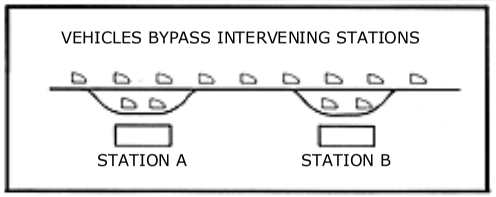
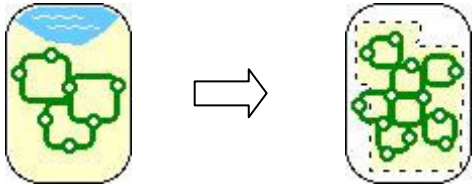
PRT Features

Elevated, low profile, affordable

Off-line stations



Expandable grid networks



ADA Compliant

The Podcar

Personal Rapid Transit: A New Option For Urban Mobility

SoundPRT
6815 Ravenna Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98115

www.GetThereFast.org

When was the last time you heard about a truly innovative alternative to driving and traffic jams? That new choice is **PRT: Personal Rapid Transit.**

Transit That's Just Your Size

Like a monorail, PRT will run overhead avoiding cars and pedestrians. But instead of a few trains, PRT will offer many small, computer-automated cars that operate ***on-demand****:* they will pick you up whenever you are ready to travel, NOT on a schedule.

No-Transfer Express Service, Always Nearby!

PRT will be a more flexible addition to existing transit systems. PRT vehicles will run on a ***network*** of slender, elevated rails called ***guideways.*** Guideways will link small, cottage-sized PRT stations that are located less than a mile from each other, throughout the district, city or region being served. No matter where you are or where you want to go, a station in the PRT network is never more than a short walk away.

Riding PRT is easy. You merely walk to the nearest station, board a waiting vehicle, and ride non-stop to another station that you choose—you don't have to transfer.

PRT will have higher average speed than driving, since PRT doesn't stop for traffic—or at stations where you're not getting off.

Affordable Networks

PRT will be affordable to build and operate. The vehicles are light weight (1000 pounds and under), with slender guideway structures.

Lighter weight makes PRT faster and easier to install. Guideway support posts are slightly larger than a telephone pole—only existing right of ways are needed. Driverless automation makes PRT operation affordable.

Expected cost is $5-20 million per mile depending on manufacturer—compared to $50-200 million per mile for trains. This lower cost means it is realistic to eventually form a truly ***citywide PRT network*** with stations in many places.

High Capacity

A PRT network can fill a high capacity transit role. Walking-distance access and on-demand, fast, no-transfer service will appeal to a wider variety of urban travel needs. Higher speed and non-stop trips mean each vehicle can serve many people in sequence, and the fleet of PRT vehicles reaches high capacity in aggregate.

Any Neighborhood A Transit Village

PRT can provide excellent transit service to any community, without interference with street traffic or large overhead structures. PRT's low cost means it can efficiently serve neighborhoods of any density, stations do not require high concentrations of homes and businesses nearby. PRT can serve a busy urban village or a quiet neighborhood because service is on-demand. Neighborhoods receive as much—or as little—service as needed.

Green!

PRT is electric, and uses less energy on a per-passenger-mile basis than automobiles, buses, and conventional rail.

www.GetThereFast.org

Flexible, intermodal

Automated and on-demand transit service also makes PRT an ideal, affordable choice for local circulation, and collector-distributors for light rail and commuter rail systems.

Can be built now!

Everything needed for PRT exists today. Leading PRT designs use readily available components and everyday engineering.

Puget Sound governments and citizen groups recognize the potential of PRT and the need to demonstrate it, including:

- SeaTac (*Major Investment Study,* 1998)
- Sound Transit (*1996 Innovation Fund)*
- King County Transit Advisory Committee

International endorsements include:

- The European Commission
- World Wildlife Fund
- Masdar Project (Abu Dhabi)
- Her Majesty's Rail Inspectorate (UK)
- BAA (Heathrow and other airports)
- Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)
- Banverket (Swedish Railway Admin.)
- POSCO (Pohang Steel Co., South Korea)
- City of Daventry (UK)
- Foster+Partners (architects, UK)
- Korean Railroad Research Institute.

Credits **Cover:** *Vectus Ltd.*, Uppsala, Sweden. **Above:** *MegaRail Corp.*, Ft. Worth TX. **At Left** and **Reverse** (Top): *Advanced Transport Systems Ltd.*, Bristol UK. **Reverse** (Bottom): *Taxi 2000 Corp.*, Fridley MN.