



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 State Transportation Agency Awards \$690 Million in Transit Funding

California's Transit and Intercity Capital Rail Program has released a second round of grants for 2023, awarding \$690 million to 28 projects around the state. This brings to \$3.2 billion the total awarded in 2023 to get big transit projects going. \$2.54 billion was awarded in February to already existing projects.

Read the **STREETSBLOG LA** feature [here](#).



California OKs Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation

Acknowledging that the road to implementation may be bumpy, the California Air Resources Board has unanimously approved its Advanced Clean Fleets regulation that will require some motor carriers operating in the state to begin the transition to zero-emission trucks as soon as next year.

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



Anatomy of an ‘American Transit Disaster’

American transit agencies are standing on the brink of a devastating fiscal cliff. Covid-era emergency dollars are dwindling, and revenues remain well below pre-pandemic levels. Without new funding, transit leaders could be forced to close budget gaps by cutting service or raising fares – and likely both.

Read the Bloomberg feature [here](#).



Delivery Robot Expansion Hampered by “Regulatory Nightmare”

States can't seem to agree on how to handle sidewalk delivery robots. Bots as heavy as 500 pounds can roam as fast as 4 miles per hour on Georgia sidewalks under state laws. In New Hampshire, robots can travel up to 10 miles per hour on sidewalks, but they can't weigh more than 80 pounds.

Read the SMARTITIES DIVE feature [here](#).

Webinars & Online Events

Webinar: Pedestrians and Roundabout Crosswalks - Design Considerations and College Campus Example

Tuesday, May 9th at 11:00 PDT, hosted by ITE Roundabout Committee

The first part of the webinar is an overview of the Quick Bite presentation on yielding at roundabouts. It is known that roundabouts are a desirable intersection control strategy and have a positive safety performance record strategy. This presentation will provide details on studies highlighting yielding to pedestrians at roundabouts. It will highlight design characteristics that contribute to lower yielding rates as well as design considerations to promote higher yielding rates. The presentation will also include examples to help pedestrians at the crossings for roundabouts.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Toward a Touchless Airport Journey

Wednesday, May 10th at 11:00 am PDT, hosted by TRB's Airport Cooperative Research Program

Airports are seeking opportunities to create touchless experiences for passengers, which will reduce common touchpoints and their potential for disease transmission. TRB will host a webinar that will explore the industry landscape of emerging and existing technologies and nontechnological solutions to eliminate common airport touchpoints, improving both efficiency and public health. Presenters will review current best practices and readiness levels, share expected barriers to implement touchless solutions, and provide specific tips to get started. Presenters will also address the facilitation of touchless technology, accessibility, and the customer experience.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Bringing the Safe System Approach to Local Safety Planning

Thursday, May 11th at 11:00 am PDT, hosted by ITE Safety Council

Industry best practice in roadway safety continues to evolve. Vision Zero, the Safe System Approach,

Local Road Safety Plans, and now Comprehensive Safety Action Plans (as required by the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All [SS4A] grant program) are all distinct, but interrelated concepts. Local jurisdictions may be finding it difficult to navigate this complex landscape, while meeting funding requirements, and most importantly keeping the focus on improving roadway safety outcomes.

[More Info](#)

6th Annual Human Systems Integration (HSI) Summit

Tuesday, May 16th at 8:00 am PDT(online), hosted by The Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center

The annual Human Systems Integration (HSI) Summit is a gathering of experts across government, academia, and industry. If you are an aviation professional, pilot, researcher, engineer, human factors specialist, IT professional, or just curious about the present and future relationship between humans and machines, this is the summit for you! This year's summit explores Human Readiness and Understanding of the Integration of Emerging Technologies across Transportation modes including methods for the development and use of Digital Twins. The integration of emerging technologies into an already complex transportation 'system of systems' is challenging as multiple technologies are evolving simultaneously and pressing unaided human capabilities to the limits. These new technologies will transform the way we live and travel while providing significant benefits, but getting there will not be easy or without risk. Do not miss this informative and unique learning opportunity!

[More Info](#)

Baltimore City Commission on Sustainability Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 17th at 4:00 pm PDT(online), hosted by Baltimore Office of Sustainability

Join the Commission on Sustainability each month to learn about initiatives, projects and programs intended to make the city more sustainable, more equitable and more climate resilient. Each month we will explore strategies and action items outlined in the 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan, highlighting local partners supporting these efforts. Meetings will also include important updates from the staff at the Office of Sustainability on topics ranging from urban agriculture to waste reduction to transportation. Join us on March 15th as the Commission will continue the discussion started in the February meeting, where attendees discussed Sustainability accomplishments for 2022 and began to discuss Sustainability Plan actions to prioritize in 2023 and beyond. The March meeting will include discussion on specific topics from the Sustainability Plan including Workforce Development, Green Infrastructure, Buildings/Energy, and Noise.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Rail to Airport Connections

Thursday, May 18th at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by ITE Transit Committee

North American airports see tens of thousands of daily flights serving millions of customers. Airport operators see daily difficulties of overburdened roadways as access to the facilities by personal vehicles, TNCs, and airport shuttles compete for limited frontage space. This webinar seeks to highlight the multi-modal Rail to Air connection. Rail connections can ease the burden on airport roadway networks and need not compete with vehicular access. Presenters with current and past experience in the field will speak about airport rail systems, their usage, and benefits of installing such a system to move people around and to/from airport terminals. The discussion is aimed at best practices and lessons learned for audience members who will be able to ask questions at the end.

[More Info](#)

How to Measure and Manage the Footprint of Business Travel

Thursday, May 25th at 3:00 pm PDT(online), hosted by Responsible Futures

Business travel is one of the greatest sources of greenhouse gas emissions for most non-manufacturing

companies, often accounting for more than 50% of their carbon footprints. Trip type, journey length, different transportation modes, accommodations and even paper receipts all contribute to the footprint in their own ways and can be bewildering to assess. Nonetheless, it's how you measure, manage and transform the CO2 footprint of your business travel programme that will notably move your organisation towards achieving its net zero goals. The good news is that the tools that companies need to manage sustainability from a T&E perspective are already available today, helping you understand your travel CO2 picture in detail to set informed reduction/removal goals and build a roadmap to success.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Improving Access, Quality, and Management of Public Transit ITS Data **Thursday, June 1st at 9:00 am PDT, hosted by TRB**

Standardizing operations data allows transit agencies to share tools to organize and validate data to make actionable decisions. TRB will host a webinar that will discuss various tools for transit data as well as the development and adoption efforts for new specifications that will allow agencies to better organize information. Presenters will explain the process researchers and practitioners used to develop a data specification for Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL), Automatic Passenger Count (APC), and fare data. Presenters will also share tools to leverage location, asset, and passenger data for planning, maintenance, and other uses.

[More Info](#)

IAME Conference 2023

Tuesday, September 5th - 8th (in-person), hosted by METRANS

The METRANS Transportation Consortium at the University of Southern California (USC) and California State University Long Beach (CSULB) is honored to be able to host the International Association of Maritime Economists Conference 2023 (IAME Conference 2023) to be held in Long Beach, California, September 5-8, 2023. Since its foundation in 1992, IAME has developed into an international association with over 300 individual members from every continent and more than 10 corporate members. The Association is officially linked to two leading academic journals within the field: Maritime Policy & Management and Maritime Economics & Logistics.

[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



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