

# 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.



### These 5 Big Transit Projects Got Done Just as 2022 Came to an End

It can often take years, if not decades, to bring a major transit project to fruition in U.S. cities. New York's East Side Access project uses two rail tunnels built in 1972 under the East River intended for the Long Island Rail Road, but the city ran out of money, and the tubes remained empty until the project was revived three decades later.





#### Self-Driving Cars Are a Natural Fit for Rural America

On a recent Friday evening, a white Toyota Sienna minivan with a cylindrical sensor mounted on its roof slowed to a stop in front of the only hospital in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, population 11,000. The door opened, and I took a seat behind the driver: a computer rack mounted in place of the passenger seat. Next to it was a friendly young operator who sits behind the steering wheel and ensures that this self-driving rideshare doesn't suddenly skid into a snowbank or a pedestrian.

Read the Bloomberg feature here.





White House Supply Chain Envoy Stephen Lyons says the nation's supply chain is ending 2022 in a much better position than a year ago. In 2021, there were concerns about shortages in stores and warehouses, rapidly rising prices to ship goods and thousands of containers stacking up at the nation's ports as railroads could not move items fast enough.

Read the Transport Topic feature here.



## Federal Funding Bill Contains \$45M for New Active Transportation Program

The massive new federal funding bill making its way through Washington includes \$45 million in much-needed funds for active transportation projects — but it's still a tiny fraction of what American communities actually need.

Read the STREETSBLOG feature here.

#### Webinars & Online Events

#### Working in Warehousing & Logistics

Tuesday, January 10th at 5:30 am PST/1:30 pm GMT (online), hosted by National Careers Service West Midlands

The handling, storage and movement of goods and materials is a vast and complex business. To keep pace with the needs of manufacturers and retailers, warehouse work is available at all levels, from jobs that require no qualifications for entry, to positions for university graduates. On our roads, thousands of vans and lorries take all sorts of products and raw materials to where they are needed - to factories, warehouses, and shops, or to shipping ports or airports for export. Just think of the products in supermarkets - they all need to be supplied regularly - sometimes daily from all over the world.

More Info

#### MetroConnect How To Do Business With Metro Workshop

Tuesday, January 10th at 10:00 am PST (online), hosted by Metro Connect

We are committed to helping you win business with Metro and we're committed to being your champions. How To Do Business With Metro Workshop is a two-hour orientation that provides information on Metro's Certification program, Small Business Program initiatives, Contract Look-Ahead schedules, and other useful information in effort to help you grow with us! Our aim is to increase opportunities for you by providing greater access and transparency, a level playing field, a more streamlined procurement process, and improved communications.

More Info

Jay Boisseau and Jay Williams are back for their annual discussion of the emerging and maturing technologies poised to have much greater impacts on industry and work, research and education, health, entertainment, transportation, and more in 2023 (and maybe a bit later, but still soon!). As always, they will share their views and other tech trends lists, present their top picks, discuss why tracking technologies in fast-changing times is important for innovating and out-competing, and provide guidance on how to get started with some of the technologies in your company, organization, or professional development.

More Info

# Info Session for Notice of Funding Opportunity: Central Region SBTRC Wednesday, January 11th at 11:00 am PST (online), hosted by the U.S. Department of Transportation

The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization established the Small Business Transportation Resource Centers as a network of grantees across the country, and these centers work closely with the transportation contracting community and other technical assistance providers to serve small and disadvantaged, transportation-related businesses. These centers provide technical assistance to small and disadvantaged businesses to build their capacity so they can become more competitive when bidding on U.S. DOT procurement opportunities and federally-funded contracts.

More Info

#### **Transforming Public Procurement Update**

Friday, January 13th at 2:30 am PST/10:30 pm GMT (online), hosted by Cabinet Office

The Procurement Bill is currently making its way through Parliament. Join the Transforming Public Procurement Programme team at the Cabinet Office for an update on Bill's progress, next steps and timelines, and details of the support that will be made available to help prepare for the new regime. You will have the opportunity to raise questions during a dedicated Q&A.

More Info

#### Future Fuels: Climate Solutions in the Sky – and on the Ground

Thursday, January 19th at 9:00 pm PST/12:00 pm EST (online), hosted by Innovation Economy Council

Aviation has a big emissions problem. Each year, the industry contributes about two percent of overall global emissions — and it's on course to get even worse. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that by 2050, planes will burn through 230 billion gallons of jet fuel annually, more than double of what's being used now. To reduce and reverse these damaging effects, airports around the world need to embrace innovative change. That means sourcing sustainable jet fuel, investing in EV-powered fleets, installing hydrogen and electric vehicle charging stations and upgrading internal grids and infrastructure.

More Info

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

Thursday, January 24th at 9:30 am PST/12:30 pm EST, 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

#### 2023 Annual Conference

#### Monday, May 10th (in-person), hosted by Women's Transportation Seminar(WTS)

WTS International's annual event will bring together transportation leaders and professionals to explore "The Great Intersection: Transportation & Equity". 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** 

#### Fast Facts

Created for Students, by Students

# 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 <u>here.</u>
Looking for more Fast Facts? Check out the Fast Facts Page on <u>metrans.org!</u>

Take me to Fast Facts

### Pathways to Opportunity

Intern, Solution Management Transportation Mobility

Transportation Summer Intern BNSF Railways Apply ASAP see more info

#### **More Internships and Scholarships Here**

**Logistics Specialist Maersk** 

Apply ASAP see more info

**Graduate Transportation Planner ARUP** 

Apply ASAP see more info

**More Job Opportunities Here** 

#### **Newsletter Staff**

Namjoo Park • Newsletter Lead • namjoopa@usc.edu
Agil Wibowo • Social Media Lead • agilwibo@usc.edu
Jacob Wong • Staff Writer • wongjaco@usc.edu

#### **METRANS** Associates

#### **Major Funders**







#### **Associate Partners**

















#### **Academic Partners**































Copyright © 2022 METRANS Transportation Consortium, All rights reserved.

New users and interested parties: subscribe here.

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.