

PERSONAL RAPID TRANSIT (PRT):

Phase I Study

---



Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) began to emerge as a new transit technology in the mid-1960s. An extension of automated guideway transit, PRT operations entail shuttling people efficiently around neighborhood-sized areas via a visually-minimal, elevated track network of light-weight, modern vehicles built for 1-4 individuals. With renewed interest in the 1990s, the Chicago-area Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) initiated a project to perfect the concept and evaluate the feasibility and

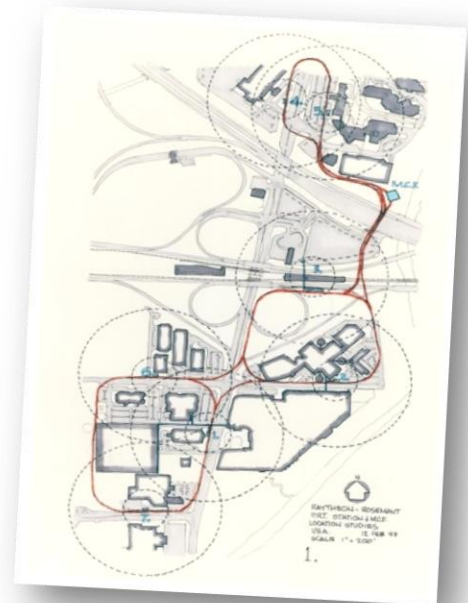
costs of installing PRT in a Chicago suburb.

During Phase I, VleCIDES-Schroeder Associates, Inc. (VSA) was responsible for developing system alignments and site plans, defining pedestrian circulation and intermodal access patterns, producing station designs, and many other tasks relating to urban transportation planning.

In support of the feasibility study, the firm produced the Urban Design Report, the Composite Site Report, the System Accessibility Design Report, and four architectural scale models including: a composite site model incorporating the elements of a typical suburban community and a complete system layout; a model of the guideway; a model of the vehicle, including both cabin and chassis; and a model of an elevated free-standing station.

*Project Completed: 1998*

*Client: The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)*



(Above three photos): Samples of architectural scale models produced for the study