



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.



What It's Like to Be a Woman Transit Operator

Across the U.S., transit agencies are grappling with a shortfall of operators. These operators — frontline workers that keep buses and trains running are essential to a functioning transit network that actually gets riders where they need to go. But being an operator is no simple feat. There are long hours, and often for more junior employees, irregular shifts, and shifts at very early hours.

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



Trucking M&A Expert Doesn't Expect Slowdown

The market for mergers and acquisitions in trucking is poised to stay robust, but could undergo some changes, an expert said during a recent industry event. "Based on our activity, we don't see things slowing down at all," said Spencer Tenney, CEO at M&A advisory firm Tenney Group, during a Jan. 26 discussion focused on deal activity and the freight market hosted by the Truckload Carriers Association. "What we do see is some evolving as it relates to value and structure."

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



L.A. Metro and Metrolink partnering to improve Antelope Valley Line

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.A. Metro) and the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink) are partnering in a funding agreement to improve service capacity and reliability on the Antelope Valley Line, which operates between Los Angeles and Lancaster. L.A. Metro's Board of Directors approved a funding agreement with Metrolink in the amount of \$16,563,581 for final design services for the Metrolink Antelope Valley Line Capital and Service Improvements Project.

Read the Mass Transit feature [here](#).



Pricy SUVs Emerge as Hot Point in Debate Over EV Tax Credits

General Motors Co. has taken a central role in pushing the Treasury Department to change how the government defines a sport utility vehicle and expand how many buyers can get electric-vehicle tax credits under President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act.

Read the Bloomberg feature [here](#).

Webinars & Online Events

ASPA-STPA's Best Student Paper Award Committee

Wednesday, February 1st (in-person), hosted by American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

STPA invites undergraduate and graduate students who have written research papers related to transportation policy and administration to submit them for consideration. Papers should be prepared according to a standard style such as APA. They should be between 20 and 35 pages in length and include citations and references. The review committee encourages students to submit copies of conference papers or unpublished manuscripts. Literature reviews and review essays are not eligible for consideration. Papers co-authored with faculty members are not eligible. The maximum number of student collaborators is limited to three. The committee will evaluate papers in a blind review process. Students are asked to submit a separate title of the paper and only include the author(s) name and affiliation on the title page.

[More Info](#)

Special Seminar: Visit for Alejandro Toriello

Thursday, February 2nd at 3:30 am PST (in-person) hosted by USC Viterbi

Motivated by applications in e-commerce, we propose the submodular dispatching problem: A set of orders with different release times must be processed or dispatched by a single server or vehicle in batches, and batch dispatch times are submodular, representing economies of scale. The objective is to minimize the makespan, the time at which all orders have been dispatched. Two particular use cases for the model arise in distribution systems in same-day delivery and stocking and picking systems in warehouses. The model is strongly NP-hard even in simple cases, and we discuss various approaches for heuristic optimization, including FIFO solutions and solutions derived from a column-generation mixed-integer program.

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Leadership in a Hybrid World

Wednesday, February 8th at 12:00 pm PST/3:00 pm EST, hosted by ITE

This webinar will identify various approaches to the hybrid/virtual work place based on our speakers who represent different professional sectors – public, private, academic, and vendors. The attendees of this webinar will learn what some of the challenges and opportunities are associated with leadership in a hybrid world. This will be followed by a live question and answer session where speakers will respond to the unique issues of the participants.

[More Info](#)

Future of Sustainable Transportation: SPEC E&T Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th at 6:00 pm PST (online), hosted by SPEC

Are you interested in electric and hydrogen vehicles? Join the SPEC E&T team to discuss and share ideas on sustainable modes of transportation! Bring your ideas, concerns, and interesting facts to share with fellow sustainable energy enthusiasts. SPEC's Energy & Transportation Team works to educate individuals, businesses, communities, and children about renewable energy, energy conservation and sustainable modes of transportation. We're always looking for new members! Join us at any of our upcoming monthly meetings (the third Wednesday of every month) to learn about our work in renewable energy and transportation, outreach, and advocacy. Bring your ideas and visions for a more sustainable Vancouver!

[More Info](#)

Webinar: Improving the After-Dark Pedestrian Environment for Safety and Walkability

Thursday, February 16th at 12:00 pm PST/ 3:00 pm EST hosted by ITE

About 75% of U.S. pedestrian fatalities occur after dark, and pedestrian fatalities have been increasing at a much faster rate than other traffic fatalities in recent years. Ensuring that streets are safe and walkable between dusk and dawn is thus critical for truly “complete streets.” However, the importance of after-dark conditions and of street lighting has often been overlooked by transportation professionals. Effective outdoor lighting can significantly improve safety and other aspects of the nighttime environment (including perceptions of security, comfort, and reassurance). Complementary strategies, such as speed control and specific traffic control devices, are also valuable.

[More Info](#)

ITE Western District 2023 Student Leadership Conference

Friday, February 24th at 2:00 pm PST (in-person) hosted by ITE & USC & Metrans

We are excited to have the opportunity to build connections between Student Chapters, create strong professional-student networks, and most importantly, inspire you to continue making an impact in the world of transportation! Over this three-day conference, you will have the opportunity to network with other students and professionals, participate in engaging and educational student activities, and lastly, experience/tour the infrastructure in and around Downtown Los Angeles.

[More Info](#)

2023 EDGE in Tech Symposium: Smarter Tech for a Resilient Future

Thursday, March 2nd at 9:00 am PST (online), hosted by CITRIS and the Banatao Institute

Join EDGE in Tech, CITRIS and the Banatao Institute, and Berkeley Engineering a virtual symposium highlighting the experiences of experts using emerging technologies to advance innovation for more

sustainable infrastructure. The event will feature professionals who are pioneering new approaches to intelligent transportation networks, healthy indoor environments, aviation infrastructure and next-generation agriculture. Speakers will also discuss their career pathways to help attendees visualize themselves in high-growth sectors and rise to meet society's needs for a greener future.

[More Info](#)

2023 PSR Annual Congress - Moving Forward: Improving Transportation in Region Friday, March 17th at 11:30 pm PST (in-person), hosted by Pacific Southwest Region UTC

Established in 2016, the Pacific Southwest Region UTC conducts a multidisciplinary program of research, education, workforce development, and technology transfer aimed at improving the resiliency of transportation systems and the mobility of people and goods throughout the region. The PSR Annual Congress welcomes abstracts (max. 500 words) for the presentation of transportation research and best practices – whether funded by PSR or by other sources. Submissions are welcome from faculty, researchers, students, and practitioners.

[More Info](#)

IAME Conference 2023

Tuesday, September 5th - 8th (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

Making Bicycling Equitable: Lessons from Sociocultural Research (White Paper)

Authors: Sarah Reboloso McCullough,
Adonia Lugo, Rebecca van Stokkum

Year: 2018

Keywords: Public transit, land use, and
urban mobility, transportation planning,
policy, and finance



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

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Pathways to Opportunity

Transportation Logistics Intern Fedex Ground

Apply ASAP
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Administrative Intern - Public Works City of Carson

Apply ASAP
[see more info](#)

[More Internships and Scholarships Here](#)

Community Development Director City of Menlo Park

Apply by 02/24/23
[see more info](#)

Supervisor, Inventory Control Metrolink

Apply ASAP
[see more info](#)

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