

Intelligent Mobility Evaluation of the Palestinian Case



I-Mobility Day

18 November 2012

Khaled Al-Sahili, Ph.D., P.E

Palestinian i-Mobility Team

Construction and Transportation Research Center

An-Najah National University

Transportation Systems - General

- Progress of Transport Systems of any nation is an indication of its overall progress.
- Level of Investment in Transport Systems; USA for example:
 - **ISTEA** -- \$150 B (George Bush)
 - **TEA 21** - \$210 B (Bill Clinton)
 - **???** - \$240 B (George W. Bush)
 - Largest bill in the US history after the military

I-Mobility Development

- Intelligent Vehicle Highway Systems (IVHS)
- Intelligent Transport System (ITS) - Intelligent Mobility (i-Mobility) – with overall objectives of:
 - Reducing congestion
 - Improving fuel efficiency
 - Increasing road safety
 - Reducing carbon emissions
 - Enhancing journey predictability
- Intelligent Mobility is NOT an option any more!

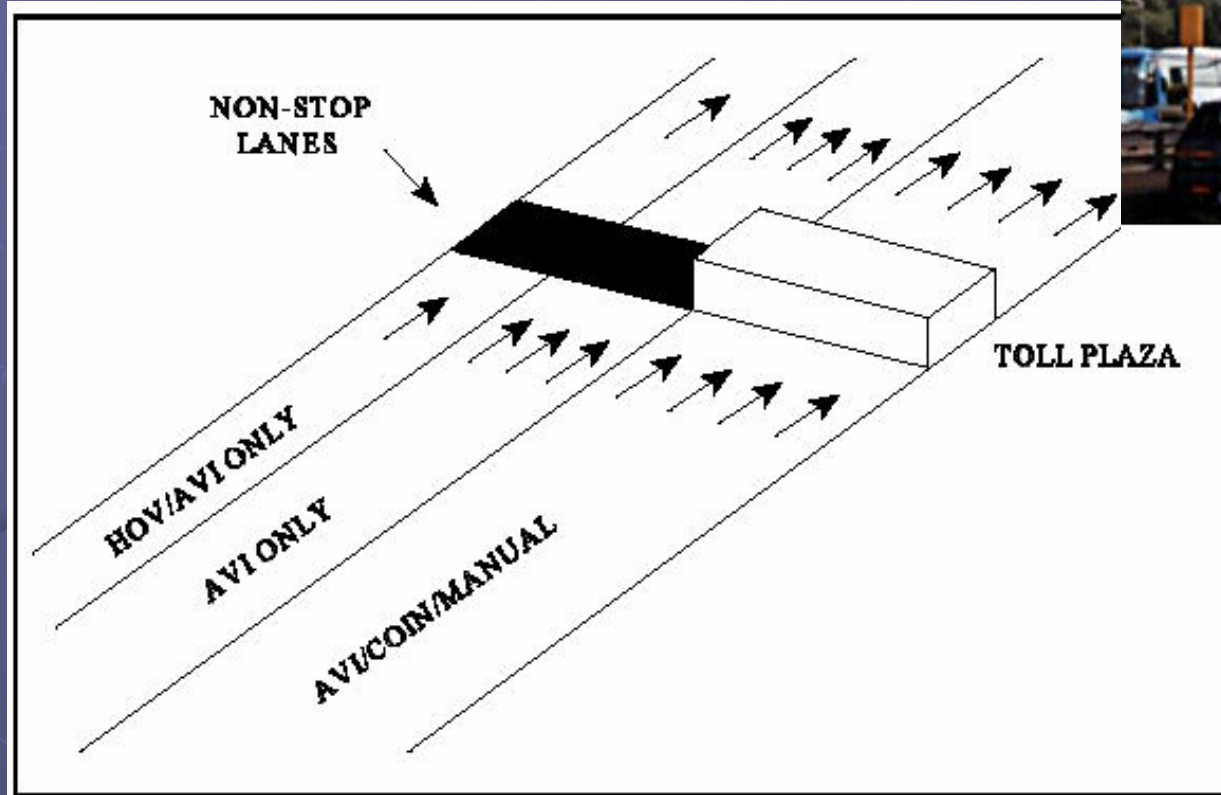
ITS Functional Areas

- **ATMS** **A**dvanced **T**raffic **M**anagement **S**ystems
- **ATIS** **A**dvanced **T**raveler **I**nformation **S**ystems
- **AVCS** **A**dvanced **V**ehicle **C**ontrol **S**ystems
- **CVO** **C**ommercial **V**ehicle **O**peration
- **APTS** **A**dvanced **P**ublic **T**ransportation **S**ystems
- **ARTS** **A**dvanced **R**ural **T**ransportation **S**ystems
- Security Systems

