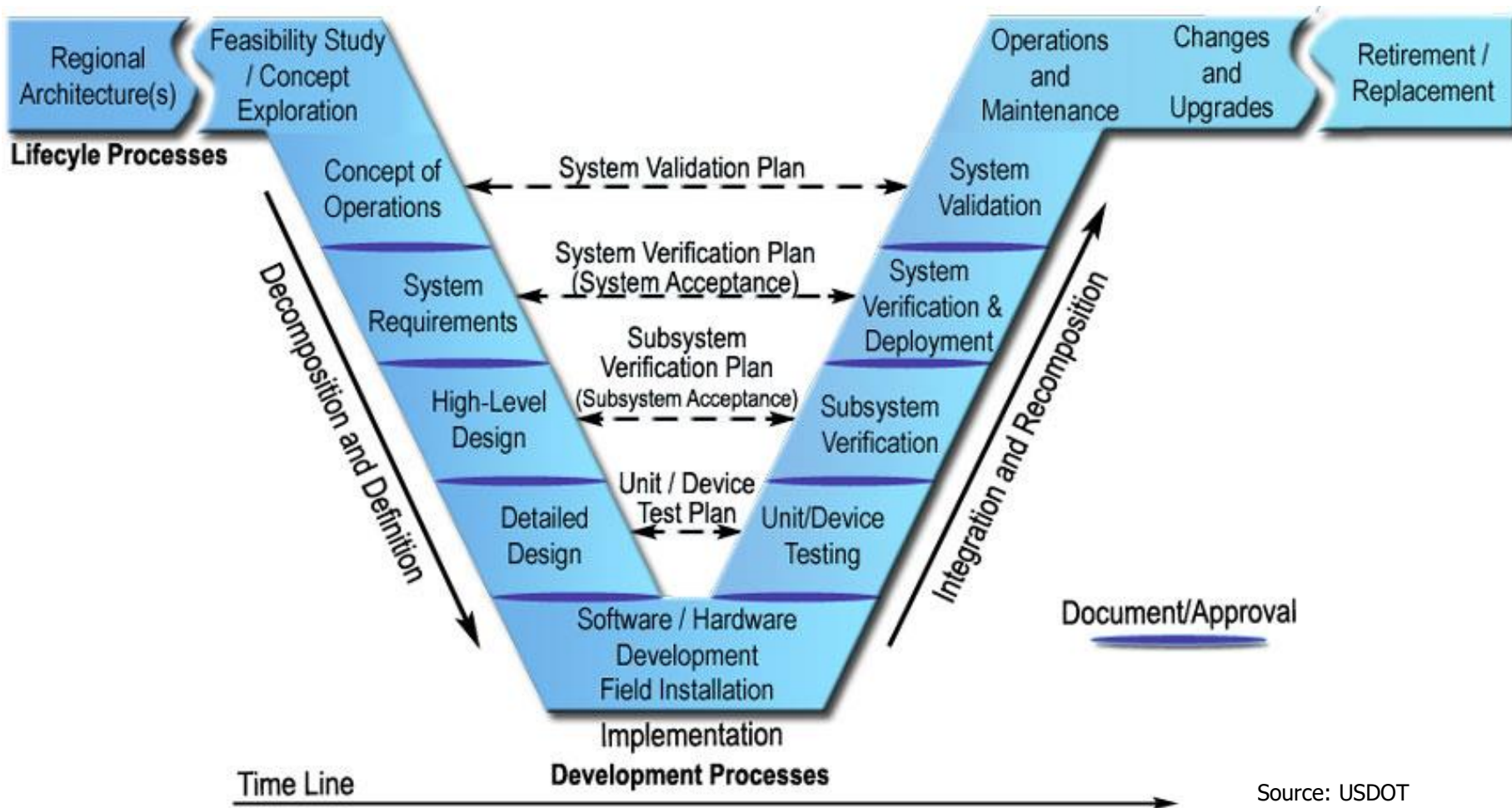
- Auto
- Transit
- Freight
- Bicycles
- Pedestrians

## ■ Facility Types

- Highways
- Arterials
- Fixed guideways
- Bikeways
- Sidewalks
- Multimodal facilities
- Ports and terminals



