

2016 SPRING METRANS RESEARCH SEMINAR

Wednesday, March 2, 2016
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM
USC – Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall (RGL) 101

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Is Los Angeles Becoming Transit Oriented?

Presented by Genevieve Giuliano and Eun Jin Shin

Over the past 20 years, local and regional governments in the Los Angeles metropolitan area have invested significant resources in building rail transit infrastructure that connects major employment centers. One goal of transit infrastructure is to catalyze the development of high density, mixed-use housing and commercial activity within walking distance of rail stations, referred to as Transit Oriented Development (TOD). This project examines the quantity, type, and mix of economic activity that has occurred around newly built rail stations in Los Angeles over the past 20 years. Specifically, have the number of jobs or housing market characteristics changed near stations? We use establishment-level data on employment and property-level data on housing transactions to analyze changes in several employment and housing outcomes. Results suggest that new rail stations were located in areas that, prior to station opening, had unusually high employment density and mostly multifamily rental housing. There is no evidence of changes in employment density, housing sales volume, or new housing development within five years after station opening. Regressions suggest that a subset of stations saw increased employment density within five to ten years after opening.



Genevieve Giuliano, Ph.D., is Professor and Ferraro Chair in Effective Local Government at the Sol Price School of Public Policy, and Director of the METRANS joint USC and California State University Long Beach Transportation Center. She conducts research on relationships between land use and transportation, transportation policy analysis, and information technology applications in transportation. Her current research includes examination of relationships between land use and freight flows, and development of applications for transportation system analysis using archived real-time data, and analysis of commercial and residential development around transit stations.

Eun Jin Shin is a Ph.D. candidate at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy, with an academic focus on urban spatial structure and transportation. She received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Civil, Urban, and Geosystem Engineering from Seoul National University, and her Master's degree in Urban Planning from the University of Washington, Seattle. Her research focuses on the travel behavior of transportation-disadvantaged populations.

