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WORKSHOP ON TRANSPORTATION POLICY

James D. Shaffer Professor, Michigan State University

The Extension Task Force on Transportation Policy Education has written a Primer on Transportation Policy containing the following chapters:

- I. Introduction, The Structure and Performance of the U.S. Transportation System.
- II. Transportation Policy: Principles, Problems and Processing.
- III. Railroad and Truck Regulatory Reform.
- IV. Railroad Line Abandonment Policy and Public Participation.
- V. Rail Car Supply.
- VI. Transporting Western Coal: Railroads; Slurry Pipelines; or Both.
- VII. The Local Rural Road and Bridge Problem and Alternative Solutions.

VIII.U.S. Transportation Policy: Inland Waterways.

IX. Transportation Policy Needed for the Development of an Integrated Intermodal Transportation System.

The publication will be available early in 1980 from the task force chairman, and single copies may be obtained without charge by writing:

Gary Mennem Cooperative Extension Service Oklahoma State University Stillwater, OK 74074

The publication is intended as an introduction to policy issues in transportation useful to extension specialists and agents for their own edification and for use in working with community leaders and groups interested in transportation policy. It was agreed in the discussion that transportation policy is critical to both the food system performance and rural community development. Effective participation in the transportation policy process is hindered by the complexity of the issues and the policy institutions and a lack of understanding of both by people who are affected. Extension education programs have been limited by the lack of specialists involved in this area. One of the workshop sessions proposed that Federal Extension support a national specialist in transportation policy located at a state university. The national specialist would have responsibility for organizing a network of interested specialists and the continuous development of educational materials as a means of supporting state educational activities.