# Systems Engineering

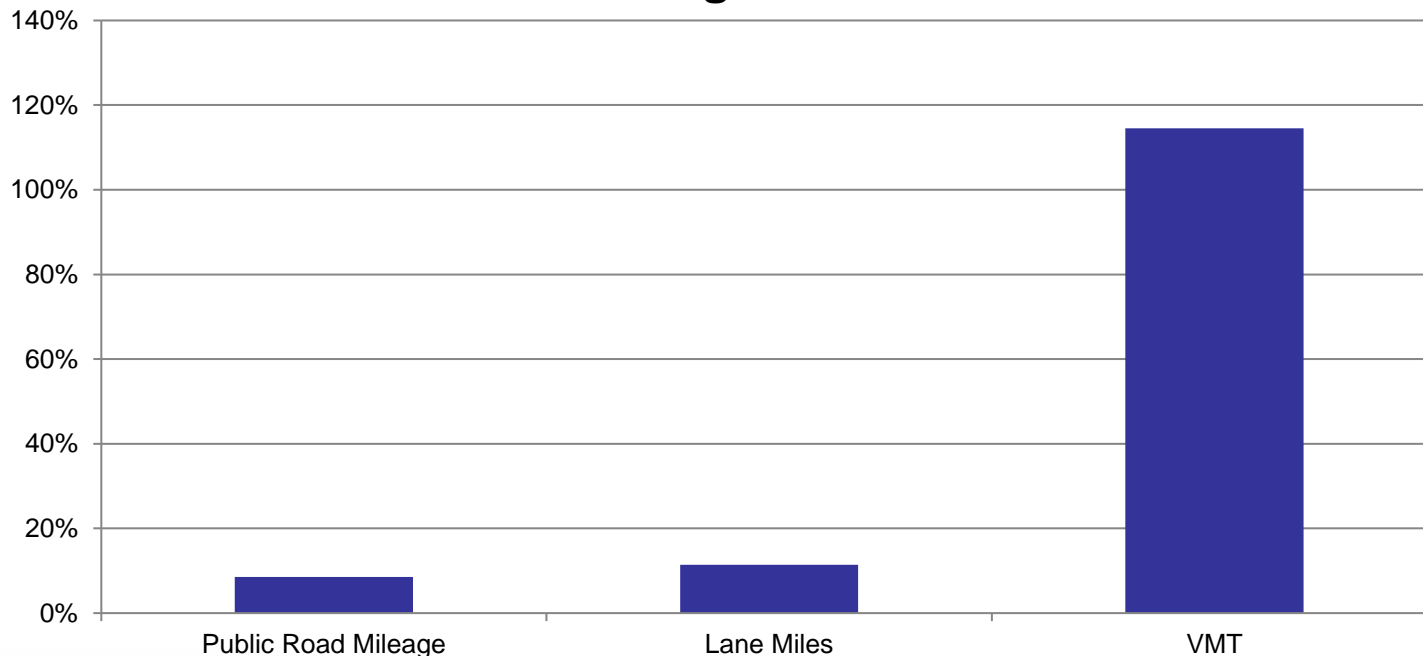


Source: USDOT

# Transportation Challenges

- Increasing demand: 115 percent increase in VMT over 39 years
- Minimal increase in capacity: Less than 11 percent increase in number of lane miles in same period

