# Researcher-Practitioner Collaboration













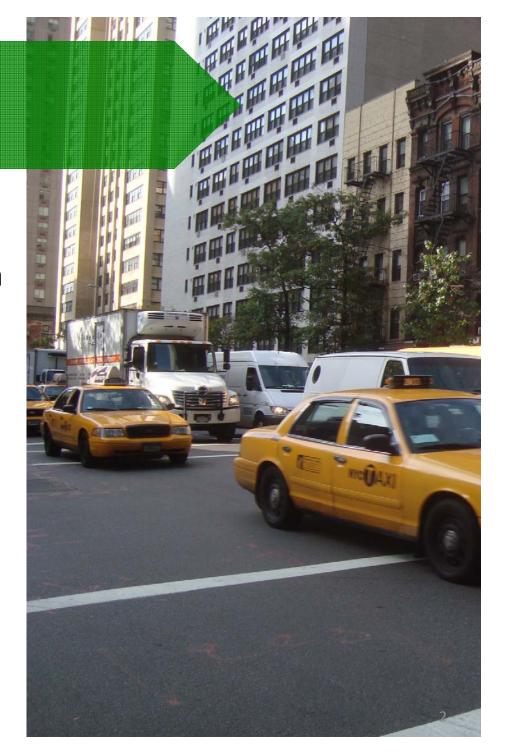


I-NUF Panel 5<sup>th</sup> METRANS International Urban Freight Conference October 8-10, 2013 Long Beach, California

> Presented By: Stacey D. Hodge New York City Department of Transportation

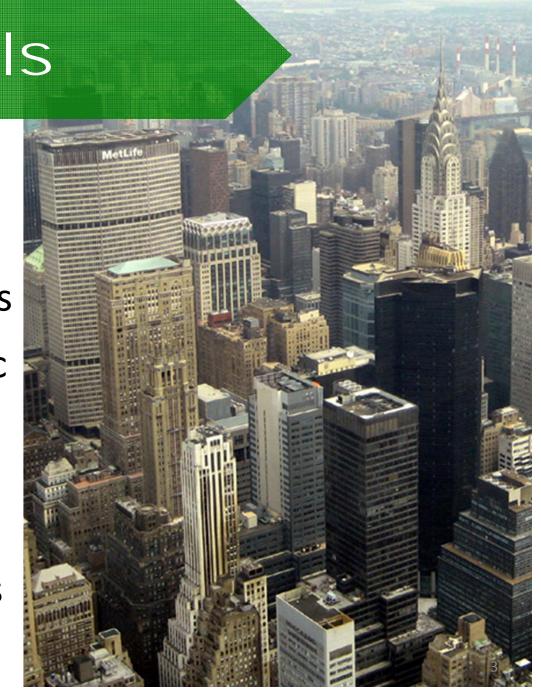
#### Outline

- Overview of two projects
  - Urban Freight Consolidation
  - Off Hour Deliveries
- Why the Collaboration Was Formed
- What Data Was Utilized
- How the Collaboration Worked
- Future Collaboration in Development



### Project Goals

- Increase quality of life for residents by reducing truck impacts
- Improve the economic competitiveness for businesses by improving the efficiency of deliveries

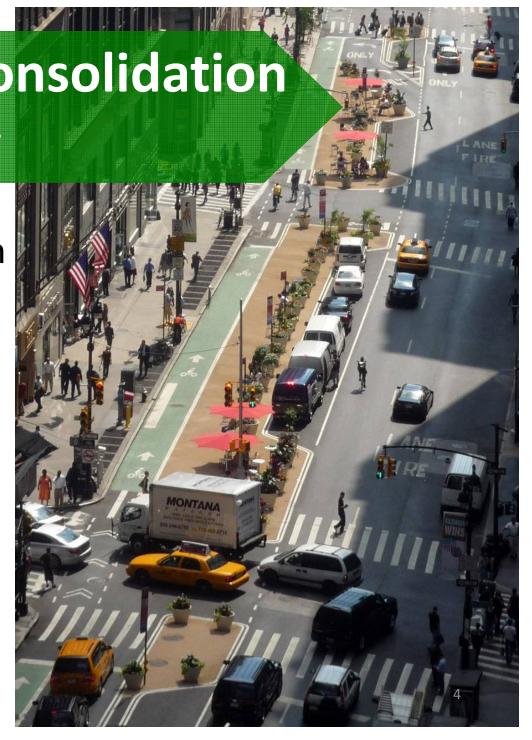


**Urban Freight Consolidation Feasibility Study** 

Determine the feasibility for an Urban Consolidation Center in Midtown Manhattan.

