Transit authorities are being challenged to rely more on local sources of funding to develop and renew their infrastructure. Federal transit officials have urged the transit industry to use value capture strategies to fund their capital investments. Value capture allows transit authorities to monetarily regain some of the value that their investments provide to private property owners and businesses. The literature provides extensive review on the various tax-based tools that can be used to achieve value capture. What is not well covered in the literature are the coordination challenges transit authorities face in implementing value capture strategies. This study addresses that topic.

Specifically, this study consists of a literature review, case studies of four of the United States’ oldest and largest rail transit systems (Chicago, New York City, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.), and recommendations based on the information collected. The study will show that transit authorities need to effectively coordinate with local government entities that control value capture taxing authority and the development community to achieve the best outcome from a successful value capture endeavor. Preliminary results indicate that the most successful projects involve a very close working relationship with local taxing authorities. In addition, findings based on interviews with developers indicate a high willingness-to-pay for clearly stated transit benefits. This suggests a necessary step in effective value capture efforts is for transit agencies to measure, comprehend, and effectively present the benefits provided by their investments.