



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.



California Storms Disrupt Transit, Amtrak Service

Intense rainfall across large swaths of California in early January brought floods and mudslides, wreaking havoc on public transportation and Amtrak intercity trains. A series of storms that began more than 11 days ago pounded the state's major cities, including Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego and San Francisco. Gov. Gavin Newsom advised residents on Monday to "be hyper-vigilant," while California Department of Transportation districts across the state were "strongly advising the public to avoid traveling."

Read the SMARTCITIESDIVE feature [here](#).



MTC Hosts Roundtable to Gauge How Safe Asian Communities Feel about Using Public Transit

As the calendar turns to a new year and the lecture halls of USC once again open for classes, it's back to regular business for the different student teams at METRANS. Over the past few weeks, METRANS' student workers took advantage of time off during their winter break to relax, recover from school, and travel. Some vacation plans did not go as smoothly as others.

Read the Mass Transit feature [here](#).



Can Heavy Electric Trucks Be Deployed Industrywide by 2045?

Successful electrification of heavy trucks will require motor carriers to coordinate driver rest periods with charging their trucks, a potential obstacle that could increase carrier operational costs and result in delivery delays. That potential challenge was among several researchers outlined at a session Jan. 9 at the annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board.

Read the Transport Topic feature [here](#).



Dear LAist: Why Does LA Have So Many Roads With The Same Name?

Once you realize it, it's hard to unsee: We have a lot of streets in Los Angeles that look like a copy and paste — same name but different suffixes. Why? A resident asked LAist about this recently, so I looked for the answers. Their example was a group of parallel roads in Exposition Park. There's 37th Street, 37th Drive and 37th Place, each one after the other (good luck getting mail there).

Read the LAist feature [here](#).

Webinars & Online Events

Webinar: Fare-Free Transit Policies and Programs—An Evaluation Framework

Tuesday, January 24th at 9:30 am PST/12:30 pm EST (online), hosted by Transportation Research Board

Many transit agencies are considering the implementation of partial or fare-free transit policy and may be unsure how to evaluate the costs and benefits of implementation. TRB will host a webinar that will present the pre-published TCRP Research Report 237: Fare-Free Transit Evaluation Framework. Presenters will highlight the development of an evaluation framework for fare-free transit. Presenters will also share two case studies from agencies and their lessons learned from implementing fare-free transit.

[More Info](#)

ICTPA's Celebration of the Lunar New Year 2023

Saturday, January 28th at 5:00 pm PST (in-person), hosted by ICPTA-SCC

On behalf of the ICPTA-SCC, I sincerely invite you to join our Lunar New Year Celebration on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at Buena Park Community Center. We are honored to have Mr. Conan Cheung, Chief Operations Officer of LA Metro, as our keynote speaker. We have a well-designed program and are eager to bring you an informative and enjoyable evening. Please review the attached flyer for details.

[More Info](#)

ASPA-STPA's Best Student Paper Award Committee

Wednesday, February 1st (in-person), hosted by American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

STPA invites undergraduate and graduate students who have written research papers related to transportation policy and administration to submit them for consideration. Papers should be prepared according to a standard style such as APA. They should be between 20 and 35 pages in length and

include citations and references. The review committee encourages students to submit copies of conference papers or unpublished manuscripts. Literature reviews and review essays are not eligible for consideration. Papers co-authored with faculty members are not eligible. The maximum number of student collaborators is limited to three. The committee will evaluate papers in a blind review process. Students are asked to submit a separate title of the paper and only include the author(s) name and affiliation on the title page.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Career Series #1 – Transportation Equity: Community-Building in Action
Wednesday, February 8th at 10:00 am PST/1:00 pm EST, hosted by Transportation Research Board

In these times of rapid and unprecedented change, our recognition of the critical need for urgent action in advancing greater workforce diversity and development, innovation and continuous learning, and “people-readiness” at all levels has risen to new levels. With a vastly changing national and global landscape – climate change, growing inequality, increasing digitalization, new players and business models – this webinar series will highlight the critical role of these careers in community building, achieving equity-centered and sustainable outcomes, and offer new insights on their potential to help redress historic systemic inequities in access to greater opportunities.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Delivering Equity in Transit and Next Steps
Tuesday, February 14th at 11:00 am PST/2:00 pm EST, hosted by ITE

Public transit has not regularly provide equal access to employment, education, health care, and other vital social services for millions across the US and Canada. Despite systemic, pandemic-driven changes to travel patterns, most transit systems continue to prioritize service for traditional, 9-5 white collar commuters. This persistent bias for suburban-to-city resources continues to exclude millions who do not work downtown or remotely, do not live near a frequent arterial bus route, or cannot afford to travel by other means.

[More Info](#)

ITE Western District 2023 Student Leadership Conference
Friday, February 24th at 2:00 pm PST hosted by ITE & USC & Metrans

We are excited to have the opportunity to build connections between Student Chapters, create strong professional-student networks, and most importantly, inspire you to continue making an impact in the world of transportation! Over this three-day conference, you will have the opportunity to network with other students and professionals, participate in engaging and educational student activities, and lastly, experience/tour the infrastructure in and around Downtown Los Angeles.

[More Info](#)

WTS 2023 Conference: The Great Intersection: Transportation & Equity
Wednesday, May 10th (in-person), hosted by Women’s Transportation Seminar

WTS International's annual event will bring together transportation leaders and professionals to explore "The Great Intersection: Transportation & Equity" May 10–12th in Atlanta, Georgia. Link to more information. The 2023 conference will explore all modes of inclusive mobility, including surface and roads, transit, bicycle and pedestrian, freight, aviation, maritime, ports, micro-mobility, and other active modes of transportation, as well as personal and professional development.

[More Info](#)

IAME Conference 2023

Sunday, September 5th (in-person), hosted by METRANS

Join us at IAME 2023, the International Association of Maritime Economist Conference, to explore and learn about what is next for maritime. The conference will be hosted in Long Beach, California.

[More Info](#)

Annual Meeting Videos to Watch

Hosted by TRB(online)

The Fireside Chat with U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer M. Granholm (pictured) Jennifer Homendy, Chair of the National Transportation Safety Board, gave the Keynote of the Chair's Plenary Session I am particularly inspired by Chair Homendy of NTSB about "zero death" in traffic collisions. "What is an acceptable number of transportation deaths for your family Zero just became real and personal." (14:20). Although we can't 100% eliminate accidents, we can certainly prevent the severity through education, innovation, and best-practices.

[More Info](#)

Fast Facts

Created for Students, by Students

Get More Out of Variable Speed Limit Control: An Integrated Approach to Manage Traffic Corridors with Multiple Bottlenecks

Author: Michael Zhang, Shenyang Cheng, Hang Gao
University of California

Year: 2020

Keywords: Integrating Freight and Passenger Systems, Vehicles, Infrastructure



Check this week's featured Fast Facts [here](#).

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Western Riverside COG**

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