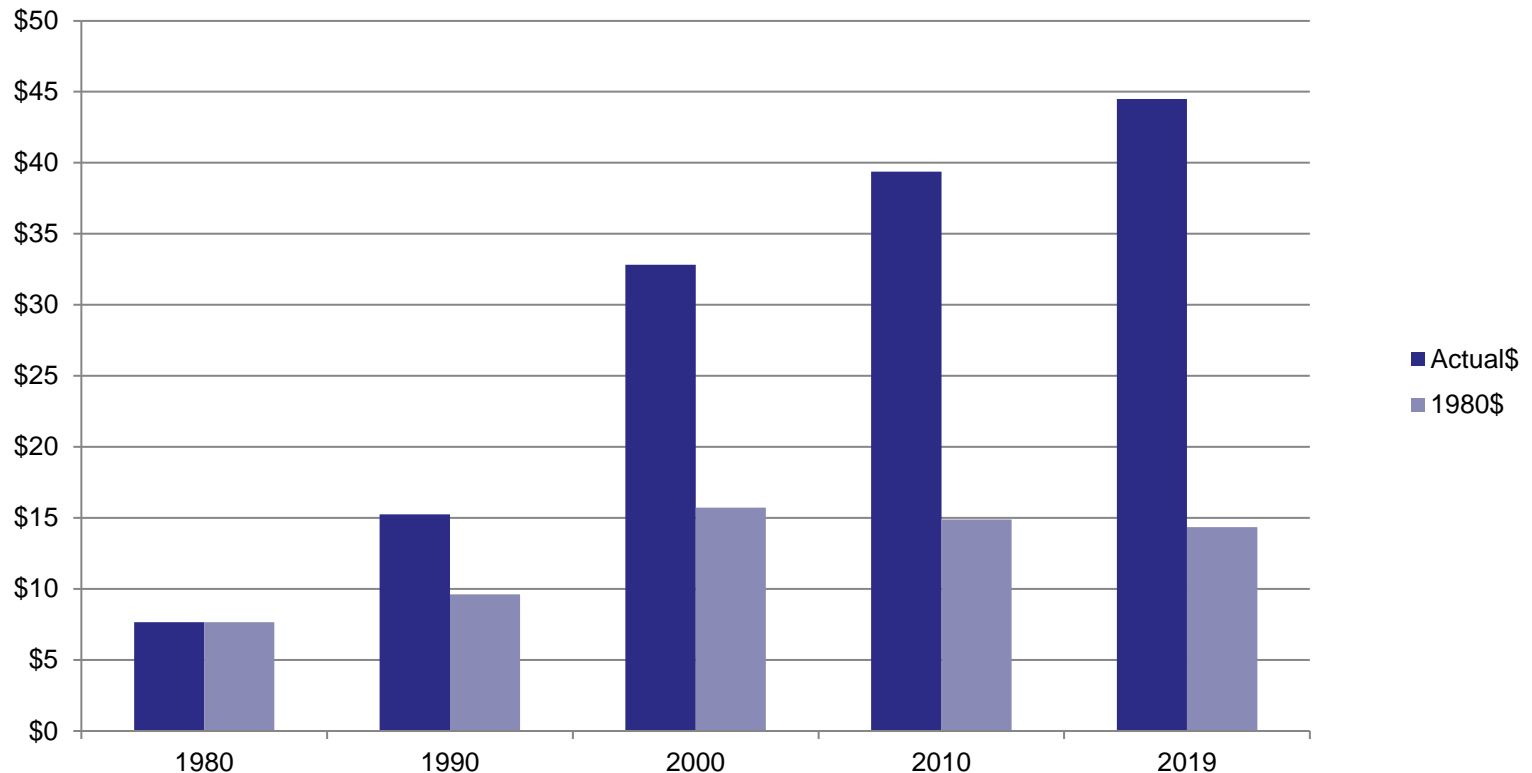
**Percent Change 1980-2019**



# Transportation Challenges (cont'd)

- Funding levels have not kept pace with needs, increasing pressure to do more with less

Highway Trust Fund Expenditures (in billions)



Source: FHWA Highway Statistics, 2010 and ENO Center for Transportation

# Workforce Needs

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- Traffic Data Scientist/Statistician
- TSMO Manager/Chief/Bureau Director
- TSMO Program Manager
- Computer Engineer
- Artificial Intelligence Scientist
- Telecommunications Engineer
- Data Management Specialist
- Visualization Specialist
- Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV) Program Manager
- Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Program Manager
- Cyber Security Engineer
- Transportation Data Ethicist
- Surface Weather Specialist
- Systems Engineer
- TSMO Modeling Specialist
- Emerging Technologies Industry Liaison
- Transportation Systems Performance Manager
- Integrated Corridor Management Manager
- Transportation Management Center Manager

