

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.



METRANS K-12 "Across the Seas" Event is a Hit with High School Students

The participating Hybrid High students first got to flash their engineering skills by competing in teams to build a ramp that would take the longest time for a marble to pass through. After each group gave a demonstration of their ramp and a winner was chosen, the students then participated in a trivia game testing their knowledge of popular imports and exports in other cultures, and then got to try unique snacks from other countries.





US Traffic Safety Is Getting Worse, While Other Countries Improve

The US road transportation system is a climate bomb that generates more than twice as much carbon dioxide per capita as the roads of the European Union, thanks to the dominance of personal vehicles. American efforts to build cleaner alternatives such as high-speed rail — which is common across Japan, China, and many EU countries — have consumed billions of dollars with little to show for it.

Read the Bloomberg feature here.



Shared Mobility Key to Urban Climate Action, City Leaders Say

The Shared Use Mobility Center released the full text of its Shared Mobility 2030 Action Agenda on Wednesday, calling for faster adoption of public transportation, car-sharing, shared micromobility and on-demand microtransit. More than 100 public, private and nonprofit organizations have joined its action network.

Read the SMARTCITIESDIVE feature here.



Real-World Testing of Autonomous Trucks Ramps Up

Over the past year, the autonomous trucking sector has accelerated efforts to test its technology in real-world applications. Through its partnerships, Kodiak Robotics is now hauling freight commercially across the southern region of the country, including with Ikea Supply Chain Operations, which started a pilot program in October. For-hire carriers such as U.S. Xpress and Werner have also announced partnerships with Kodiak as they move into the sector.

Read the Transport Topics feature here.

Webinars & Online Events

Webinar: Fundamentals of Preemption at Railroad Grade Crossings

Thursday, November 10th at 12:00 pm PST/3:00 pm EST, hosted by ITE

This first session will provide an overview of the importance of preemption of nearby traffic signals and when it should be provided. Content will include the different types of preemption (simultaneous and advance) and their applicability including overcoming some common misconceptions and design limitations.

More Info

Safe Systems Approach for Roundabouts; Bikes and Pedestrian Elements of Roundabout Design

Tuesday, November 15th at 11:00 am PST/2:00 pm EST (online), hosted by ITE

With the passage of the Infrastructure Investment for Jobs Act and the subsequent Safe Systems Approach promulgated by FHWA, the ITE Roundabout Committee offers this webinar on Safe Systems approach for roundabout projects and some design considerations for pedestrians and bicyclist at roundabouts as well as lessons learned with vulnerable users at multilane roundabouts.

More Info

Webinar: Cybersecurity Trends in Transportation

Thursday, November 17th at 9:00 am PST, hosted by Transportation Research Board

The accelerating digital transformation of transportation systems and the increasing risk and sophistication of cyber threats requires a better understanding of the emerging cyber trends and lessons learned from new cybersecurity practices. TRB will host a webinar that will examine next-generation practices that may minimize vulnerabilities, defend against attacks, and rapidly recover and restore agency services and internal operations. Presenters will provide an overview of current cybersecurity practices in transportation

More Info

Pedestrian and Bicycle Data and Performance Measures

Thursday, December 1st at 11:00 am PST (online), hosted by ITE Pedestrian and Bicycle Standing Committee

Data are the foundation for safety, equity and health analysis. Without data, our work as transportation professionals is reduced to guess work. Bicycle and pedestrian data are often sparse and the collection is limited by time and budget constraints. This webinar will cover both data sources and applications.

More Info

"Ask Me Anything!": WTS International Student

Saturday, December 3rd at 11:00 am PST (online), hosted by WTS & GPI

Join WTS International for the "Ask Me Anything!" Student Webinar, where transportation professionals from GPI will moderate an exciting program of expert panels and facilitate open discussions about how students can become the next generation of industry leaders. Registration for students is free!

More Info

Addressing Freight Emissions in San José: Seven Objectives to Reduce GHGs Tuesday, December 6th at 1:30 pm PST, hosted by MTI

Freight represents about 30% of transportation climate-damaging greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the United States, but many local climate action plans and freight plans put little emphasis on freight emissions reduction strategies. Routes to Lower Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Freight Transportation in the City of San José presents strategies for the City of San José to reduce GHG emissions from freight. While this study focused on GHG emissions from freight in a single city, the lessons gleaned from this case can be applied broadly to other cities and regions. Communities seeking to meaningfully reduce GHG emissions must focus on emissions from freight as a major contributor. By managing freight demand, utilizing low emissions modes, focusing on the last mile, and other critical objectives, we can reduce the negative impacts transportation emissions have on human and environmental health.

More Info

Webinar: Expanding Microtransit Services and Improving the Rider Experience Monday, December 12th at 10:00 am PST, hosted by Transportation Research Board

Passengers and potential passengers have higher expectations for transit services given the increased number of mobility options available today. Microtransit can help meet those expectations while expanding the transit services currently offered. TRB will host a webinar on Monday, December 12, 2022 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Eastern that will explore how microtransit has been successfully implemented to improve the rider experience. Presenters will share ways to transform mobility and discuss public-private partnerships that can improve mobility.

More Info

Webinar: Trends in Transit Ridership—Analysis, Causes, and Responses

Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 am PST/1:00 pm EST, hosted by Transportation Research Board Before the COVID-19 pandemic, transit ridership in the United States was on the decline. While agencies put more services in place and populations increased, transit usage continued to decrease due to density, telework, gas prices, and other factors. TRB will host a webinar that will address the results of the recent

TCRP Research Report 231: Recent Decline in Public Transportation Ridership: Analysis, Causes, and Responses.

More Info

Webinar: Measuring and Managing Fare Evasion

Thursday, December 15th at 10:00 am PST/1:00 pm EST, hosted by Transportation Research Board Fare evasion has significant implications for the financial sustainability of transit systems. TRB will host a webinar on Thursday, December 15, 2022 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM Eastern that will explore the many facets of fare evasion and the recent past and emerging future of fare enforcement on transit systems. Presenters will discuss why and where fare evasion occurs, share proactive approaches to increase fare compliance, and how to respond to community and transit equity challenges.

More Info

Fast Facts

Created for Students, by Students

Long Beach Transit Strategic Sustainability Plan

Author: Hilda Blanco

University of Southern California

Year: 2019

Keywords: Transit, Sustainability, Public Transportation, Environment



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