

*A Virtual Event*

# Electrifying the Transportation Future

**12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MINETA NATIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION FINANCE SUMMIT**

*IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB OF CALIFORNIA*

**Friday, June 11, 2021  
10:00a.m.-12:00p.m. (PDT)**

## Event Overview



Transportation policymakers face two overlapping, once-in-a-generation opportunities: electrifying the nation's vehicle fleet and re-establishing a stable source of federal and state revenue for transportation. As states and the Biden administration begin a push to rapidly electrify the US fleet for climate reasons, policymakers are under increasing pressure to rethink how states and the federal government fund transportation infrastructure and services.

For decades, motor fuel taxes have generated the majority of state and federal funds spent on transportation, even if recently these taxes have been losing their purchasing power. However, a shift to electric vehicles will require a new transportation funding model. The speakers will discuss the challenges and opportunities with such options as mileage fees, carbon taxes, higher vehicle registration fees, or a shift entirely away from user-generated revenue.



# Program



- ◆◆ **Welcome**  
**Karen Philbrick, PhD**  
Executive Director, Mineta Transportation Institute
- ◆◆ **Special Guest**  
**Secretary Pete Buttigieg**  
U.S. Department of Transportation
- ◆◆ **Preliminary Remarks**  
**Senator Alex Padilla**  
U.S. Senate
- ◆◆ **Keynote Address**  
**Toks Omishakin**  
Director, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
- ◆◆ **Moderator**  
**Therese Watkins McMillan**  
Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission
- ◆◆ **Panelists**  
**Asha Weinstein Agrawal, PhD**  
Director, MTI National Transportation Finance Center  
**Carlos Braceras, P.E.**  
Executive Director, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT)  
**Carl Guardino**  
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs and Policy,  
Bloom Energy  
**Dan Sperling, PhD**  
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, UC Davis

## Speakers & Panelists



### **Asha Weinstein Agrawal, PhD**

*Director, MTI National Transportation Finance Center*

Asha Weinstein Agrawal is Director of MTI's National Transportation Finance Center, MTI Education Director, and Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at San José State University. Her research agenda is guided by a commitment to the principles of sustainability and equity: what policy and planning tools can communities adopt to encourage environmentally-friendly travel and improve accessibility for people struggling with poverty or other disadvantages? Dr. Agrawal has researched transportation revenue policy for over 20 years, focusing on holistic evaluation of different tax and fee options.



### **Carlos Braceras, P.E.**

*Executive Director, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT)*

A registered professional engineer, Carlos M. Braceras was appointed executive director of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) by Governor Gary Herbert on May 6, 2013 and reappointed to serve as executive Director by Governor Spencer Cox in January 2021. In this role, he is responsible for UDOT's more than 1,600 employees and the design, construction, and maintenance of Utah's 6,000-mile system of roads and highways. He recently redefined the Department's goals and mission, including implementing a Road User Charge program. He has overseen the completion of massive highway projects like the Utah County I-15 Corridor Expansion (I-15 CORE) and the Mountain View Corridor in west Salt Lake County.



## **Secretary Pete Buttigieg**

*U.S. Department of Transportation*

Pete Buttigieg currently serves as the 19th Secretary of Transportation. Previously, Secretary Buttigieg served as mayor of his hometown of South Bend, Indiana. A graduate of Harvard University and a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, Buttigieg served for seven years as an officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve, taking a leave of absence from the mayor's office for a deployment to Afghanistan in 2014. Throughout 2020, he campaigned for the election of the Biden-Harris ticket and served on the advisory board for the presidential transition. When confirmed as Secretary of Transportation by the Senate he became the first openly gay person confirmed to serve in a president's Cabinet.



## **Carl Guardino**

*Executive Vice President, Government Affairs and Policy, Bloom Energy*

Carl Guardino is Executive Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy. Prior to joining Bloom Energy, Carl was the longtime President and CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG), a prominent public policy trade association that represents more than 350 of Silicon Valley's most respected companies. He has championed public policy at the local, state, and federal level for more than three decades. In February 2007, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed Carl to a four-year term on the California Transportation Commission. He was reappointed twice by Governor Jerry Brown, and in 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom appointed him to his fourth consecutive four-year term.



## **Therese Watkins McMillan**

*Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)*

Therese Watkins McMillan is Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), which is the transportation planning, financing, and coordinating agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay area. She also serves as the top executive for the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). McMillan previously worked for 25 years at MTC, and for more than eight years as MTC's deputy executive director for Policy before her 2009 appointment by then-President Barack Obama to serve as deputy administrator of the Federal Transit Administration in the U.S. Department of Transportation. McMillan was named a 'Woman Moving the Nation' by the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials in 2013; and Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) National Woman of the Year in 2016.



## **Toks Omishakin**

*Director, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)*

Toks Omishakin was appointed the 33rd Director of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019. As Director, he manages a \$15 billion budget and nearly 21,000 employees who oversee 50,000 lane miles of highways, maintain 13,000 bridges, provide permitting of more than 400 public-use airports, fund three of Amtrak's busiest intercity rail services and provide transit support to more than 200 local and regional transit agencies. Omishakin's transportation vision for California features a safe, sustainable and multimodal transportation system that builds on strong local partnerships.



## **Senator Alex Padilla**

*U.S. Senate*

Senator Alex Padilla is the proud son of immigrants from Mexico. Padilla attended Los Angeles public schools and is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After graduating, Padilla was elected to the Los Angeles City Council where he served for seven years. In 2006 he was elected to the California State Senate, where he passed more than 70 bills, including landmark legislation to combat climate change, and was named as one of Sacramento's "most effective legislators." Padilla served as California's first Latino Secretary of State starting on January 5, 2015 and was re-elected in 2018, receiving the most votes of any Latino elected official in the United States. Governor Newsom's 2021 appointment of Padilla to the U.S. Senate, replacing now Vice President Kamala Harris, marked Padilla as the first Latino to represent California in the U.S. Senate.



