A proposal for privately-financed Podway Transport for Chicago – St. Louis

309 mile high-speed network with 11,649 pods and 531 stops serving 50% of the region with convenient access.

393 MW solar & wind generation to power 26,250 households.

High capacity • High speed • Nonstop • 24/7 Sustainable • Zero Wait • Door-to-door • Resilient



We propose to build and operate a podway transport network that speeds delivery, reduces waste, and provides greater dependability — while being low cost and sustainable.

A podway is a fleet of automated electric vehicles (pods) carrying goods and passengers on a micro-guideway. A podway provides transport with the speed, cost, capacity, and convenience to replace trucks, trains, and planes.

High Capacity

A single podway provides over 21,000 metric tons per hour — similar to the capacity of 1,000 tractor-trailers per hour.

Fast

Pods travel non-stop at 242 kph (150 mph) along highways and 72 kph (45 mph) along roadways. Total trip time via podway is 5-6 times faster than trucks, and 3-4 times faster than trains.

Low Cost & Predictable Cost

Low operational costs and low capital costs enable low tariffs and profitable operation. The majority of tariffs are regulated based on a formula that assures predictable rates that are comparable to rail shipments. No government funding, subsidies, guarantees or special tax incentives are needed to make projects financially viable.

The base tariff is \$0.17/ton-km (\$0.27/ton-mi) for a typical 40 km (24.7 mile) trip.

Direct

One ton pods travel non-stop between origin and destination, often eliminating the need for transfers and distribution hubs.

Dependable

Automated pods travel on an exclusive covered guideway eliminating delays from congestion and weather. Delivery times can be guaranteed to the second.

Less Damage and Waste

Podways are fully automated and provide similar safety levels as commercial aircraft — several orders of magnitude safer than roadways. Smooth ride quality is guaranteed and can reduce the amount of packaging. Reduced handling and transfers reduce potential for damage.

Secure

Pods travel non-stop and are physically inaccessible during transport which eliminates the potential for theft. Pods can be tracked and monitored in real-time and provide chain of custody guarantees. Podway transport eliminates most risks and delays from operating motor vehicles, including traffic stops, road-rage, and impaired driving. Border crossings can be safer and take less time and money.















Environmental controls

Pods can be individually controlled and monitored to achieve required temperature, ventilation, and humidity levels.

Sustainable & Efficient

Podways are quiet, pollution-free, all-electric, and 100% powered by renewable energy. Solar and storage is integrated into the podway. Pods are more than twice as efficient as trucks. Organic waste, packaging and empty pods are returned for reuse. The project should provide a 34% reduction in green house gas (GHG) emissions from transportation.

Compatible

A podway requires no dedicated footprint — pods travel along roads within utility easement rights-of-way. Two landing pads fit within a car parking space. Pods and podways easily integrate with existing systems including roads, trucks, railways, seaports, airports, loading docks, forklifts, pallets, carts, and warehouses. Podways also carry passengers to provide convenient transportation for workers, suppliers, and visitors.

Jobs and Workforce Development

The project will create 1,029 local construction/manufacturing jobs, directly employ 5,757 workers, and create 6,728 jobs from secondary effects. Transportation workers who get displaced are given priority. We welcome labor unions.

Dependable and Resilient

Shipments continue through flooding, pandemics, earthquakes, dust/ snow/ice, high winds, blackouts, and heat waves.

Economic Development & Societal Benefits

A podway has positive impacts on education, agriculture, food security, affordable housing, clean water, trade, crime, healthcare, and tourism. The median income would increase by 67%.

Minimal Disruption from Construction

Construction is not disruptive and takes 12 months.

Bonded, Guaranteed, Proven and Low Risk

The project's turnkey contracts are with large, established engineering and construction firms. Projects are fully bonded and service levels are guaranteed. Our partners have built and operated fully automated transit systems, and the core concept is similar to systems that have been operating safely for 40 years. Podway transport provides compelling benefits with much less risk than other options.

Revenue Generator

Rights-of-way owners receive a 5% toll share on revenue which is expected to be (US\$410,593,000) per year.





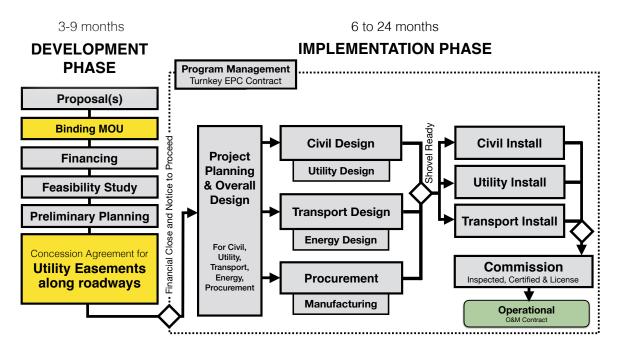












Financial Viability

The project cost is \$2,734,820,000 (\$15,052 per customer, \$5.5M per km) and expected 545,083 trips per day (34% mode share) after 4 years with breakeven at 17% (94,572 trips per day). The Cash-Flow-to-Debt Ratio is 277%. There is a 2.4 year payback period, gross margin of 73%, estimated 91% Equity IRR at year 5, and 7% cost to value. These numbers make the project financially attractive for private investment.

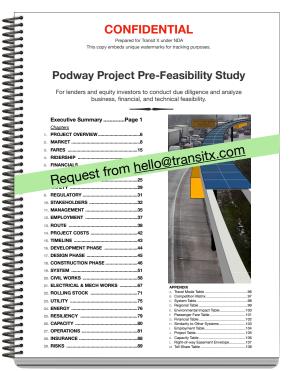
Next Steps

To move forward, we need a binding Memorandum of Understanding for utility easements along roadways. Example letters and agreements at: <u>transitx.com/process</u>

More information including presentations, documents, and links to related proposals at <u>transitx.com/hsp</u>.

The Podway Handbook answers many questions about our service, the company, the system, and the way we address: congestion, parking, road safety, pedestrian safety, accessibility, sustainability, fares, renewable energy & storage, construction, aesthetics, operations, economic development, quality of service, security, station footprint, equitability, carbon footprint, transit integration, resiliency, reliability, rights-of-way, and open space.

A 100+ page custom pre-feasibility study and ridership-revenue study is available under a non-disclosure agreement. Contact us at <u>hello@transitx.com</u>. We look forward to answering your questions and moving forward on a project.



Sincerely,

