Overview – Change in Motion

The Transportation 2035 Plan looks deeply into the future, into the middle of the 21st century. There is reason to believe that the midpoint of Century 21 is going to be profoundly different than the middle of the 20th century, from which most of our present transportation planning assumptions and methodologies originate. We are looking ahead at a period of unprecedented changes. Some of these changes will be extensions of trends that have been emerging for some time, although many are just now coming into public consciousness. Other changes will be abrupt departures from the trends we are familiar with — transformative and structural changes, for which past practice provides little guidance.

Not all changes will be equally severe. Some of the changes on the horizon may merely require that we modify how we approach transportation planning to include factors that have heretofore played only a marginal role. Others may reverberate dramatically through all sectors of economic and social life, including our transportation behavior. But it seems certain that the changes we face will beget changes in the ways we move. Welcome to change in motion.