A VIRTUAL EVENT
In partnership with the Commonwealth Club of California

GETTING TO ZERO DEATHS ON OUR ROADWAYS: IS THE IIJA UP TO THE CHALLENGE?

14th ANNUAL MINETA NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY SUMMIT

Friday, June 2, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (PT)
Event Overview

The United States faces a public health crisis on its roads. In 2021 alone, almost 43,000 people died in traffic crashes and millions more suffered serious injuries. Secretary Pete Buttigieg calls the situation a preventable crisis—one for which we must take responsibility by recognizing that human lives are not a price to pay for modernity. New funding available through the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides a significant opportunity to reduce crashes through infrastructure redesign. Join the Mineta Transportation Institute and a panel of national experts to discuss the role of infrastructure redesign in achieving a national goal of zero traffic fatalities.

For information on past Mineta National Transportation Summit events, please visit:
https://transweb.sjsu.edu/Past-Mineta-National-Transportation-Summits
Welcome
Karen Philbrick, PhD
Executive Director, Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI)

Featured Speaker
Robin Hutcheson
Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Keynote Address
Jennifer Homendy
Chair, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)

Keynote Address Moderator
Paula Hammond
Multimodal National Market Leader, WSP

MTI Safety Survey Presenter
Asha Weinstein Agrawal, PhD
Director, MTI National Transportation Finance Center

Panelists
Ravinder S. Bhalla
Mayor, City of Hoboken

Beth Osborne
Vice President, Transportation and Thriving Communities, Smart Growth America

Emily Schweninger
Senior Policy Advisor, Transportation Health and Safety, U.S. Department of Transportation

Tony Tavares
Director, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Panel Moderator
Selika Talbott
MTI Research Associate; Founder and CEO, Autonomous Vehicle Consulting
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 tax and fee options.

Ravinder S. Bhalla

Mayor, City of Hoboken

Born and raised in New Jersey, Mayor Ravi S. Bhalla is a 22-year resident of Hoboken who served eight years on the Hoboken City Council before being elected Mayor in November 2017. As Mayor, he has focused on making the City of Hoboken safer for everyone and more resilient to climate change. He signed the City’s Climate Action Plan in 2019 with the goal of the City of Hoboken becoming net zero energy by 2030. He also signed an executive order launching Hoboken’s Vision Zero initiative to create a Vision Zero Action Plan. As a father of two young children, Mayor Bhalla sees firsthand how small interventions can dramatically improve safety for people of all ages and abilities. Earlier this year, under his direction, the City achieved a major Vision Zero milestone by reducing the citywide speed limit to 20 MPH. Under his leadership, Hoboken has become a national model for creating safer streets for all residents and modes of transportation.
Paula Hammond
Multimodal National Market Leader, WSP USA

Paula Hammond is the National Transportation Market Leader for WSP USA, in Seattle, WA. Paula supports clients in the emerging and integrated transportation topics of resilience, pricing, system operations, and performance management. Prior to joining WSP, Ms. Hammond dedicated her 34-year public service career to improving transportation systems in Washington state, where she served as the Washington Secretary of Transportation from 2007 to 2013. Ms. Hammond has held leadership roles with numerous national transportation organizations, including as chair of AASHTO’s Standing Committee on Highways, the ARTBA Board of Directors, the TRB Executive Committee, and the WTS International Board of Directors.

Jennifer Homendy
Chair, National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)

Jennifer L. Homendy was sworn in as the 15th Chair of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on August 13, 2021, after being unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. A tireless advocate for safety, Chair Homendy has spent over two decades supporting the critical mission of the NTSB, which investigates crashes in all modes of transportation, determines probable causes, and issues recommendations to improve the safety of transportation systems around the world. From 2004 to 2018, Chair Homendy served as the Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials under the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Chair Homendy is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University and is pursuing a Master of Transportation Safety Administration degree at the Institute for Global Road Safety and Security at Clemson University.
Robin Hutcheson
Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Robin Hutcheson serves as the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Ms. Hutcheson previously served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Safety Policy for the U.S. Department of Transportation in the Biden-Harris Administration. In this role, she led safety policy and coordinated safety efforts across multiple modes of transportation, including COVID response and recovery. She led the development of the first National Roadway Safety Strategy for the United States and helped secure $13B in additional funding for safety programs and initiatives included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Before being appointed to the Biden-Harris Administration, she was the Director of Public Works for the City of Minneapolis and the Transportation Director for Salt Lake City.