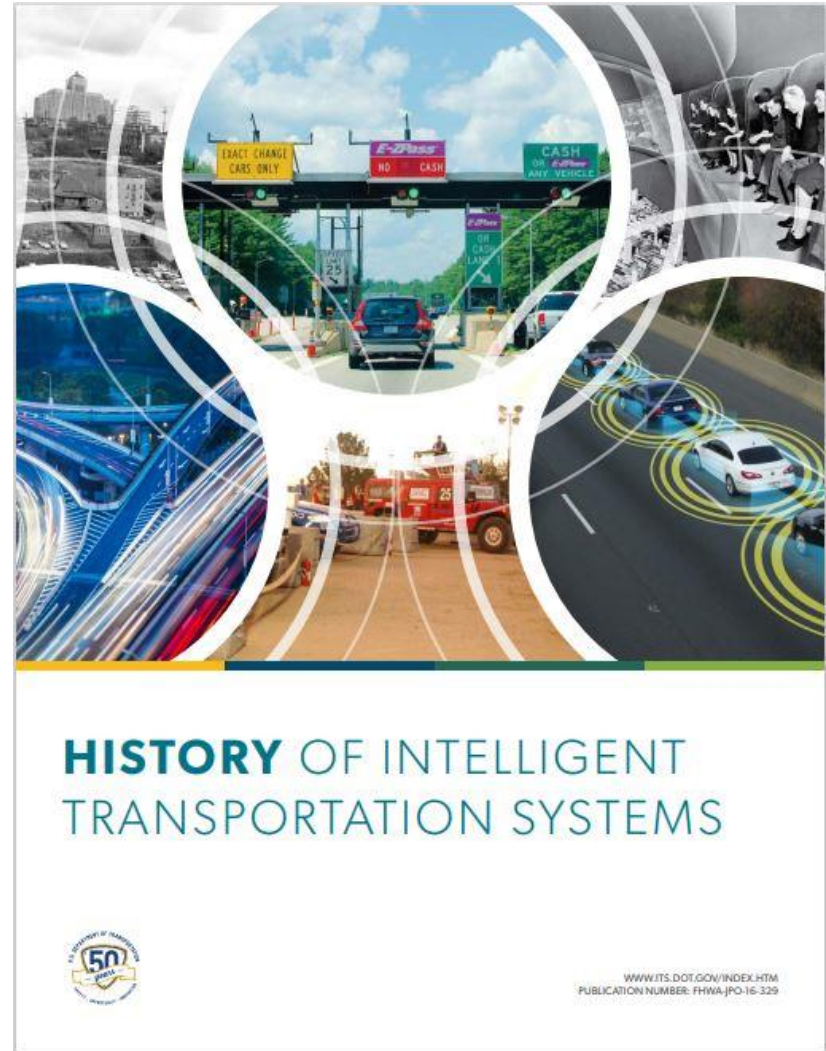
# Benefits of ITS

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- Improved safety
- Reduced congestion
- Reduced emissions
- Reduced travel times
- Enhanced access and quality of life
- Crash prevention
- Cost savings for commercial vehicle operations
- Enhanced travel options

# History of ITS

- USDOT ITS JPO published a History of ITS on their website
- [History of Intelligent Transportation Systems \(dot.gov\)](http://www.its.dot.gov)



# History of ITS

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- 1988: Mobility 2000 – working group focused on national program of automated technology
- 1991: ISTEA – encouraged new technologies to improve safety, information exchange, system capacity, and travel times
- 1990s: National Architecture and Standards Program initiated
- Late 1990s: Term "ITS" emerged to include more multimodal focus



# History of ITS (continued)

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- 2012: Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) – created a streamlined, performance-based surface transportation program with an increased focus on system management
- 2014: NHTSA proposed rulemaking supporting V2V communication technology research
- 2015: Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) – largely continued previous program structures with an 11 percent increase in funding over 5 years

# USDOT CARMA Program



# ITS JPO Strategic Plan 2020-2025

- Vision  
To accelerate the use of ITS to transform the way society moves
- Mission  
To lead collaborative and innovative research, development, and implementation of IT to improve the safety and mobility of people and goods



# ITS JPO Research Priorities

## ITS JPO STRATEGIC RESEARCH AREAS

- Emerging and Enabling Technologies
- Data Access and Exchanges
- Cybersecurity for ITS
- Automation
- Complete Trip – ITS4US
- Accelerating ITS Deployment through:
  - ITS Evaluation
  - ITS Professional Capacity Building
  - ITS Architecture and Standards
  - ITS Communications



