IPRO 315

TRANSIT FOODS
TAKING A BITE OUT OF HUNGER
Problem Statement

The current food bank / food pantry system relies on an inefficient distribution methodology. Not enough food reaches enough people in enough time.

Proposed Goal

IPRO 315 is examining the utilization of existing infrastructural transportation systems in Chicago in order to promote the more efficient production and distribution of food to supply the existing food pantry system.
Hunger Issues and Challenges

• Growing Demand
• Changing the face of hunger
• Nutrition – Not just calories, healthy calories
• Sources and types of food

The face of Hungry People may surprise you...
Greater Chicago Food Depository

- One county
- 5.3 million people
- 600,000 below poverty level
- 58 million pounds of food
- 650 agencies
- 140,000 people each week
Food Web

Food Bank

Food Pantry
  Community

Food Pantry
  Community

Food Pantry
  Community
Connecting Barge to Bus by Train
Using Existing Infrastructure
Efficiency

How Many Miles Will 1 Gallon Take 1 Ton of Cargo?

by barge..................... 500 miles

by rail.......................... 200 miles

by truck......................... 60 miles
River System
Feasibility of Barges

- max 2200 lbs per pallet

1080 pallets per barge

2,376,000 lbs total

= 5.3 million fed per year
Proposed Transportation System
Pick Up Cross Points
Rail System
Feasibility of CTA ‘L’ Train

- max 2200 lbs per pallet

- 1080 pallets 10 trains
- 2,376,000 lbs total

= 5.3 million fed per year
Train Efficiency

• The trains travel over 400,000,000 more passenger miles than the bus system

• Efficient

• A CTA train car can carry over 9,000 lbs of food
Road System
Utilizing Roadways

- Existing infrastructure
- Reusing retired CTA buses
- Efficiency
- Increased distribution
- Decreasing distance
- Utilizing vacant lots
Hot Spots

- Train stop
- Bus stop
- Vacant lots
- Located in food desert
Major Obstacles Encountered

• Biggest challenges
  – coordination between systems
  – balancing feasibility with creativity
• Ethical dilemmas
  – maintaining the individual’s dignity
• Did goals change
  – the emphasizing of education
Questions