

Institute of UN
Transportation OF
Studies CAI

OF CALIFORNIA

Accelerating Transportation Innovation Across California

AGENDA February 6, 2026

8:00 AM	Registration & Networking Breakfast
9:00 AM	Welcome and Introductions Laura Podolosky, UC ITS, Executive Director
9:10 AM	Morning Plenary: From Disruption to Opportunity: Shaping Mobility's Next Chapter This session will kick off the summit by examining the key forces that will shape mobility over the next 5 to 10 years. Panelists will explore major disruptions and transformative trends, including advancing decarbonization strategies, the effects of climate change, the future of public transit and shared mobility, transportation pricing, and changing travel behavior. The discussion will also emphasize the critical roles of policy, technology, research, and cross-sector collaboration in driving sustainable and equitable mobility strategies. Moderator: TBD Panelists: Toks Omishakin, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency Michael Pimentel, Executive Director, California Transit Association
10:10 AM	Coffee Break
10:30 AM	Breakout Sessions

Driving Efficiency: Managing Road Capacity, Pricing Roads, and Mitigating Impacts

This session will explore innovative strategies for managing road capacity and funding California's transportation in the context of induced demand. Panelists will discuss how road pricing can serve as both a revenue source and policy lever to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT). The discussion will also examine mitigation strategies aimed at enhancing equity and environmental benefits, such as mitigation banking, improving the balance between affordable housing and jobs, congestion pricing, and more.

Moderator: Bill Higgins, Executive Director, California Association of Councils of Governments

Panelists:

Amy Lee, Postdoctoral Researcher, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Davis Michael Manville, Professor, Department of Urban Planning, Luskin School of Public Affairs, UCLA

Kiana Valentine, President, Valentine Strategies, Inc.

James Hacker, Undersecretary, California Transportation Agency

Equitable Electrification: Charging Infrastructure and Incentives that Work for Everyone

How can we ensure that the benefits of electric vehicles (EVs) reach all communities? This session will focus on strategies to accelerate EV adoption across diverse populations. Panelists will discuss how to expand access to reliable and affordable charging, reduce cost barriers, and design incentive programs that effectively support low-income and underserved populations. The conversation will also explore approaches to improving EV access in multi-family housing and rural communities.

Moderator: Terry Travis, Co-founder & Principal, EVNoire

Panelists:

Gil Tal, Director, Electric Vehicle Research Center, UC Davis

Ethan Elkind, Director, Climate Program, Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, UC Berkeley

Complement or Compete? Exploring Microtransit, Ridehailing, and Public Transit in California's Future

How do microtransit and ridehailing services fit into California's evolving transportation land-scape, and do they complement or compete with public transit? This panel will investigate the implications of these services in terms of operations, equity, and cost-effectiveness, as well as how these services may evolve with the introduction of automated vehicles. Panelists will also consider business and governance models for aligning these emerging services with public sector goals.

Moderator: Tilly Chang, Executive Director, San Francisco County Transportation Authority **Panelists:**

Michael Hyland, Associate Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Irvine **Susan Shaheen**, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Berkeley; Director, Resilient & Innovative Mobility Initiative

Andrei Greenawalt, Chief Policy Officer, Via Transportation

James Corless, Executive Director, Sacramento Area Council of Governments

11:45 AM

Lunch

12:45 PM

Breakout Sessions

The Future of Public Transit: Resilience, Ridership, and Revenue

Public transit agencies are grappling with multiple post-pandemic challenges, including flagging ridership, frequent budget shortfalls, and shifting travel patterns. This session will bring together experts to explore strategies for boosting ridership, adapting to evolving work and land use trends, and securing long-term financial sustainability. Panelists will also address post-COVID-19 funding recovery challenges, new revenue opportunities, workforce issues, and opportunities to strengthen system resilience.

Moderator: Laura Tolkoff, Transportation Policy Director, SPUR

Panelists:

Kari Watkins, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Davis

Brian D. Taylor, Professor, Urban Planning & Public Policy, Luskin School of Public Affairs, UCLA

Seleta Reynolds, General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT)

Zero-Emission Frontiers: Decarbonizing Freight, Aviation, Marine, and Public Transit

While light-duty vehicles are at the forefront of electrification, decarbonizing heavy-duty freight, aviation, marine, and the public transit sectors remains a significant challenge with many uncertainties. This session will examine the potential of zero-emission strategies, such as hydrogen, electrification, and sustainable fuels, to transform these hard-to-abate sectors. Panelists will also explore the infrastructure, investment, and policy frameworks needed to scale these technologies effectively.

Moderator: Scott Moura, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Berkeley

Panelists:

Colin Murphy, Co-Director, Low Carbon Fuel Policy Research Initiative, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Davis

Kip Lipper, Office of California Senate Pro Tempore

Chris Shimoda, Regulatory Affairs Consultant, California Trucking Association

Designing for Safety: Creating Transportation Systems that Protect All Users

With pedestrian and cyclist injuries on the rise, this session will explore how infrastructure, enforcement strategies, and vehicle design can enhance safety for all road users. Panelists will examine approaches such as Vision Zero, speed enforcement, safer street design, and discuss how these efforts intersect with broader public health goals.