# ITS Architecture and Standards

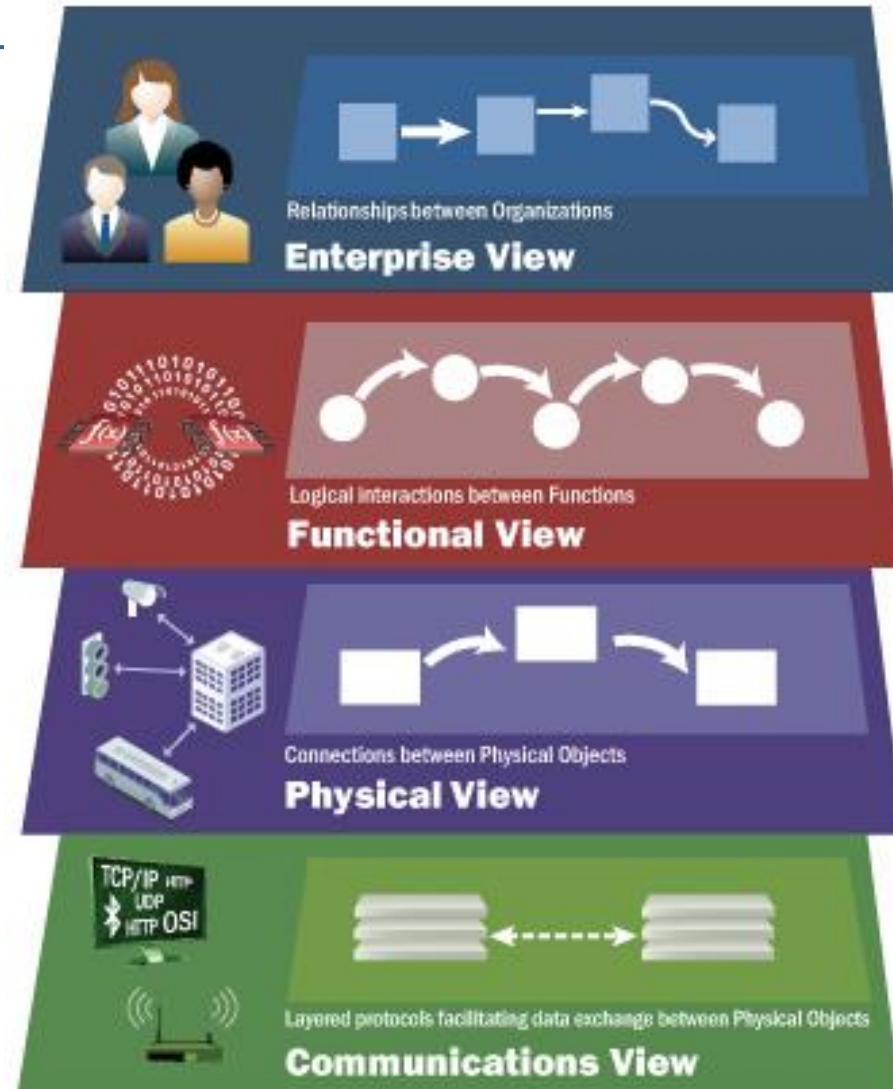
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- National ITS Reference Architecture (ARC-IT)
  - Guides ITS programs at the national level
- Regional Architecture Development for Intelligent Transportation (RAD-IT)
  - Supports regional and project ITS architectures
- Systems Engineering Tool for IT (SET-IT)
  - Tool to integrate drawing and database tools with ARC-IT