Needed Evidence to Support this Innovation.

Partner: New York University Wagner School of Public Service Capstone Team



#### Off Hour Deliveries

#### **Objectives:**

- Increase business participation
- Gain support from City agencies with economic development, business support and land use policy jurisdiction

Partner: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



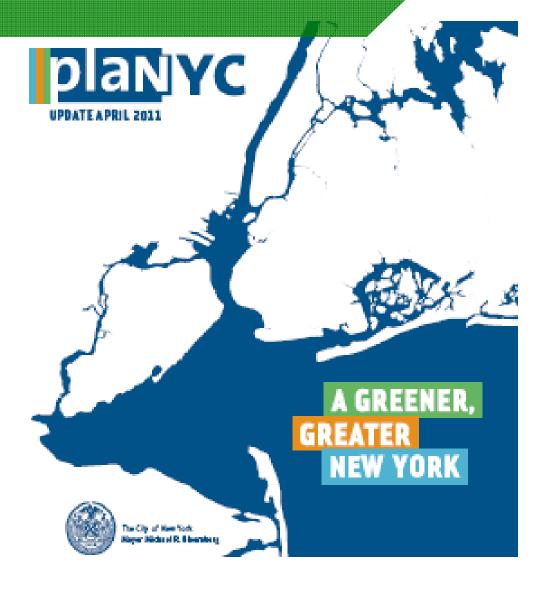
## Why the Collaboration Was Created

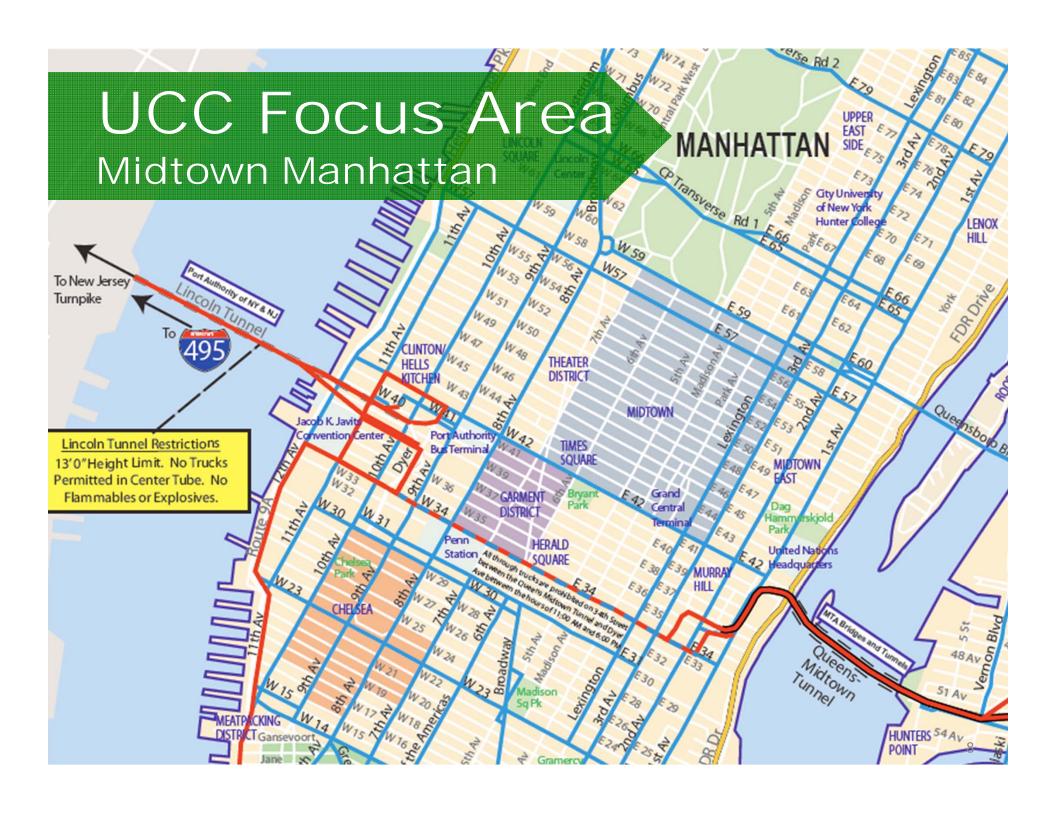
- Executive Team Interest
- Private Sector Interest
- Staffing Constraints
- Important but not urgent
- Low Cost and Low Risk



