

METRANS

Transportation Consortium

USC CSULB

METRANS on the Move:
our weekly newsletter written
and produced by students



In the News

The articles in this newsletter are prepared or accomplished by others in their personal capacity. The opinions expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the views of METRANS or its partners.



CSULB's Jenny Benitez is named PSR Undergraduate Student of the Year

We are pleased to congratulate Jenny Benitez for being selected as the Pacific Southwest Region (PSR) Undergraduate Student of the Year. Jenny completed her BA in Economics at California University, Long Beach (CSULB). While a student, she worked as a Research Assistant at the Center for International Trade and Transportation (CITT), and after graduating began working at RSG, a real estate agent and manager firm in Irvine, California.

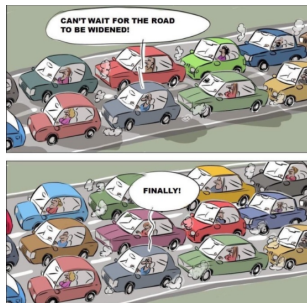
Read more [here](#).



PhD Students Present their Work at PSR Emerging Scholars Research Symposium

On March 4th, the Pacific Southwest Region University Transportation Center (PSR) hosted its annual Emerging Scholars Transportation Research Symposium in partnership with METRANS on campus at USC.

Read more [here](#).



Metro Announces It Will No Longer Widen Freeways, Doubles Down on Freeway "Modernization"

Metro boardmember Otto Luvstewdriev proclaimed, "We're not approving freeway expansions, if you will, and, as I read this, it's freeway modernization." Indeed, Metro appears to be increasing its Freeway Modernization budget, but in a more opaque way, by splitting it out into several new budget categories: Freeway Gap Closures, New Freeways, Partially Complete Streets, and Climate Catastrophe Catalyst Corridors.

Read the STREETS BLOG LA feature [here](#).



Cities Must Follow Through on Road Safety Plans. Here's How.

There's a way to overcome the political backlashes and bureaucratic delays that keep cities from implementing safety-focused street changes such as bike lanes.

Read the Bloomberg CityLab feature [here](#).

Webinars & Online Events

California Bicycle Summit 2022

April 6th to 9th at Oakland, CA, hosted by CALBIKE

We invite anyone passionate about bicycling to join us—whether you're a bike advocate, city official, planner, or a CalBike member who simply cares about making the world a healthier, more just, and more sustainable place.

[More Info](#)

METRANS EVENT: PSR Research Seminar Series: Mobility, Accessibility and Disadvantaged Neighborhoods

Wednesday, April 6th at 12:00 pm PDT (virtual), hosted by METRANS

This project examines commonalities and differences among disadvantaged neighborhoods in mobility and access to opportunities. Our approach is based on the concept of spatial-transportation mismatch (STM), which asserts that spatial distance and poor transportation are potential barriers to opportunities beyond one's immediate location.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Amtrak's Future in an Era of Expanded Funding for Rail Infrastructure

Wednesday, April 6th at 11:00 am PDT/2:00 pm EDT (virtual), hosted by Transportation Research Forum

Join us for a timely virtual presentation by Amtrak's Dennis J. Newman, Executive Vice President, Planning & Strategy. Mr. Newman will describe how the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed in November is providing unprecedented funding for intercity passenger rail in the United States. The presentation will discuss both opportunities provided to the passenger railroad and the path to pursue those opportunities. As always, we'll have plenty of time for Q&A and discussion. Thanks to the many of you who have already registered.

[More Info](#)

Addressing Performative DEI and Systemic Inequities

Thursday, April 7th from 12:30 pm to 13:30 pm PDT (online-zoom)

This presentation introduces OpenCDA, an open co-simulation-based research/engineering framework integrated with prototype cooperative driving automation (CDA, J3216) pipelines that contains perception, localization, planning, control, and V2X communication modules. The purpose of the framework is to take an integrated approach to CDA research that considers closed-loop autonomy to investigate the performance of automated driving components driven by conventional and AI algorithms and their impacts on resultant vehicular and traffic behavior under various environments.

Zoom Meeting: <https://usc.zoom.us/j/91873923659>; Meeting ID: 918 7392 3659; Pass: 975701

[More Info](#)

Transit Research in Practice: Making change from inside an agency

Friday, April 8th at 1:40 pm PDT (hybrid), hosted by ITS-Davis

The research and data analysis team at the MBTA/MassDOT was situated in organizational space between policy decision-makers and the operating divisions. This position allowed us to use research to inform key policy decisions and to help operating divisions improve performance. Several factors were central to our ability to effect change. We built relationships with operating units, the community we

served, and leadership/decision-makers. We understood the data we had, the data we didn't have, and what type of accuracy was important for different types of decisions. We developed the analytic capacity of the agency and the data literacy of various audiences. The iterative research and implementation process showed the impact of research on the outcomes for the community we served.

[More Info](#)

METRANS EVENT: Balancing of Truck Parking Demand by a Centralized Incentives/Pricing System

Tuesday, April 12th at 12:00 pm PDT (hybrid), hosted by METRANS

The main objective of this project is to develop a centralized truck parking system that will balance parking utilization in time and space by using full information about supply and demand. Surveys find that most drivers use unauthorized parking locations at least once a week and studies report that many drivers often spend more than 30 minutes looking for parking, or park one hour earlier than required in order to guarantee parking, both of which reduce productivity.