Examples of ITS Technologies

- **ATMS** - Advanced Traffic Management Systems

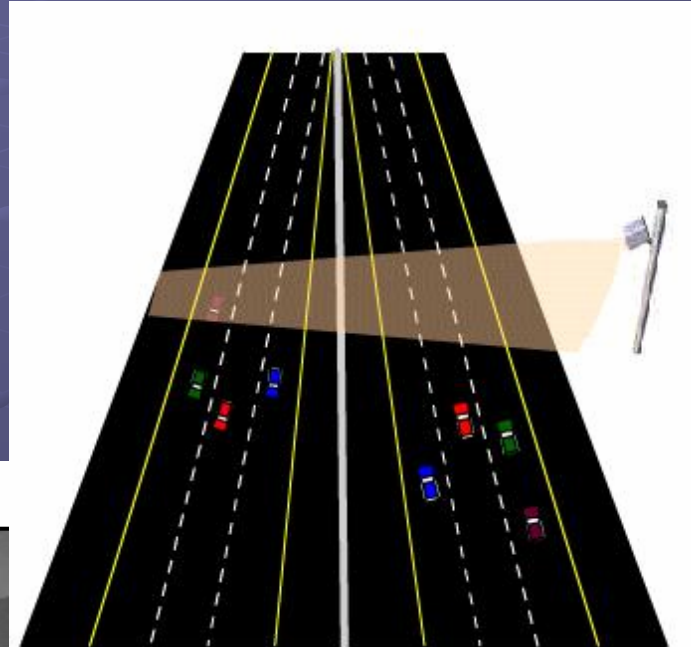
Electronic Toll Collection



Schematic of an AVI Toll Plaza.

ATMS - Advanced Traffic Management Systems

Traffic Surveillance



CONTROL CENTER



The Control Center of the TranStar Freeway Management System in Houston, TX.



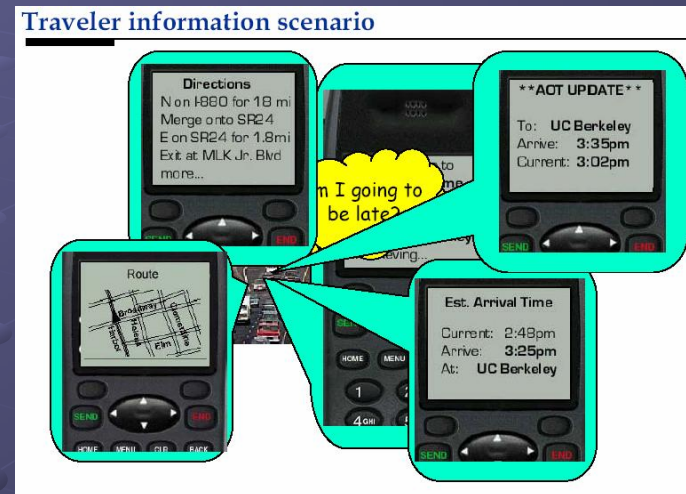
ATMS - **A**dvanced **T**raffic **M**anagement **S**ystems

**Adaptive Traffic Signal
Control
(SMART SIGNALS)**



ATIS - Advanced Traveler Information Systems

- Regular Radio Channels
- Highway Advisory Radio
- On-Board Displays
- In Station Information
- Pre-Trip Planning
- Changeable Message Signs



