METRANS will be hosting a Virtual Careers in Motion Networking Fair this Thursday, February 17, 2022 from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. (PST). All jobseekers who create an account are welcome to attend the event, whether they are recent graduates, seasoned executives, or at any other career level. For more information, please click here.

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.

USC Freshman Elizabeth (Eli) Chen joins METRANS Student Admin Team

Elizabeth (Eli) Chen is a freshman majoring in Public Policy and Urban Planning at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy. She is also minoring in News and Information Innovation at the Iovine and Young Academy. Eli has recently joined the METRANS student administrative team as a news writer.

Read more here.

PSR Students Attend the 26th Annual CTF Transportation Education Symposium

PSR students and professional participants reunited with other schools' transportation enthusiasts at the 26th Annual CTF Transportation Education Symposium, on November 4 – 5, 2021 in Sacramento, California.

Read more here.
With Bike Buses, Kid Cyclists Dominate the Road

As more families have considered biking to school during the pandemic, they've turned to group bike commutes to make their journeys safer — and more visible.

Read the Bloomberg CityLab feature here.

Utah’s new drunken driving law is paying off

Deaths and crashes linked to drunken driving dropped almost 20% in Utah, the only state with a lower legal limit of .05, according to a new study.

Read the CNN feature here.

Webinars & Online Events

WEBINAR: Transforming Transportation 2022: Climate-Centered Mobility for a Sustainable Recovery
Wednesday to Thursday, February 16th to 17th, hosted by The World Bank and WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities
Join global leaders over the next two days at Transforming Transportation 2022 to explore new opportunities to create transport systems that are better for people and the planet.

WEBINAR: Improving the Environmental Sustainability of Concrete through Material Efficiency
Wednesday, February 16th at 10:00 am PST, hosted by National Center for Sustainable Transportation
Concrete is a key component of the built environment. However, the manufacture of cement-based materials, such as concrete, produces over 8% of worldwide anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions. Designing infrastructure in a manner that uses concrete more efficiently, and thus lowers consumption while meeting the same system demands, holds promise for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

WEBINAR: Pathways to Self-Sustaining EV Carsharing Programs
Wednesday, February 16th at 10:30 am PST, hosted by Mindful Mobility Tech Talks
EV carsharing programs play an important role in achieving climate goals and reduced low income rates can enable an equitable transition to transportation electrification, but these programs often struggle financially in their formative years. This talk will provide insight into how income-based EV carsharing can be modeled to succeed through innovation, using existing utility program infrastructure and vehicle to grid integration.

WEBINAR: TRB Virtual Career Fair
Thursday, February 17th at 9:00 am PST/12:00 pm EST (virtual), hosted by TRB
Attendees will have the opportunity to live chat directly with hiring managers, get instant feedback on their qualifications, and learn about job opportunities first hand. Job candidates will meet and network with dozens of prospective employers from a wide range of multimodal transportation-related disciplines, including engineering, consulting, operations, planning and more!

UC Irvine-ITS Seminar with Professor Charles Edwards
Friday, February 18th at 9:00 am PST, hosted by UC Irvine
The carriage of cargo (mail and freight) was the initial focus of the fledgling commercial airline industry from the 1920s onwards. Carrying passengers emerged as the basis for airline operations in the 1930s in both Europe and North America. The COVID pandemic has decimated passenger traffic around the world. Airlines have returned to their origins to remain in business by carrying cargo in all-cargo freighters, in ‘freighters’ and in the belly holds of un-converted passenger planes.
ITS Davis Webinar: Data analytics for Warehousing Transportation Analysis

Friday, February 18th at 1:40 pm PST (hybrid), hosted by UC Davis

“Demand for warehouse space is hitting record highs, and that doesn’t appear to be abating anytime soon. Demand is up 22% year-over-year in 2021. Logistics and parcel delivery is driving this growth. The 1,800 individual future tenants that participated in a study need over 600 million square feet of space” [9th annual Industrial Tenant Demand Study, published by JLL Industrial].

Submit the Abstract to Present at the St. Louis Forum, April 7-9

Due on Saturday, February 19th, hosted by Transportation Research Forum

Don’t miss your chance to share your latest analysis and receive expert feedback. TRF is accepting abstracts for poster presentations and, for students, abstracts for both poster and lectern presentations through Saturday, February 19th. We also welcome you to attend our highly anticipated conference without making a presentation. The conference, held on the University of Missouri - St. Louis campus, attracts transportation professionals from around the world. Click here for conference and submission details.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG): The 2022 Student Showcase

In all, a total of $6,000 across four prizes will be awarded (two separate $2,000 "Best in Show" prizes and two separate $1,000 "Audience Award" prizes).

Abstracts Due: Feb. 22, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (PST)
Final Projects Due: March 15, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (PST)

METRANS EVENT: Toastmasters Open House!

Wednesday, February 23rd at 11:00 am PST (virtual), hosted by METRANS

We will be holding a virtual open house highlighting the benefits of the club and Toastmasters Pathway Program. USC METRANS Toastmasters club is a welcoming space for anyone that wants to feel more comfortable with public speaking and doesn’t know where to start. Toastmasters International has succeeded in training millions of people through its learn-by-doing method of public speaking and peer feedback. During our meetings you’ll have opportunities to practice public speaking on a variety of topics with a transportation theme in a group setting, as well as prepare and present individual speeches.

