

Call for Abstracts/Papers
Location, Commuting and Travel Behavior
Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting 2009
March 22-27, Las Vegas, Nevada

This session is co-sponsored by the Spatial Analysis and Modeling (SAM) Specialty Group and the Transportation Geography Specialty Group (TGSG) of the AAG.

Given recent events such as the rise of energy costs and the economic crisis throughout the world, interdisciplinary research efforts exploring broader theories of spatial structure and locational behavior are more important than ever before. As surging energy prices and the faltering economy inflate the costs of moving between homes and jobs in expanding metropolitan areas in relation to household income, we are interested in understanding what the shift in math has meant for the life of urban workers. Given that commuters seem to be changing their work travel and locational behaviors, what role does urban structure have to play in facilitating shorter commutes? Does location matter in commuting, residential and workplace choices?

Possible topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Exploration of the relationship between urban form and residential/workplace location, including search behavior
- Commute and locational behavior differences across socio-economic groups
- Developing new and improving on existing urban form metrics, including jobs-housing balance, excess commuting, etc.
- Spatio-temporal analysis of changes in land use and work travel patterns
- International empirical analysis of commuting, locational or search behavior
- Policy-relevant modeling efforts
- Solution techniques for using large scale data sets

After registering for the 2009 annual meeting, please submit your abstract and conference PIN number to both organizers of the session: Michael Niedzielski (niedzielski.4@osu.edu) and Cynthia Chen (chen@ce.ccny.cuny.edu). The deadline for inclusion in this special session is Tuesday, October 14, 2008.