



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.



International Association of Maritime Economists(IAME) 2023 Conference

In an era defined by a deepening awareness of environmental concerns, the maritime industry finds itself at a pivotal crossroads. This juncture demands resolute action towards decarbonization, a pursuit that lies at the heart of the International Association of Maritime Economists (IAME) 2023 Conference that will be held September 5-8, 2023, in Long Beach, CA, by The Metrans Transportation Consortium.

Read more [here](#).



The University of Southern California Receives Installation of 34-Bus CAD/AVL Project System from ETA Contract

The University of Southern California (USC) has awarded ETA Transit Systems a CAD/AVL project based on the company's unique design of onboard equipment, which offers reliability and security in transit operations.

Read the MASS TRANSIT feature [here](#).



California Gas Prices are Soaring as Labor Day Weekend Nears

Gas prices in California have steadily increased throughout August, and drivers hoping to hit the road for Labor Day weekend should expect painful prices at the pump rivaling those seen last summer. As of Tuesday, the average price for a regular gallon of gasoline in California was \$5.26, according to AAA. That's up about 9 cents from last week and about 37 cents from a month ago.

Read the Los Angeles Times feature [here](#).



Road Safety Emergency Declaration Yields Promising Results in Carlsbad, California

Injury-causing accidents involving bikes and e-bikes more than tripled between 2019 and 2022 in Carlsbad, California. The tipping point came in August 2022, when two bicyclists were struck and killed in separate incidents, prompting the City Council to declare a road safety state of emergency for the city of about 115,000 people just north of San Diego.

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

Webinars & Online Events

Webinar: Utilizing Traffic Simulation Models to Analyze Complex Roadway Situations

Tuesday, August 29th at 11:00 am PDT, hosted by ITE SIMCAP Committee

This webinar will discuss real world examples of how traffic modeling and simulation have been used to evaluate traffic performance for unique and complex situations. One example will present the modeling of multiple maintenance of traffic phases to determine the impacts to traffic while a construction project is underway. A second example will demonstrate how innovative design treatments are being modeled and implemented in actual projects.

[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](#)

Webinar: Automated Enforcement - Lessons from the Front Lines of Implementation Tuesday, September 12th at 12:00 pm PDT, hosted ITE Traffic Engineering Council

Automated enforcement and speed safety cameras have been highlighted by numerous highway safety

organizations as a tool that can improve safety in pursuit of Vision Zero. Implementation has been affected by various concerns about constitutional rights, details of implementation, entrapment and use of revenue. In the 30 years since the technology emerged, many changes have been tested in application. New use of photo enforcement of both red-light running and excessive speed using the same camera have now emerged creating new implementation challenges. The use of automated enforcement has expanded beyond red-light running and speed to address other issues such as rail grade crossings, toll plazas, school zones, turns on red, stop signs and exclusive lane encroachment.

[More Info](#)

State of Transportation

Wednesday, September 20th at 6:00 pm PDT (in-person), hosted San José Spotlight

Silicon Valley's public transit system is facing significant transformation, as plans for a BART extension through Santa Clara, reimagining Diridon Station with Google, bolstering VTA service amid budget woes and creating streamlined agencies come to a head. Plus, how will the city's airport connector plan boost the city's vision to become a business and tourist destination? This panel should explore plans, challenges, budgetary and safety issues related to public transportation.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Advancing the Practice of State Aviation System Planning

Thursday, September 21st at 9:00 am PDT, hosted TRB's Airport Cooperative Research Program

The recently published ACRP Research Report 244: Advancing the Practice of State Aviation System Planning provides guidance to stakeholders involved in the development of a state aviation system plan (SASP). TRB will host a webinar that will present guidance and key information to scope, develop, and implement a comprehensive SASP that can better reflect emerging trends, optimize increasingly limited resources, emphasize roles and responsibilities in managing state aviation systems, and meet the unique needs of each state.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Introduction to On-Demand Transit

Thursday, September 21st at 12:00 pm PDT, hosted ITE MaaS/MOD Committee (CSC)

The ITE Mobility as a Service and Mobility on Demand (Maas/MOD) Standing Committee is hosting this webinar to provide an introduction to the world of on-demand transit. This introduction is for practitioners who work in the context of sustainable transportation but do not have direct experience with public transit planning. This webinar contains three presentations, starting with a high-level overview of on-demand transit and ending with a case study of an on-demand transit program.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Building on ITE's Transportation Planning Initiative - Perspectives from Planners and Engineers

Tuesday, September 26th at 11:00 am PDT, hosted ITE Professional Development Committee

The Professional Development Committee has developed a webinar about different facets of to speak to the broader membership about what new members through the planning initiative bring to the table. In the format of an open discussion, the panelists will discuss their respective planning disciplines, the goals of their projects and programs, and how they fold into larger mobility-related goals regarding moving people, transportation safety, and environmental concerns, among others. Panelists will discuss how they interact with peers on their projects and programs, where they find efficiencies and supporting partnerships, and where they find bottlenecks or silos on some of their efforts.

[More Info](#)

Large Language Models and Generative AI

Wednesday, October 11th at 3:00 am PDT (online), hosted Women in AI

Anamaria has seen her first computer when she was 4 years old and basically never let computer science, video games and engineering go ever since. She has worked in various technical roles from freelancer, full-stack developer, to data engineer, technical lead and CTO at various companies in Denmark, focusing on the gaming and advertising industries. She has been at AWS for over 3 years, working as a Principal Solutions Architect, focusing mainly on Life Sciences and on AI/ML. Anamaria has a Bachelor Degree in Applied Engineering and Computer Science, a Master's degree in Computer Science and over 10 years of AWS experience. When she's not working or playing video games, she's coaching girls and female professionals in understanding and finding their path through technology. Meet Markku, Emblica's Machine Learning engineer. Markku develops and integrates ML systems using versatile technologies and environments, focusing especially on cloud engineering and MLOps. With a knack for simplifying complex concepts, Markku is always happy to share his knowledge and discuss the latest trends, making him a real asset to the ML community.

[More Info](#)

Veronica O. Davis on Inclusive Transportation

Monday, October 16th at 9:00 am PDT (online), hosted Leventhal Map & Education Center at the BPL

In *Inclusive Transportation: A Manifesto for Repairing Divided Communities*, transportation expert Veronica O. Davis shines a light on the inequitable and often destructive practice of transportation planning and engineering. She calls for new thinking and more diverse leadership to create transportation networks that connect people to jobs, education, opportunities, and to each other.

[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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