Transportation Research Forum Virtual Networking "Discussion over Drinks"

Wednesday, February 23rd at 3:45 pm PST, hosted by Transportation Research Forum

At this popular and one-of-a-kind event, attendees join guest experts for facilitated small-group discussions and take part in a brief plenary wrap-up, all via Zoom. Free for existing and new TRF members and just $10 for non-members. Have your favorite beverage handy!

NDPTC's Virtual 3rd Thursday Event - December 2021 Tornado Outbreak: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Efforts

Thursday, February 24th at 2:00 pm PST/12:00 pm HST, hosted by NDPTC

The December 2021 tornado outbreak caused multiple fatalities and casualties. Over 50 tornadoes were reported, along with wind and hail, across several states. Emergency declarations were issued in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas. Please join the event for a special Third Thursday panel discussion on preparedness, response, and recovery for the December 2021 tornado outbreak.

SAVE THE DATE! METRANS Field Trip to Foothill Transit

Friday, February 25th at 10:00 am to 2:00 pm PST, pick up and drop off on USC main campus

ITS Davis Webinar: What Does Sustainable Freight Look Like for Caltrans?

Friday, February 25th at 1:40 pm PST (hybrid), hosted by UC Davis
There have been numerous regulations, laws, and policies passed in the last few years that are moving California to a more sustainable freight system. Among these is a carbon-neutral state with 100% zero-emission trucks by 2045. Learn how a large state department of transportation has navigated and embraced these new challenges, what Caltrans can do to help California achieve a more sustainable freight ecosystem, and what questions Caltrans still needs help answering in determining its most efficient path to this sustainable future.

**Webinar: Electric Vehicle Charging Networks: Strategies, Data, and Models for States**
Tuesday, March 1st at 11:00 am PST/2:00 pm EST, hosted by Eno Center for Transportation

In this webinar, researchers from Texas A&M Texas Transportation Institute and its spin-off EV charging analytics company, ElectroTempo, will discuss the policy implications of the IIJA for how states can and should be planning for an electric future. They will give examples of stakeholder coordination efforts, funding mechanisms, and the critical need to harness predictive analytics to optimize charging infrastructure investments.

**SAVE THE DATE! PSR Emerging Scholars Transportation Research Symposium**
Friday, March 4th, hosted by the Pacific Southwest Region University Transportation Center (PSR)

**PSR Webinar: Bike Share in the Sacramento Region: Lessons Learned and What’s Next**
Friday, March 4th at 1:40 pm PST (hybrid), hosted by UC Davis

Join us for this ITS-Davis Seminar where you’ll hear from Sabrina Bradbury, SACOG Senior Program Manager, about the latest on the region’s bike share program and efforts to attract and manage both bike share and scooter share in communities around the region.

**SAVE THE DATE! METRANS Research Seminar Series: Performative or Authentic? Assessing the Status of Transportation Equity Work in California**
Wednesday, March 9th at 12:00 pm PST (hybrid), hosted by METRANS

This report assesses equity work within transportation in California by analyzing the expert perspectives of transportation professionals who also identify as Black or people of color. Key findings centered around a key distinction between “performative” equity work and “authentic” equity work. Key recommendations include supporting action-oriented equity work, especially around resource allocation and redistribution of decision-making power to communities. The report includes case studies of how to apply findings to new mobilities and policing, as well as visions for more equitable transportation futures.

**SAVE THE DATE! METRANS Research Seminar Series: Incentive Systems for New Mobility Services**
Wednesday, March 23rd at 12:00 pm PST (hybrid), hosted by METRANS

With rapid population growth and urban development, traffic congestion has become an inescapable issue, especially in large cities. Many congestion reduction strategies have been proposed in the past, ranging from roadway extension, transportation systems management and operations, to demand management. In this research, we study and develop mechanisms for offering incentives to organizations and companies to change the behavior of individual drivers in their organization. We then evaluate the performance of our method using data from the Los Angeles area as well as the models we develop during this research.

**Proposals for "Green Transportation Summit & Expo 2022"**
Due on March 31st

The Green Transportation Summit & Expo (GTSE) is the West Coast’s premier fleet modernization and sustainable transportation event. GTSE offers attendees an inside look at the latest in fleet technologies and innovation and provides informative sessions featuring a who’s who of national and regional transportation leaders.

**2022 CCAT Student Poster Competition Submissions Open**
Due on March 31st

The Center for Connected and Automated Transportation (CCAT) is pleased to announce that submissions are open for the 5th annual Student Poster Competition at the 2022 Global Symposium. This event is co-sponsored by the Intelligent Transportation Society of Michigan and invites all undergraduate/graduate students from U.S.-based institutions to participate.
SAVE THE DATE! METRANS Prof Dev/Industry panel event: State of Planning Roundtable
Tuesday, April 5th (hybrid)

SAVE THE DATE! METRANS/PSR Research Seminar Series: Mobility, Accessibility and Disadvantaged Neighborhoods
Wednesday, April 6th at 12:00 pm PST (hybrid), hosted by METRANS
This project examines commonalities and differences among disadvantaged neighborhoods in mobility and access to opportunities, based on the concept of spatial-transportation mismatch (STM), which asserts that spatial distance and poor transportation are potential barriers to opportunities beyond one’s immediate location. The project analyzes variations in transportation resources and accessibility to employment, quality elementary schools, and health care. The study compares two regions in California, one highly urbanized (Los Angeles County) and one more agriculture based (San Joaquin County). This allows us to compare disadvantaged neighborhoods with non-disadvantaged neighborhoods within each region, and to compare disadvantaged neighborhoods in one county versus another.

Pathways to Opportunity

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