2016 FALL METRANS RESEARCH SEMINAR

September 21, 2016 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM USC - Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall (RGL) 308 RSVP to Nicole Guo at haichaog@usc.edu

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Agglomerations in Los Angeles

Presented by Peter Gordon, Emeritus Professor, Sol Price School of Public Policy, and John Cho, Associate Regional Planner, SCAG

Image from demographics.coopercenter.org/DotMap/

Abstract

Cities are the engines of economic growth because they provide opportunities for enhanced productivity. They provide opportunities for productive spatial arrangements, often involving "clustering" and "agglomerating". But these widely cited descriptors are seldom defined. This research uses business location data for Los Angeles County to test various associated questions. (1) To what extent do technological links explain spatial clustering? (2) How does this vary by industry? (3) Are the smallest firms attracted to the densest areas because they are most dependent on information developed by others? (4) How does this vary by industry? This research investigates these questions at the sub-metropolitan (traffic analysis zone) level.



Peter Gordon, Ph.D., is an Emeritus Professor of the Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. He retired in 2013 after 43 years at USC. He now teaches each summer at Zhejian University in Hangzhou, China. Gordon's interests are in urban economics and urban transportation economics. He is a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International, a past president of the Western Regional Science Association and received the Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1971.

John Cho, Ph.D., is Associate Regional Planner at SCAG. His research interests include topics in freight transportation, land use and transportation policy, and regional economics. He received a Ph.D. in industrial and Systems Engineering, and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering specialized in Transportation Engineering from USC, and an M.A. in Economics from Seoul National University.





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