# ARC-IT

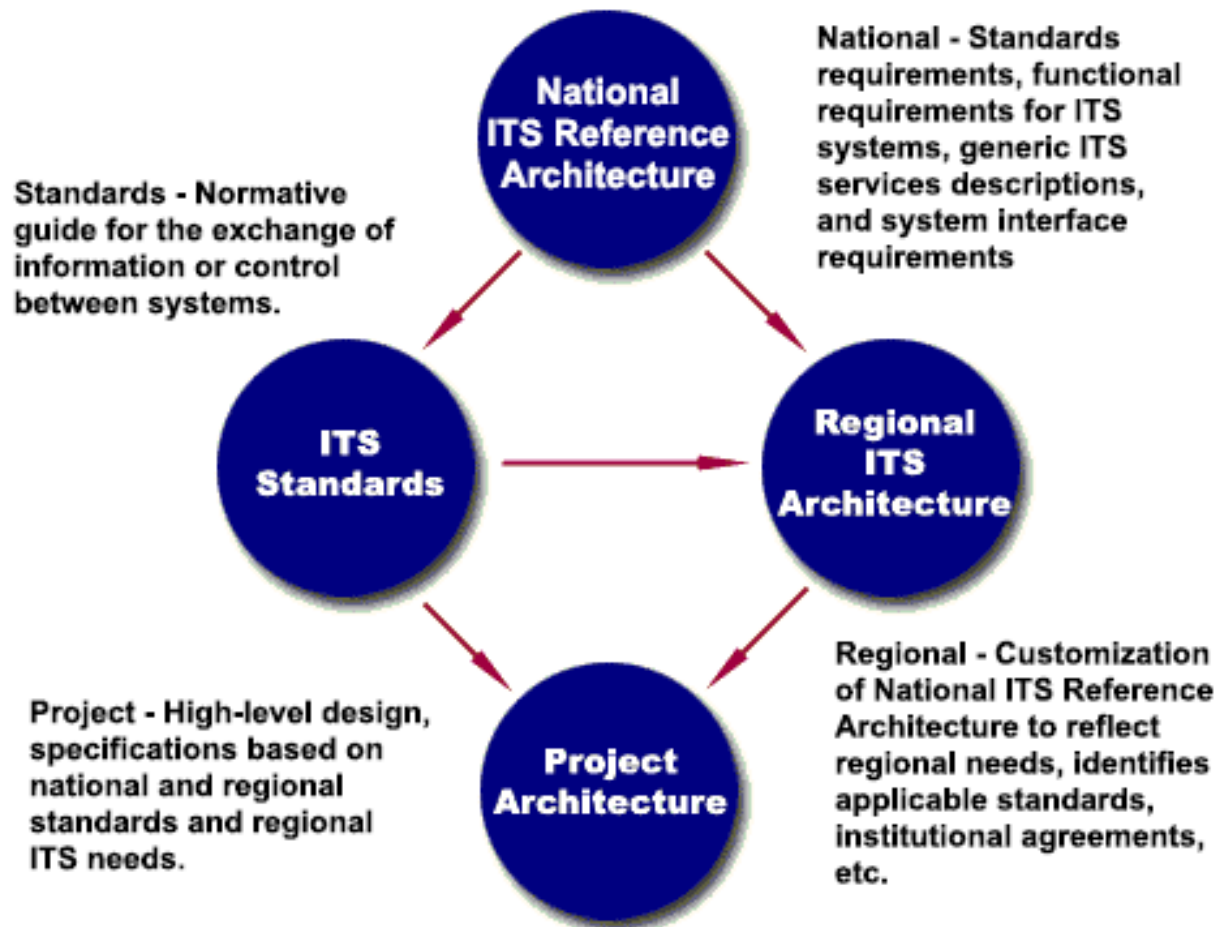
- Reference architecture that provides common basis for planners and engineers
- Does not mandate any particular implementation
- Provides tools to develop regional architecture

## Architecture Reference for Cooperative and Intelligent Transportation (ARC-IT)



# ITS Standards and Architecture

## ITS Architecture Relationships





# Growth of ITS Deployment

- ITS deployment is growing rapidly, nationally, and globally
- The global value of the ITS market was estimated over \$26 million in 2021
- Projected growth at 7 percent over the next 7 years expected - \$42 million by 2028



# Areas of Growth in ITS

- Freeway management
- Arterial management
- Incident management
- Transit management
- Future deployment plans
- Connected vehicles and automated vehicles



# How to Use the *ITS ePrimer*

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- Modules are structured around specific topic areas and intended to stand on their own
- 16 different authors – level of detail varies across modules, and some topics are cross-cutting/overlapping

# Content Outline

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## 1. Introduction to ITS

Provides an overview of ITS including history, benefits, and future vision

## 2. Systems Engineering

Presents an overview of systems engineering and its relation to ITS architecture, planning, and deployment

## 3. Application of ITS to TSMO

Provides an overview of ITS technology and tools used to manage transportation strategies, systems, and networks

# Content Outline (cont'd)

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## 4. ITS Data in Decision Making

Introduces fundamentals related to collecting, storing, analyzing, and sharing ITS data to manage performance and improve decision-making

