

A Transit Quilting Bee; exploring the interplay of service types in a rural network plan

Presenters: Michael Lachman with
Carolyn Conley & Lantz Repp

Rural and Intercity Bus Conference
10/4/16, Asheville, NC

The logo for hapcap features a stylized grey arch with a small dot above it, positioned over the word "hapcap" in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font. The word "hapcap" is followed by the text "networks in SE Ohio" in a larger, regular, lowercase sans-serif font.

hapcap: networks in SE Ohio

Athens Public Transit (APT): fixed-line cutaways

Logan Public Transit (LPT): demand-responsive vans with some line service.

Athens On Demand Transit (AODT): demand-response minivans for seniors, people with disabilities.

GoBus - statewide intercity coach service.

The quilting bee



Amish quilters in Lancaster Co. PA, 1941 – Irving Rusinow, photographer

The quilting bee is an image we can use to envision the process of coordinated planning.

Stakeholders bring their own quilt squares – local networks, along with knowledge, needs and geographies - together to blanket a region.

A frame is necessary. So is thread. Layers will overlap, but holes are not welcome!

The Athens quilting frame

(Presentation continues in Google Earth)



Holes in the existing network

- General public, general-purpose county travel outside APT service area.
- Commuters in the county's primary travel corridors.
- AODT capacity.
- Out-of-county trips to non-GoBus destinations



Detail: Nelsonville-Athens- Albany corridor

(Presentation continues in Google Earth)



Stakeholder needs in the corridor

(Presentation continues in Google Earth)



Five questions about the design

1. **Cost?**
2. **Distance?**
3. **Time?**
4. **Complexity?**
5. **Capacity?**

...and **Efficiency**, which is woven through each.

Quilt squares we're holding up to test against the pattern

- Hourly fixed-line;
- 2-hour fixed-line mixed with intercity runs;
- Fixed in-town, point-deviation service; 2-hour cycle;
- Larger demand responsive fleet;
- Contract with a private demand-responsive operator;

Next steps to organize:

Convene a dozen potential funding stakeholders. Present a matrix of service options and costs.



Thanks!



Photo from the 2014 Tokyo Quilt Festival by Molly Stevens