#### Collaboration Formation

- Met the Rensselaer
   Polytechnic Institute, team
   at a NYSDOT briefing. OHD
   fit well with congestion
   reduction focus of the City.
   This led to NYCDOT
   supporting the project.
- Responded to a call for proposals from the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and proposed our project.





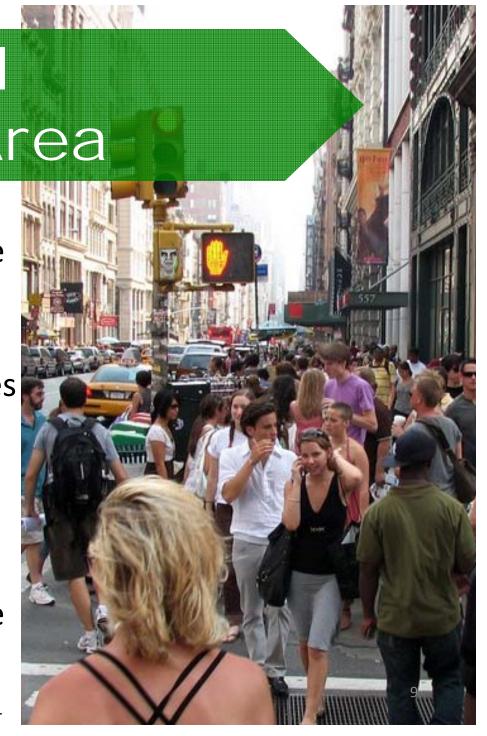
# Grand Central Partnership Area

 More than 16,000 pedestrians per hour on average at a single point weekday peak time

 Approximately 900 retail stores and boutiques

- More than 30 luxury hotels
- Approximately 150 full-service restaurants

Source: Grand Central Partnership, Annual Report 2011



### Data Collected

- 50 retail surveys
   and 15 carrier
   surveys over a
   three-week period
- On average 85% of their fleet is a 30 foot or smaller box truck.



### Trucks Traffic Midtown Manhattan

 Queensboro Bridge 177,700 vpd, 4.2% trucks or tractortrailers

 The Lincoln Tunnel 119,000 vpd, 7% small or large trucks

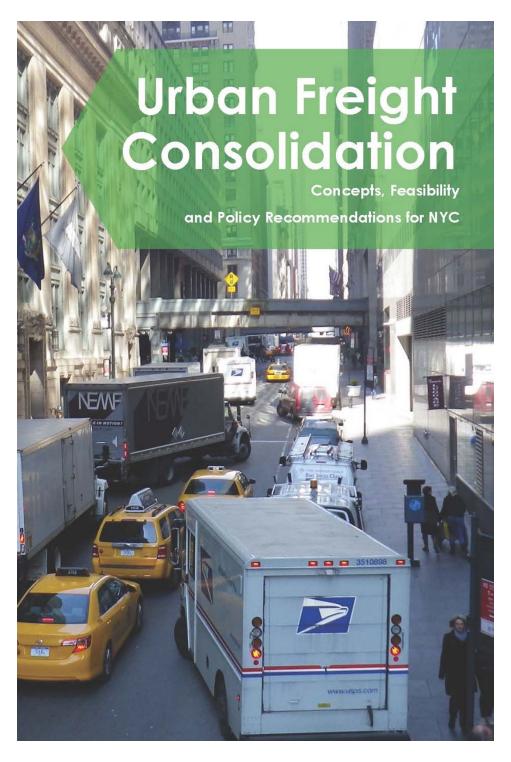
Source: New York City Department of Transportation, New York City Bridge Traffic Volumes, 2010



