

Job Posting: Graduate Research Assistant

Position Summary:

The transportation Research at McGill (TRAM) is looking for three (3) graduate research assistants during this summer on variety of federally funded projects. The projects include: [i] Measuring the transport needs of seniors across 10 Canadian cities, and [ii] Estimating the impacts of the Réseau express métropolitain on multiple population groups in Montreal. Complete projects description is provided below. The work can count towards the summer internship requirement for Master's in Engineering or Urban Planning students at McGill University.

Candidates must have strong communication skills and demonstrate interest to learn new analysis and visualization methods as well as a desire to work in a lively and collaborative research environment. Graduate research assistants are expected to collaborate in the generation of academic articles to be submitted and presented in events such as the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Graduate research assistants are expected to generate research reports and policy briefs to be submitted to funding agencies. Support for attending and presenting the work will be provided to successful submissions to different academic and professional events.

Candidates interested in the position, are asked to send a resume to Dr. Manuel Alberto Santana Palacios manuel.santanapalacios@mcgill.ca. Please email the material in a single pdf with the subject line: NRC & REM GRA Application Last Name-First Name. Selected applicants will be invited for an interview in the upcoming weeks. The deadline for this application will be Monday February 28, 2022. Feel free to contact Professor Ahmed El-Geneidy or Dr.. Manuel Santana Palacios if you have any questions.

Research areas: Transport, land use, travel behaviour, sustainable mobility, healthy cities

Research tasks:

- helping in drafting academic articles,
- conducting literature review,
- writing policy briefs,
- assisting with the design and deployment of online survey instruments
- assisting in qualitative and/or quantitative data analyses
- help in generating maps using GIS software

Period: May – July (3 months)

Number of positions available: 3

Projects Description:

[i] This project will address gaps in our knowledge regarding Canadian seniors' public transport needs and experiences by combining tested quantitative data, such as accessibility measurements —the ease of reaching desired destinations— at fine

geographic and temporal scales, and qualitative methods, including surveys and in-depth guided interviews among different senior populations on public-transport experiences and perceptions. The ultimate aim is to produce data-backed, policy-ready recommendations to help public transport providers design service in a way that supports federal and provincial objectives to help elderly Canadians age comfortably, safely and happily in place. In support of this broad goal, we will study senior transport needs and outcomes in a minimum of six cities of varying sizes across Canada.

[ii] In 2016, the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec announced plans to build the Réseau express métropolitain (REM), a state-of-the-art, fully automated 67-kilometer light-rail network that will fundamentally reshape transport in areas on and off the island of Montreal. These changes are likely to have impacts on the health, social, economic, physical, and psychological well-being of all Montreal residents for the coming decades. The first branch, connecting Montreal's South Shore, is expected to open in 2022, with additional segments coming online in 2023 and a final opening in 2024 for the full system. As part of research, we are collecting multiple waves of built environment data at the street level in a 1000-meter area around all future REM stations to understand the impacts of this investment on health, travel behaviour, and other policy-relevant outcomes. Findings will prove immediately valuable for cities where small and large transport infrastructures are currently being studied or proposed, including future REM expansions.

Related Website: <https://tram.mcgill.ca>