Beth Osborne
Vice President, Transportation and Thriving Communities, Smart Growth America

Beth Osborne is the Vice President for Transportation and Thriving Communities at Smart Growth America, a national nonprofit focused on the role that the built environment plays in making communities healthy, prosperous, and resilient. She previously worked at the U.S. Department of Transportation as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, where she managed the TIGER Discretionary Grant program and the Secretary’s livability initiative. Previously, she worked for Sen. Tom Carper (DE) as an advisor, as the policy director for Smart Growth America, and as legislative director for environmental policy at the Southern Governors’ Association. She began her career in the House of Representatives as a legislative assistant for Rep. Ron Klink (PA-04) and as legislative director for Rep. Brian Baird (WA-03).
Karen Philbrick, PhD

Executive Director, Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI)

Karen Philbrick is the Executive Director of the Mineta Transportation Institute. Among her most notable achievements, Dr. Philbrick has been appointed four times by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation (Secretaries LaHood, Foxx, Chao, and Buttigieg) to sit on the USDOT Transit Advisory Committee for Safety. Always working to advance equitable transportation for all, Dr. Philbrick serves the industry through elected positions on the boards of the American Public Transportation Association, the International Transportation Learning Center, NASA’s Academic Mission Services Science and Technology Council, and the Women in Transportation Seminar International. Dr. Philbrick has received many prestigious awards including, the CUTC Administrative Leadership award, the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials’ “Woman Who Moves the Nation,” and the Silicon Valley Business Journal’s 1 of the 100 Women of Influence in Silicon Valley.

Emily Schweninger

Senior Policy Advisor, Transportation Health and Safety, U.S. Department of Transportation

Emily Schweninger serves as Senior Policy Advisor for Transportation Health and Safety in the Office of the Under Secretary at the United States Department of Transportation. There, Ms. Schweninger has promoted safety through the launch of both the National Roadway Safety Strategy and the Safe Streets and Roads for All Discretionary Grant Program, which allocates 5 Billion USD over five years to communities to create and implement comprehensive safety action plans on our roadways. She previously served as the Director of Thriving Communities at Smart Growth America, directing diverse programming and research for the National Complete Streets Coalition, Rural Communities Development, and other projects within the Thriving Communities team, focusing on the intersection of health and equity in the built environment.
Selika Talbott
MTI Research Associate; Founder and CEO, Autonomous Vehicle Consulting

Selika Josiah Talbott is a leading industry voice for the adoption of Transportation’s New Mobility: Connected, Autonomous, Shared and Electric vehicles. The Founder of Autonomous Vehicle Consulting, LLC and Solutions 4 New Mobility Education, LLC, she provides strategic advice to mobility organizations and educational materials on new mobility. She is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Southern California and Co-Directs the UC Davis Institute for Transportation Studies’ Environmental Justice Leaders Program. Extensively published in Forbes.com, she also authored the children’s book series Sammie and Sally Move Around Town. She has had a distinguished career in public service and has served in the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and State of New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission.

Tony Tavares
Director, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Tony Tavares was appointed the 34th Director of the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) by Governor Gavin Newsom and sworn in June 2022. Director Tavares manages a nearly $20 billion budget and more than 22,000 employees who oversee 50,000 lane miles of highway, maintain approximately 20,000 bridges, provide permitting of more than 400 airports, fund three of Amtrak’s busiest intercity rail services, and provide support to 200 local and regional transit agencies. Director Tavares’ vision for California addresses critical climate issues and advances a safe, equitable, accessible, sustainable, and multimodal transportation system that builds on strong partnerships and robust stakeholder engagement. He fosters a people-first culture built on Safety, Equity, Climate Action, and Economic Prosperity—furthering a California for all.
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