207th St. Bridge

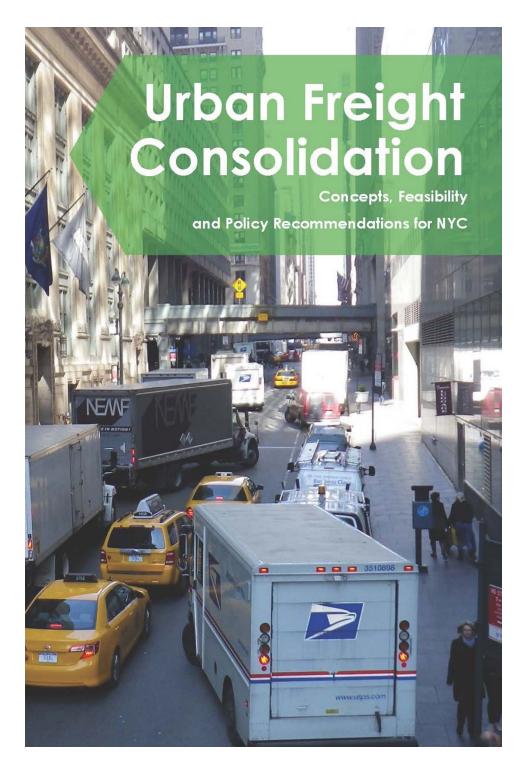
## Deliverables Case Studies





#### Survey findings:

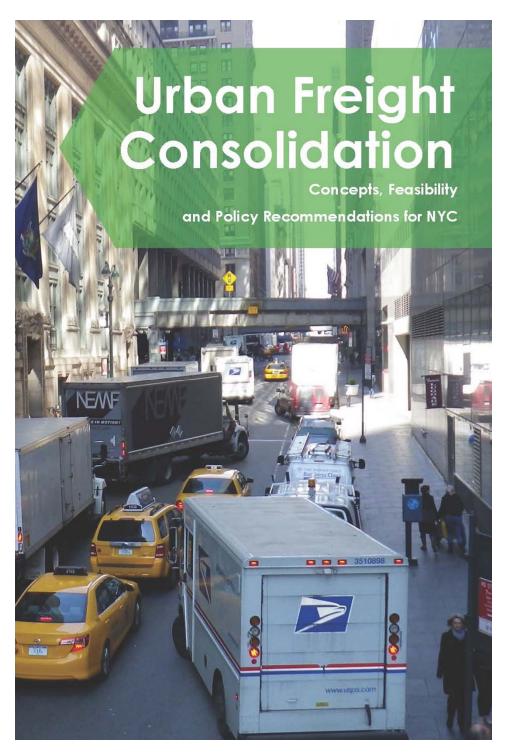
- 70% of carriers noted parking as the biggest issue. On average, carriers reported \$753 in parking tickets per truck per week, ranging from \$50 to \$2,300.
- 36% noted congestion as their biggest issue.
- 21% noted freight elevator unions as their biggest issue.



 Many elevators operate during limited times, 11:00 am-4:00 pm according to one tenant but times vary from building to building.

"I wish all elevators were selfoperated, that way we could get our business done."

One building manager solved this problem by replacing the elevator with a self-operated one, but it had high capital costs.



#### **Future Policy Insights:**

Urban consolidation centers can function in New York City, but not without a considerable, ongoing municipal subsidy or aggressive regulation.

Almost 60% of carriers are in favor of consolidation <u>if</u> it could alleviate some of the difficulties of delivering in Manhattan.