Moderator: Leah Shahum, Executive Director, Vision Zero Network

Panelists:

Julia Griswold, Director, Safe Transportation Research & Education Center, UC Berkeley **Federico E. Vaca**, Professor & Executive Vice Chair, Emergency Medicine School of Medicine; Faculty Associate, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Irvine

Rachel Carpenter, Chief Safety Officer, California Department of Transportation

2:00 PM

Coffee Break

2:20 PM

Breakout Sessions

Automation and Safety: Navigating Risks and Opportunities for Different Stakeholders

As automation reshapes the transportation landscape, ensuring safety is more critical than ever–not just for the driverless vehicles but also traditional vehicles, bikes, pedestrians, and the system as a whole, especially from a cybersecurity perspective. This session will explore how different forms of automation, such as robotaxis and automated trucks, as well as other emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, can enhance safety for all. Panelists will also explore the needs of different stakeholders and policy considerations needed to create a safer transportation system in California.

Moderator: James Fishelson

Panelists:

Jiaqi Ma, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UCLA **Alfred Chen**, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, UC Irvine

Driving Grid Readiness: Integrating Electric Vehicles into California's Energy System

As demand on California's power grid continues to rise, the state's energy infrastructure must adapt to remain resilient and responsive. This session will explore how the growing adoption of EVs will impact grid capacity, with a focus on utility policies, managed charging programs, and bidirectional charging. Panelists will highlight key challenges and opportunities of integrating EVs into California's energy system while still keeping rates affordable. The panel will also discuss what EV adoption means for California's clean energy future.

Moderator: Roland Hwang, Policy Director, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Davis **Panelists:**

Duncan Callaway, Professor, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, UC Berkeley **Alan Jenn**, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Davis **Peter Klauer**, Senior Advisor for Smart Grid Technology, California Independent System Operator

Kerry Fleisher, Director for Distributed Energy Resources, Natural Gas, and Retail Rates, California Public Utilities Commission

Mobility for All: Expanding Access Through Shared and On-Demand Services

Shared and on-demand mobility services offer new opportunities to close transportation gaps and improve access, particularly for underserved communities. This session will explore the role of services like shared micromobility, carsharing, and mobility wallets in expanding equitable access. Panelists will also discuss funding models, performance metrics, and lessons learned from recent pilot and demonstration programs.

Moderator: Lily Shoup, Smart Mobility & Mobility Transition, San Francisco, Rebel Group Panelists:

Susan Pike Cayar, Director, Transit Research Center, UC Davis

Evelyn Blumenberg, Professor, Urban Planning, UCLA

Avital Shavit, Senior Director, Office of Innovation, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Chanell Fletcher, Deputy Executive Officer, Equity, Communities & Environmental Justice, California Air Resources Board

3:35 PM Coffee Break

3:55 PM Closing

Closing Fireside Chat: Turning Vision into Action: Advancing Resilient, Affordable, and Equitable Mobility

This forward-looking fireside chat will wrap up the summit by highlighting key takeaways and outlining practical steps to advance resilient, affordable, and equitable mobility. Thought leaders will discuss innovative policies, funding strategies, and multi-stakeholder partnerships crucial for turning ideas into action. The conversation will focus on overcoming obstacles and setting priorities for the next phase of mobility transformation in California, including next steps for the UC ITS collaboration with the State. The session will end with a call to action, encouraging stakeholders to build bold partnerships, align on shared goals, and take coordinated action to accelerate mobility innovation.

Moderator: Randy Chinn, Policy Advisor, UC Institute of Transportation Studies

Panelists:

Alissa Kendall, Director, UC-ITS

Jean-Daniel Saphores, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering; Director, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Irvine

Tanisha Taylor, Executive Director, California Transportation Commission

4:55 PM Closing Remarks

Adam Millard-Ball, UCLA

5:00 PM Reception





Program Committee Members

- Susan Shaheen, RIMI Summit Committee Chair; Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Berkeley; Director, Resilient & Innovative Mobility Initiative
- · Alfred Chen, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, UC, Irvine
- Randy Chinn, Policy Advisor, UC Institute of Transportation Studies
- · James Fishelson, Director, California PATH, UC Berkeley
- Julia Griswold, Director, Safe Transportation Research & Education Center, UC Berkeley
- Alan Jenn, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Davis
- Mike Hyland, Associate Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Irvine
- Tim Lipman, Co-Director, Transportation Sustainability Research Center, UC Berkeley
- Adam Millard-Ball, Professor, Urban Planning; Director, Institute of Transportation Studies, UCLA
- Brian Taylor, Professor, Urban Planning & Public Policy, Luskin School of Public Affairs, UCLA
- Gil Tal, Director, Electric Vehicle Research Center, UC Davis