



## *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.



#### **Long Beach's E-Bike Revolution: A Greener Way to Roll**

Long Beach, California, has been making headlines recently for its relentless pursuit of sustainable transportation solutions. One standout initiative that has captured the city's attention is the e-bike program. E-bikes, those nifty electric bicycles, have swooped in to offer a clean and efficient alternative to traditional vehicles while addressing numerous urban mobility challenges.

Read more [here](#).



#### **DMV Now Lets People Take The Written Tests Online — And They've Got Ways To Keep Folks Honest**

First-time applicants can now take the written part of their DMV driving tests at home, months after the department first allowed renewing drivers to do so. The online test is the same as the one offered in DMV offices. For first-timers, it's a 40-question test, while it's 25 questions for those renewing their licenses.

Read the LAist feature [here](#).



## California's Senate Passes Bill to Restrict Driverless Trucks

The California State Senate passed a bill 36–2 on Monday that would require safety operators onboard autonomous trucks, whereby a state report and legislative approval would be needed to reverse that. The bill, AB 316, restricts testing on public roads and puts a significant barrier into how quickly AV trucking firms can commercialize the technology.

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



## Eyes on the Street: New La Brea Bus Lanes are Open

They're not quite complete, but L.A. bus riders can celebrate that the new La Brea peak-hour bus lanes are open! The La Brea bus lanes are a joint project of Metro and the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood. L.A. City's portion of the new bus lanes was approved back in 2015 as part of the city's Mobility Plan.

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

## Webinars & Online Events

### FALL 2023 METRANS Research Seminars

**Thursday, September 21th at 12:00 pm PDT (in-person & online), hosted by TRB's Airport Cooperative Research Program**

Getting your online purchases from the warehouse to your front door requires a careful design of warehouse and depot locations, vehicle capacity, scheduling and routing. Logistics companies and researchers work on novel ways to represent and solve these problems to optimise cost, profit and delivery time. Ambulance services are in the business of patient logistics. Their goal is to get medical help to patients and patients to hospital to maximize survival. More than 350,00 cardiac arrests occur outside of hospitals in the US annually, and with a survival rate of about 10% there is potential to design a system to get those patients treated more quickly to improve their chances of staying alive. A promising development is using heart and-lung bypass as a stopgap while waiting definitive treatment-- this is called extracorporeal membrane oxygenation cardiopulmonary resuscitation or ECPR.

[More Info](#)

### USDOT's Intersection Safety Challenge

**Monday, September 25th at 2:00 pm PDT (online), hosted by USDOT**

There is still time to participate in Stage 1A (Concept Assessment) of the Intersection Safety Challenge Prize Competition. With up to \$1 million in prize winnings available in this stage and the opportunity for winning teams to compete for more prize money in subsequent stages, innovative teams do not want to miss out. In response to growing concerns regarding the safety of vulnerable road users at intersections and as part of the recent National Roadway Safety Strategy Call to Action, the U.S. Department of Transportation has launched the Intersection Safety Challenge, which aims to transform intersection safety through the innovative application of emerging technologies to identify and mitigate unsafe conditions involving vehicles and vulnerable road users. Leveraging these technologies—such as machine vision, machine perception, sensor fusion, real-time decision-making, artificial intelligence, and

vehicle-to-everything communications—could augment traditional safety engineering in roadway design and intersection control by anticipating, preventing, and mitigating unsafe roadway conditions.

[More Info](#)

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

**Tuesday, September 26th at 11:00 am PDT, hosted by 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](#)

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### **Webinar: Systematic Inequality in the Airport Industry—Exploring the Racial Divide**

**Wednesday, September 27th at 11:00 am, hosted by TRB's Airport Cooperative Research Program**

In 2022, TRB's Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) hosted a two-day event to expand participants' understanding of the challenges posed by systemic racism in the aviation industry, why it matters, actions we can collectively take to create solutions, and future research ideas for ACRP on this subject. TRB will host a webinar that will serve as a follow-on to this event, providing participants with the opportunity to hear key takeaways and insights from some of the speakers.