## 5. ITS to Support Travelers

Focuses on ITS applications to support multimodal transportation: information, safety, convenience

## 6. Freight and Commercial Vehicle ITS

Illustrates and explains major ITS applications related to freight management and commercial vehicle operations

# Content Outline (cont'd)

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## 7. Public Transportation

Identifies a broad range of ITS applications in public transportation and describes how they enhance efficiency, convenience, safety, and security

## 8. Electronic Tolling and Pricing

Provides an introduction to electronic payment systems applications and pricing strategies

## 9. Supporting ITS Technologies

Describes various supporting ITS technologies and considers opportunities for deployment and integration

# Content Outline (cont'd)

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## 10. Rural and Regional ITS Applications

Identifies unique transportation needs in rural areas and applies lessons from successful ITS deployments in rural and regional settings

## 11. Sustainable Transportation

Explores opportunities to integrate ITS technologies in support of sustainable transportation

## 12. Institutional Issues

Defines institutional challenges encountered in planning, deploying, and maintaining ITS and provides guidance on addressing institutional concerns



# Content Outline (cont'd)

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## 13. Connected Vehicles

Examines current and emerging CV technologies and discusses institutional, policy, legal, and funding challenges associated with CV applications

## 14. ITS in Emergencies and Disasters

Provides information on how ITS can support transportation operations during emergencies and disasters

# Content Outline (cont'd)

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## 15. Port Operations

Provides an overview of ITS related to port operations and supports expanded port participation in ITS applications

## 16. ITS Emerging Opportunities and Challenges

Explores 4IR technologies and how developments in data, computing, and telecommunications are impacting ITS and transportation profession

# ITS ePrimer Online Products

- Available [online](#)
  - 16 modules
  - PowerPoint slides with speaker notes and suggested audience interaction for each module

The screenshot shows the website for the ITS Professional Capacity Building Program. At the top, it identifies the United States Department of Transportation and the Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office. The main heading is "ITS Professional Capacity Building Program". A navigation bar includes links for Home, About, Training, Resources for Practitioners, and Resources for Students and Instructors. The page is titled "Resources for Practitioners" and features a section for "ITS ePrimer". A welcome message states: "Welcome to the ITS ePrimer! The ITS ePrimer provides transportation professionals with fundamental concepts and practices related to ITS technologies. This online resource can help practicing professionals and students better understand how ITS is integrated into the planning, design, deployment, and operations of surface transportation systems. The ITS ePrimer is both a stand-alone reference document for the practitioner as well as a text for education and training programs. Please use the option to send feedback as you read through the ePrimer. The ITS PCB Program welcomes your comments and suggestions." Below this, a prompt says "To view a module, click its plus button +". A "View All +" button is present. A grid of 16 modules is displayed, each with a title and a plus icon:

Module 1 Introduction to ITS	+	Module 9 Supporting ITS Technologies	+
Module 2 Systems Engineering	+	Module 10 Rural and Regional ITS Applications	+
Module 3 <b>New 2021</b> Application of ITS in Transportation Systems Management and Operations	+	Module 11 Sustainable Transportation	+
Module 4 <b>New 2021</b> Data in Decision Making	+	Module 12 Institutional Issues	+
Module 5 Personal Transportation	+	Module 13 <b>Updated 2021</b> Connected Vehicles	+
Module 6 Freight, Intermodal, and CVO	+	Module 14 <b>New 2021</b> ITS in Emergencies and Disasters	+
Module 7 Public Transportation	+	Module 15 Port Operations	+
Module 8 Electronic Toll Collection and Pricing	+	Module 16 <b>Updated 2021</b> ITS Emerging Opportunities and Challenges	+

The ITS PCB Program would like to acknowledge the following individuals who volunteered their time to review the modules.

# Resources

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- ITS ePrimer: [www.pcb.its.dot.gov/eprimer](http://www.pcb.its.dot.gov/eprimer)
- ITS Professional Capacity Building (PCB): [www.pcb.its.dot.gov](http://www.pcb.its.dot.gov)
- National Highway Institute (NHI): <https://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov>
- ITE Webinars: [www.ite.org](http://www.ite.org)
- ITS JPO PCB Program: [ITShelp@dot.gov](mailto:ITShelp@dot.gov)