[More Info](#)

Reception for Darren Kettle Metrolink's Newest CEO

Tuesday, April 12th at 5:00 pm PDT, hosted by WTS

At DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel (Rooftop Garden)
120 South Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

[More Info](#)

Webinar: UC Irvine-ITS Seminar with Professor Paul Ong

Friday, April 15th at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by ITS-Irvine

Professor Paul Ong from UCLA will share his thoughts about factors that create transportation disparities and structural racism and transportation.

[More Info](#)

Research Submission for low carbon, cost-free, COVID-free Bridging Transportation Researchers conference (August 4 & 5)

Due on April 15th

All manuscripts should be written in English and, for the purpose of double-blind review, should exclude any information revealing the names or affiliations of the authors. The submissions process will be managed via EasyChair. BTR does not have proceedings, and submitting your work to BTR does not prevent you from submitting it to journals. You can also submit your recent published work for presentation at BTR.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Electric Vehicles--Past, Present, & Future

Tuesday, April 19th at 12:00 pm PDT, hosted by MTI & SJSU

Electric vehicles may seem like cutting-edge technology, but they are in fact quite the opposite: electric versions of the "horseless carriage" first appeared nearly two centuries ago. International EV experts Dr. Gijs Mom and Dr. Daniel Sperling will reflect on lessons from the history of EV technology and policy innovation that can help today's policymakers and automotive experts smooth the path for cost-effective EV adoption.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: NDPTC's Virtual 3rd Thursday Event - Stories and Lessons from the Tonga Volcano-Tsunami

Thursday, April 21st at 3:00 pm PDT/12:00 pm HST, hosted by NDPTC

Please join us for our April 2022 Third Thursday Virtual Event which will spotlight the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai Volcano-Tsunami event in January 2022. Presentations will focus on assessment of what occurred, review preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, and examine relevant lessons learned for the disaster management community.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Is Sharing Caring? Understanding Shared Mobility Impacts

Friday, April 29th at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by ITS-Irvine

Speaker: Professor Susan Shaheen, UC Berkeley.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Reforming Governance to Transform Cities

Thursday, May 5th at 11:00 am PDT/2:00 pm EDT, hosted by Eno Center for Transportation

Cities own the streets that transit agencies need for their bus lanes. Regions often lack a coordinated entity to oversee implementation of road pricing. Freight rolling off a regional port hub is not always synced with the state and local roadways that connect it.

[More Info](#)

Data for Active Transportation Research and Planning

Friday, May 6th at 1:40 pm PDT (hybrid), hosted by ITS-Davis

Lack of available data can be a barrier to bicycling and pedestrian research and planning. Much of my team's research focuses on building novel data sources to map bicycling infrastructure, safety, and volume. In this presentation I will outline how we are using OpenStreetMaps to map bicycle infrastructure, crowdsource webmaps (BikeMaps.org and WalkRollMap.org) to map safety and access concerns, and modelling ridership using Strava data. I will discuss how crowdsource data provide unique opportunities to enhance active transportation data, but also challenges particularly around representativeness and equity.

[More Info](#)

2022 ITS California Annual Conference & Exhibition

May 16th to 18th at Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport, hosted by ITS California

Please check the Membership list to see if your organization is an ITS California Member to use the Membership discount.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Cloud storage and data analytics and the impacts on Transportation

Friday, May 27th at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by ITS-Irvine

Speaker: Randy Iwasaki, Leader, State and Local Transportation, Amazon Web Service (AWS).

[More Info](#)

Conference on Sustainability and Emerging Transportation Technology

May 31st to June 2nd (in-person), hosted by Transportation Research Board


Transportation technologies (e.g., connected and automated vehicles) and new approaches to mobility (e.g., shared services) are advancing so rapidly that it can be difficult for policy makers to frame incentives, regulations, and market signals to promote all three pillars of sustainability: equity, the environment, and the economy. The Sustainability and Emerging Transportation Technology (SETT) Conference will address questions around how academics, policy-makers, the private sector, NGOs, and others can work together to shape new mobility solutions to benefit all users of our transportation systems.

[More Info](#)

ITSWC22 Student Essay and Video Competition (Sep 18-22)

Due on June 1st.

Turn your knowledge of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) into cash and win national recognition. ITS America Events and Southwest Research Institute® (SwRI®) are proud to partner once again for the 11th annual 2022 ITS Student Essay and Video Competition. This competition serves as an opportunity for today's transportation, engineering, and public policy students to apply their knowledge in a thought-provoking manner for a chance to win scholarship money, while building awareness of the high-tech transportation industry as a limitless career path.



[More Info](#)

Webinar: The Accessibility Shift: Transforming Urban Transportation and Land-Use Planning

Friday, June 24th at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by ITS-Irvine

Speaker: Jonathan Levine, Professor, University of Michigan.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Innovation Roadmaps for Freight Transportation in Europe

Friday, July 8th at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by ITS-Irvine

Speaker: Lori Tavasszy, Professor, TU Delft.

[More Info](#)

Pathways to Opportunity

Planning Intern

City of Alhambra

Apply by 04/11/2022

[See more info](#)

APA Scholarship

American Planning Association Foundation

Apply by 06/14/2022

[See more info](#)

[More Internships and Scholarships Here](#)

Assistant Office Engineer

PGH Wong Engineering, Inc.

Apply ASAP

[See more info](#)

Assistant Planner

City of Rancho Cucamonga

Apply by 04/11/2022

[See more info](#)

[More Job Opportunities Here](#)

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