

## How to get into PRT: **7 Things Owners Must Know**



**The effect of the Morgantown project on Congress was to cause them to lose interest in the PRT concept, holding back development for 15 years.**

**J. Edward Anderson, Ph.D., P.E.**

### *Imagine a transportation system that:*

- Reduces walking and the need for handicap assistance
- Provides non-stop, seated travel
- Requires less waiting
- Reduces trip times
- Simplifies way finding
- Improves security over other forms of transportation
- Eliminates crowded vehicles or stations for terrorists to target
- Improves safety over other forms of transportation
- Has a small infrastructure
  - Minimum construction disruption
  - Short construction times
- Has low energy consumption and no point-of-use emissions
- Can attract up to a 30% mode share
- Is 99.7% reliable
- Costs less

That system is Personal Rapid Transit (PRT)  
— a sustainable system of driverless taxicabs that automatically take passengers to their destinations along dedicated guideways without intermediate stops.

*Flexible, economical, safe. . .  
PRT is a better way  
to move people.*

*Improving Transportation  
through Innovative Engineering*



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*PRT projects have been plagued with problems for 40 years.*

### **Historical PRT projects have suffered from:**

- Poorly managed public participation
- Misunderstood core concepts
- Ballooning T-Pod size and weight
- Unrealistic expectations

*Success depends on changing the way we manage PRT projects.*



### **1. Public concerns/participation**

- How to build community support from the beginning
- Social acceptability

### **2. Costs vs. Benefits**

- Capital costs
- Operating costs
- Quantifiable benefits
- Intangible benefits

### **3. Capacity**

- Station capacity
- Guideway capacity
- Network capacity

### **4. Weather impacts/mitigation**

- Sun – heat load on T-Pods
- Wind – safe operating wind speed
- Rain – mitigation and procedures
- Snow – mitigation and procedures
- Ice – mitigation and procedures

### **5. Scalability**

- Assurance that the initial system will scale up to the ultimate system
- Simulation modeling and (most importantly) verification

### **6. Funding/financing**

- Sources of outside funds
- Methods of financing

### **7. Vendor capabilities**

- Managerial
- Financial
- Technical
- Production
- Installation
- Operating
- Maintenance

**Find out how to get into PRT.**

Visit [prtconsulting.com](http://prtconsulting.com),  
or contact Peter Muller at

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