[More Info](#)

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### **LOS ANGELES In-Person (IP) Diversity Career Fair**

**Wednesday, September 27th at 11:00 am PDT (in-person), hosted by City Career Fair**

Option 1- Just bring your Eventbrite Ticket and resume to the career fair and that will be your admission ticket. Get Ticket upper right hand corner of the Eventbrite page (Register Button). Option 2 - Just email your Resume to [FastTrack@CityCareerFair.com](mailto:FastTrack@CityCareerFair.com) with the subject: LA2IP09272023 and receive a confirmation code that allows you skip the line and registration at the DED Career Fair once it has opened . It is very IMPORTANT that you have the code in the subject line. Bring your confirmation email to the event. This is a professional-level recruiting event and business attire and résumés are required for admission. This is a FREE event. And Open to the Public. Must be 18 years or older. Remember – “First Impressions are Lasting Impressions”. “Look and Remain Professional” throughout your appointments for best results!

[More Info](#)

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### **Electric Vehicles 101**

**Thursday, September 28th at 10:00 am PDT (online), hosted by E2S Climate Hub**

Tune in as Timothy J. Milburn, transportation electrification consultant from Green Ways 2Go, Gabrielle Gamaly, senior sustainability research analyst from the Region 1 Planning Council, and Haley Dahl, student at the University of Illinois at Chicago and creator of Green Exploration: Rockford, discuss the basics of electric vehicles and highlight the community and individual benefits of making the switch. From Friday, September 22, 2023 through Sunday, October 1, 2023, the Region 1 Planning Council is hosting Drive Electric Week. For more details, go to <http://r1planning.org/>. Haley Dahl is moderating this event.

[More Info](#)

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### **Webinar: A Safe System-Based Framework and Analytical Methodology for Assessing Intersections**

**Tuesday, October 3rd at 11:00 am PDT (online), hosted by ITE Safety Council**

In the United States, the Safe System approach represents a paradigm shift in how road safety is addressed. Foundational to the Safe System approach is that no person should be killed or seriously injured when using the road system, and that it is a shared responsibility by all parties involved to ensure this becomes reality. From a roadway infrastructure perspective, a Safe System approach involves managing the circumstances of crashes such that the kinetic energy imposed on the human body be kept at levels that are tolerable in terms of survivability and degree of harm. At an intersection, this challenge is characterized through managing speed and crash angles, as well as considering risk exposure and complexity. FHWA has developed a Safe System for Intersections method that can be applied at a project level and be incorporated into an Intersection Control Evaluation alternatives screening process to provide another metric for safety. This method focuses on conflict points, exposure, and the concepts of transferable kinetic energy and how these metrics can be used by planners and engineers alike to inform decision making for intersection projects.

[More Info](#)

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### **Big Data for Transport Models**

**Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 am PDT (online), hosted by CIHT Dubai**

New data sources and collection techniques have become available that offer larger sample sizes and longer timespan coverage. Some of them are based on sensors for Bluetooth and WiFi signals, others on public transport smart cards, smartphone apps, mobile network data and vehicle telematics. These are all passive, non-disruptive, forms of data collection that take advantage of the digital traces generated by a range of devices. Mobile phone network data (MND), the digital traces our phones leave behind, can be processed to trace movements, and generate anonymised Origin Destination matrices and other mobility indicators, 24 hours a day 365 days in a year. MND has strengths and limitations and these will be discussed in the Seminar. New techniques based on Machine Learning have removed most limitations and their use in transport models is now common practice in countries like the UK, the US and Spain. The seminar will discuss these issues and provide a 'state of the art' review of techniques and applications, including large and small transport models in different countries.

[More Info](#)

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### **Webinar: Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety in BRT and High-Priority Bus Corridors**

**Wednesday, October 11th at 10:00 am PDT, hosted by TRB**

Bus rapid transit (BRT) and high-priority bus transit projects can improve mobility and enhance accessibility for residents. Transit agencies and municipalities also need to consider impacts on the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. TRB will host a webinar that will share the City of Austin, TX and Capital Metro's experience in planning, designing, and constructing pedestrian and bicycle accommodations in high-priority/BRT transit corridors. Presenters will share successes, challenges, lessons learned, and how they worked with the public to design and construct a BRT system.

[More Info](#)

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***Fast Facts***

## Balancing Accountability and Flexibility in California's Local Option Sales Taxes

**Author:** Martin Wachs

**Year:** 2020

**Keywords:** California, Tax Measures, Transportation, Ballot Measures



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