## **Karen Philbrick, PhD**

*Executive Director, Mineta Transportation Institute*

Karen Philbrick serves as the executive director of the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San José State University, a position she has held since 2014. MTI leads two competitively selected multi-university consortiums: the California State University Transportation Consortium (CSUTC) which unifies the surface transportation research and workforce development efforts of the 23-campus California State University system and the Mineta Consortium for Transportation Mobility (MCTM). MCTM unifies and focuses the efforts of four outstanding institutions that represent and support the geographical, cultural, racial, and socioeconomic diversity that makes our nation strong: Howard University; Navajo Technical University; San José State University; and the University of North Carolina Charlotte.



## **Dan Sperling, PhD**

*Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering,  
UC Davis*

Dr. Daniel Sperling is a Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science and Policy, and founding Director of the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California, Davis (ITS-Davis). He holds the transportation seat on the California Air Resources Board and served as Chair of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies in 2015-16. He was awarded the 2018 Roy W. Crum award from TRB; and the 2013 Blue Planet Prize from the Asahi Glass Foundation Prize. He served twice as lead author for the IPCC (sharing the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize), has testified to the US Congress, and authored or co-authored over 250 technical papers and 13 books.

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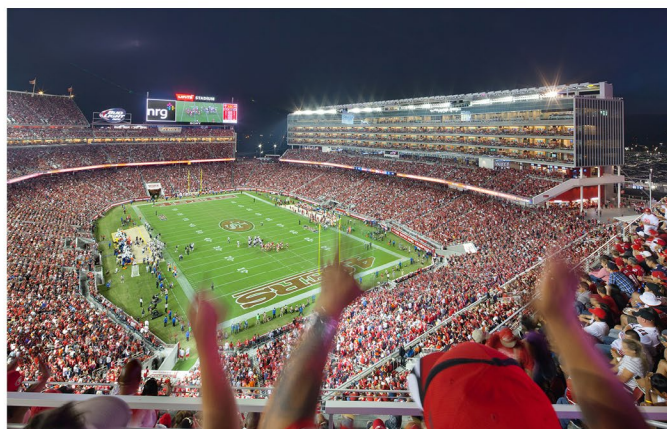


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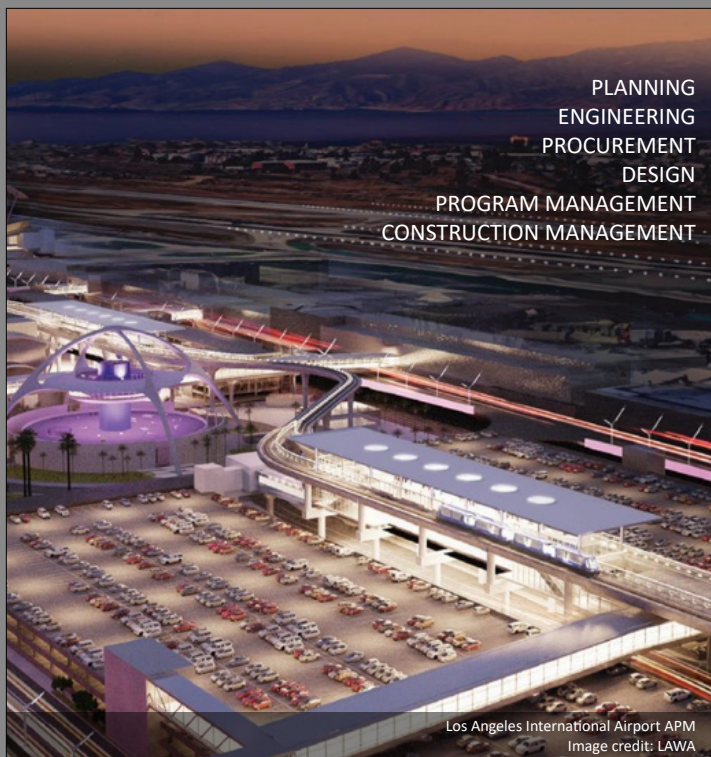
## InfraStrategies

InfraStrategies is honored to sponsor the 12th Annual  
Mineta National Transportation Finance Summit.

InfraStrategies provides financial planning and strategic  
advisory services to public authorities and developers  
with a primary focus on funding and financing critical  
infrastructure development and mobility services.

We are pleased to continue our collaboration with the  
Mineta Institute and many of its partners as the industry  
works to restore fiscal sustainability during this  
unprecedented time for transportation providers  
throughout the country and around the world.





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# About MTI



## MISSION

To move is to live. At the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San Jose State University, our mission is to increase mobility for all by improving the safety, efficiency, accessibility, and convenience of our nation's transportation system. Through research, education, workforce development and technology transfer, we help create a connected world.

## VISION

A connected world, where access to equitable, affordable, sustainable surface transportation is ensured through the highest quality research, planning and production. The Mineta Transportation Institute and the many partners who share our vision, will perform this work with integrity, and will honor diversity, sustainability, and equality in achieving mobility for all.

## VALUES

Our values reflect who we are as people, educators, researchers, business partners and leaders in the transportation field. It is not an overstatement to say that transportation of people and goods is the linchpin of our economy. Where human beings are concerned, the difference between having and lacking mobility is no less than the difference between having or lacking opportunity. We take this responsibility to the community very seriously and therefore our work is built on the foundation of these core values:

- ◆ Accountability
- ◆ Diversity
- ◆ Equity
- ◆ Integrity
- ◆ Sustainability

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