

Association of Transportation Professionals of Indian Origin (ATPIO)

Presents a FREE Webinar On

Would Congestion Pricing Be Worthwhile In India? Lessons From U.S./International Experience

Date: August 31, 2011; Time: 7:00pm EST

Speaker: Dr. Kiran U. Bhatt

Dr. Kiran Bhatt is President of a private consulting firm named K. T. Analytics, Inc. Dr. Bhatt has 40 years of experience in the analysis, evaluation and implementation of transportation policy. His clients include US, EU and other overseas federal transportation administrations, state and local highway, public transportation and environmental agencies, and the private sector. For 14 years, Dr. Bhatt was project manager and senior researcher at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. Dr. Bhatt has published extensively in leading professional journals and has been an expert witness before congressional and legislative bodies. Over the past 17 years, Dr. Bhatt has been the principal technical adviser to the Federal Highway Administration for Road Pricing Programs.

Speaker: Patrick DeCorla-Souza

Patrick DeCorla-Souza is Program Manager for Alternative Revenue Generation in the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Office of Innovative Program Delivery. In this role he works with public and private sector partners nationwide to implement innovative road pricing strategies. Patrick's research includes interest in road pricing in the U.S., types of pricing strategies, hurdles, and ways to overcome them.

About ATPIO

The **ATPIO** was established in 2004 to serve as a forum where an international community of transportation professionals that share a common heritage could come together to address relevant and emerging issues and challenges in transportation, exchange information and ideas, engage in technology transfer activities, and mentor young professionals eager to join the field. For more information, please visit <http://atpio.org/>

Webinar Description

For several decades, using variable pricing to address freeway congestion has been a goal of transportation engineers and planners. Not only would such pricing reduce congestion (by addressing the imbalance between capacity and rush-hour demand), but it would also generate useful information about where new capacity was most needed, and provide funding to pay for that capacity.

The overseas experience provides a valuable guide in exploring the feasibility of future pricing applications and identifying projects for implementation. An important consideration in U.S. cities considering pricing is - the use of revenues generated by pricing to address and mitigate equity issues of the most concern within specific study areas. At the same time, operating pricing programs abroad have demonstrated the wisdom of broad definition and attention to fairness versus simple income equity. This webinar will focus on the link between fairness and acceptability in India.

Congestion pricing holds the promise of reducing congestion, enhancing mobility and economic productivity, reducing environmental and energy costs, and providing new sources of funding for transportation investments. Despite this potential, the concept of congestion pricing remains controversial in many potential applications in developing and developed countries. Nevertheless, the overseas programs demonstrate favorable outcomes are possible with careful and inclusive planning and outreach.