



## Center for Advanced Multimodal Mobility Solutions and Education

UTC Project Information – CAMMSE @ UNC Charlotte	
<b>Project Title</b>	Improving the Movements of People and Freight: A Case Study of the Piedmont Atlantic Megaregion
<b>University</b>	The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Wei Fan
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<b>Funding Sources and Amount Provided (by each agency or organization)</b>	U.S. Department of Transportation: \$50,949 The University of North Carolina at Charlotte: \$40,915
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	\$91,864
<b>Agency ID or Contract Number</b>	
<b>Start and End Dates</b>	2/3/17 – 11/30/17
<b>Brief Description of Research Project</b>	As specifically addressed in the 2016 Southeast Rail Forum by Mr. Anthony Foxx, U.S. Secretary of Transportation, a wave of population growth is going to hit the Southeast. Another 13 million people and a significant increase in the movement of freight can be expected by 2045. As such, local and state leaders shall act promptly to develop a comprehensive blueprint for the Region’s rail network and establish a Southeast Rail Commission to advance it or risk being stuck in traffic for a very long time. Although the progress over the years has been steady, future work remains. Meanwhile, from Boston to Washington DC to Charlotte to Atlanta, the term, “megaregions”, has been used to re-envision the



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	<p>economic and social fabric of America. Mega-regions have been defined as networks of metropolitan areas linked by economic and trade relationships, transportation infrastructure, linked ecosystems, and growth concerns. Megaregions, supported by improved transportation networks, have the potential to evolve as integrated economic units.</p> <p>The purpose of this project will consider the Piedmont Atlantic Megaregion with an emphasis on maintaining efficient future people and freight movements and will offer multimodal solutions to moving people and freight to, between, and within the metropolitan economies of the megaregion to 2050. The needs, impacts and benefits of intercity high speed passenger and freight rails will be carefully examined and objectively quantified. The issues and themes that arise in the mega-region evolution and development context, including regional planning, effective land management, water, energy and air quality issues, and education and social equity issues including health access, will be addressed. The importance of developing a multi-modal transportation system that integrates freight, light rail, commuter rail, buses, and personal vehicles, will also be discussed and emphasized.</p>
<p><i>Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)</i></p> <p><i>Place Any Photos Here</i></p>	



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<i>Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)</i>	Project has not begun yet, so no impacts have been realized.
<i>Web Links</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Reports</i></li><li>• <i>Project website</i></li></ul>	<a href="http://cammse.uncc.edu/research/current-projects/CAMMSE-UNCC-2017-UTC-Project-Information-02-Fan.pdf">http://cammse.uncc.edu/research/current-projects/CAMMSE-UNCC-2017-UTC-Project-Information-02-Fan.pdf</a>