

# Counties and Regional Transit Systems: Governing Tips and Lessons Learned

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ICMA Conference Presenter



Governance models come in numerous forms, most of which correspond to one of the following six models:

- Regional transit authority
- Regional transit coordinating council
- Joint powers agreement
- Joint power board
- Private not-for-profit agency as lead agency which contracts for service
- Private stock corporation\*

\*Governance Models for Regional Transit Coordination  
Matt Baker, Graduate Research Assistant, KU Transportation Center  
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The University of Kansas Transportation Center  
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Case studies suggest seven strategies for successful organizational transformation for public transportation:

1. Every region is unique and precise governance choices for public transportation must fit the region.
2. It is important to recognize and capitalize on windows of opportunity for governance change.
3. Governance and financing for public transportation are so closely inter-related, they must be addressed together.
4. Governance change takes time and is never static.

5. Leadership and champions are critical to change in public transportation governance.
6. Advocacy groups and individuals can be extremely helpful.
7. Good working relationships with other public agencies are critical to successful organizational transformation in public transportation.\*

\*Regional Organizational Models for Public Transportation, TCRP Project J-11 / Task 10  
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# Questions/Comments?

Additional Information...



The logo features the text "ICMA 100th ANNUAL CONFERENCE" centered against a light blue background with white fireworks. The "100" is in a large, blue, stylized font, with "th" in a smaller, orange, cursive font. "ICMA" is in a blue, sans-serif font above the "100". "ANNUAL CONFERENCE" is in a blue, sans-serif font below the "100".

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