But, 57% of receivers reported no interest in consolidation, while only 25% strongly agreed or agreed that they were interested.

# Off Hour Deliveries Manhattan Focus Area

- Why Manhattan?
- 56 buildings in Manhattan generate approx. 4% of all delivery traffic
- 6,800 restaurants and drinking places generate more truck traffic than the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Source: RPI



## Deliverables Off Hour Deliveries

- Report for USDOT on the outcomes (in final development)
- Expanding to more locations data being assembled (CVS, Duane Reade, Grocery Stores)
- Measures of Effectiveness Report (In Development)



### Private Sector Engagement

- Intercept Surveys
- Breakfast meetings hosted by project champions
- Attended industry fairs
- Met them at their business locations
- Created an industry advisory Group
- Recognition Ceremony



# Creating Good Working Relationships

- Respect and Professionalism
- Recognize contributions
- Be flexible
- Say thank you



#### Successful Collaboration

- Create a Win-Win Project
  - Students gain real world experience
  - Have an interesting problem to solve
  - International interest in the topic
  - Provide opportunities for professional development for the team



#### Successful Collaboration

- How NYCDOT Helped
  - In Kind Funding
  - Letters of Support
  - Business SectorLeverage
  - Produced MeetingMaterials usingEconomy of Scale
  - Hosted meetings with public and private sector

- How Researchers Helped
  - Managed NDA and Private
     Sector Data
  - Staff to conduct surveys and analyze data
  - Broad Research Knowledge
  - Coordinated the participants
  - Produced ResearchDocuments

### Accomplishments

Clarified the barriers and opportunities



### Accomplishments

Evidence to support trying an innovation



- NYC adopted off-hour deliveries as part of its sustainability strategy.
- Other City agencies are working with us to determine how to expand OHD using incentives.
- The FHWA and EPA issued \$450,000 grants to implement OHD delivery programs
- NYSERDA Grant Funding Award
- Numerous cities have inquired about OHD programs.

## Accomplishments On-going industry partnerships



Part of the Walgreens family of companies.





































## Accomplishments On-going industry partnerships

Associations





 Business Improvement Districts











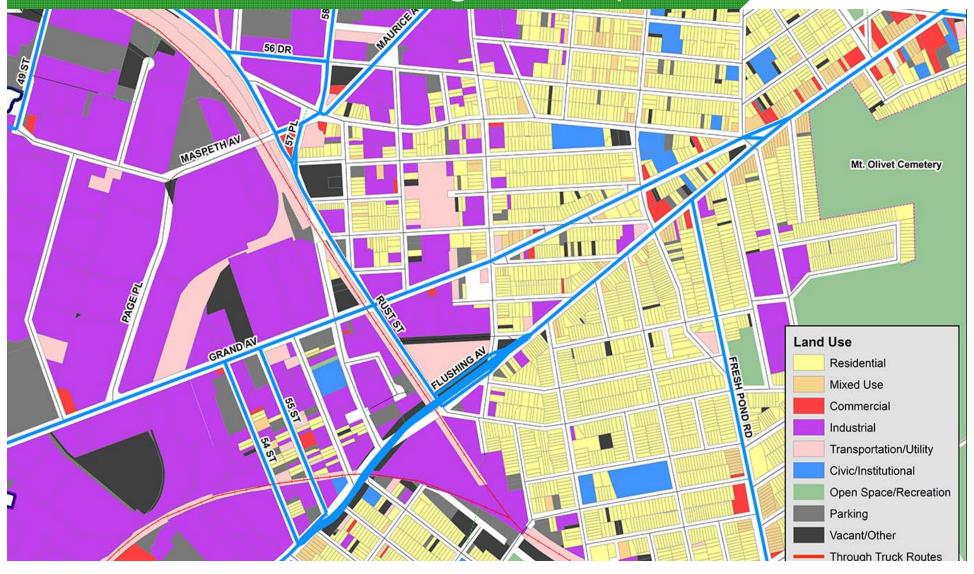








## Future Collaboration Land Uses and Freight Footprints



### Acknowledgments



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