CVO - Commercial Vehicle Operation

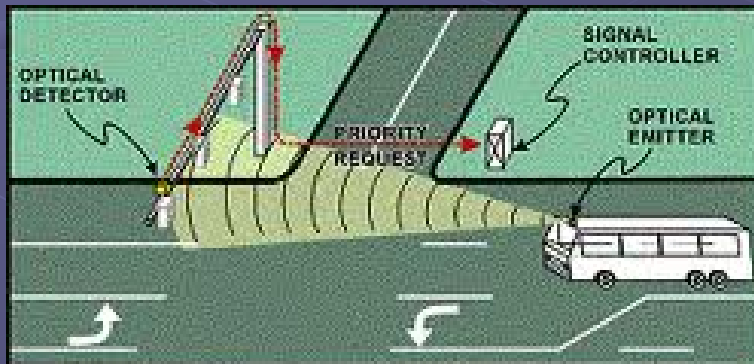
- Weigh-in-Motion



- Border Crossing Inspection

APTS - Advanced Public Transportation Systems

- Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) -- GPS, On-Board Transmitter
- Smart Cards
- Bus Pre-emption Signal



Transit signal priority using optical detection.
Example from Kittelson & Associates, Inc.

ITS Anticipated Benefits / Issues

Benefits

- Increase safety
- Reduce congestion (20% or more)
- Increase truck productivity
- Travel comfort & convenience
- Less energy & environmental impacts

Issues

- Benefits, Evaluation, and Costs
- System Architecture
- Standards and Protocol
- Human Factors and Safety
- Institutional Issues
- Legal Issues
- Energy and Environment

Palestinian Transport System

- Without the Palestinian ITS plan umbrella, **it results in fragmented and isolated systems** that are costly to install/integrate, also future development and **enhancement may be limited.**
- So far, one may safely claim that **very limited applications of i-Mobility exist** in the current Palestinian transport system
- **Palestinian i-Mobility group** is formed

Diagnosis of Existing Transport Systems

- **Land transportation infrastructure** is the predominant type of transportation
- About **50 percent** of roads are under **poor pavement** conditions
- **Gaza International Airport (GIA)**
- **Gaza Seaport**
- **Public Transport**
- **Urban Transport**
- **Freight Transport**
- **Ministries involved in the transport sector**

Overall Evaluation

- The existing transport infrastructure in the Palestinian territories is still inadequate to provide cost-effective services and to realize its full development potentials due to the adverse political developments, among others.
- Development activities in the transportation systems have not been following a national transportation master plan – projects are not coordinated or not in harmony with the prioritized national needs.
- Funding is a limiting factor.

Key Issues and Challenges

- Damages and movement restrictions
- Inadequate road facilities and limited accessibility
- Inadequate structure/organization of public transport
- Flow of goods through borders is controlled by the Israelis
- Political constraints retarding the development of a sound and efficient transportation system
- Absence of national transportation master plan
- The institutional structure
- Funding is a limiting factor for development

Development Needs and Future Plans for Intelligent Mobility

- Support **Research Fund** in i-Mobility – Palestinian Team Exists
- Develop a comprehensive **Master Transportation Plan**
- Develop a **vision** for a national and cross-border transport policy framework for the deployment of ITSS.
- Establish **Data Bank** for the Transport Sector
- Conduct a **Comprehensive Assessment Study** (transport conditions, available infrastructure, communication requirements for i-Mobility, and prepare a **Master Deployment Plan**.
- Roads **Traffic safety program** is to be developed.
- Public Transport
- Freight
- Institutional

Strengths and Opportunities

- Palestinian **i-Mobility** group collaborating with Arab i-Mobility
- Existing **research institutions** and **international connections**
- The high use of **mobile, IT, and internet**
- Basic **traffic control system** exists.
- Existing fleet with **modern and new vehicles**.
- Good land (including fibre optics) and **mobile infrastructure telecommunication** systems covering Palestinian territories.
- Qualified **IT sector** private firms and developers, and **IT and transport graduates**.
- The willingness of some **Palestinian institutions** and IT/transport community leaders to start steps towards ITSS
- **International donors** and organisations currently supporting the development of Transport & Logistics

Conclusions - Where to start?

- Supporting the iMobility team -- open to interested institutions and individuals
- Embarking on the effort to prepare a vision and strategy for the ITSS.
- Allocating research funds to start case studies.
- Donors who support the transport sector to include components on the ITSS in large projects.
- Allocating matching Palestinian funds and involving the private institutions in ITSS
- Building on the willingness of some Palestinian institutions, municipalities, and IT/transport community leaders to start steps towards ITSS



**Your support is needed and vital for the
benefit of all**

**Thanks to the Palestinian I-Mobility
Team for their contribution**

Thanks you all for Listening