



2017 PSR Fall Research Seminar

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

USC – Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall (RGL) 101

RSVP to Doug Feldman at feldmand@price.usc.edu

Using “Equity” Values of Time in Project Appraisal: Income Equity vs. Preference Equity

We examine the practice of using “equity” values of time to evaluate the benefits of transportation improvements, and we make explicit the social weighting schemes that are consistent with that practice. We demonstrate that if travel-time preferences vary, then equity values of time typically imply social weighting schemes that favor those who gain the least utility from travel-time savings. We further show how this finding persists when improvements are financed by user payments such as road tolls and taxes. We then describe a preferable weighting and valuation scheme that also generalizes other valuation approaches developed in the literature.

Seiji Steimetz

Seiji Steimetz is Professor and Chair of Economics at the California State University, Long Beach, and a member of the METRANS Transportation Center Executive Committee. His research interests include transportation, urban, and environmental economics, with an emphasis on applied econometrics and methodology. Dr. Steimetz’s research is published in leading economics and interdisciplinary journals.



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