

A Year in Review

December 2022

Dr. Karen Philbrick

As we say farewell to 2022, we find ourselves looking back and reflecting on what we have lost, as well as what we have gained. In May, we lost MTI's namesake and founder when our beloved [Norman Y. Mineta](#) passed away at the age of 90. We will always dearly miss Norm, and we will also push forward to continue his legacy of lifting up diverse voices and connecting communities.

I would like to thank you for being an integral part of MTI's growth this past year. While our accomplishments are many and have been reported in past [newsletters](#) and [press releases](#), I wanted to highlight a few examples of the significant impact our work has had on improving the mobility of people and goods.

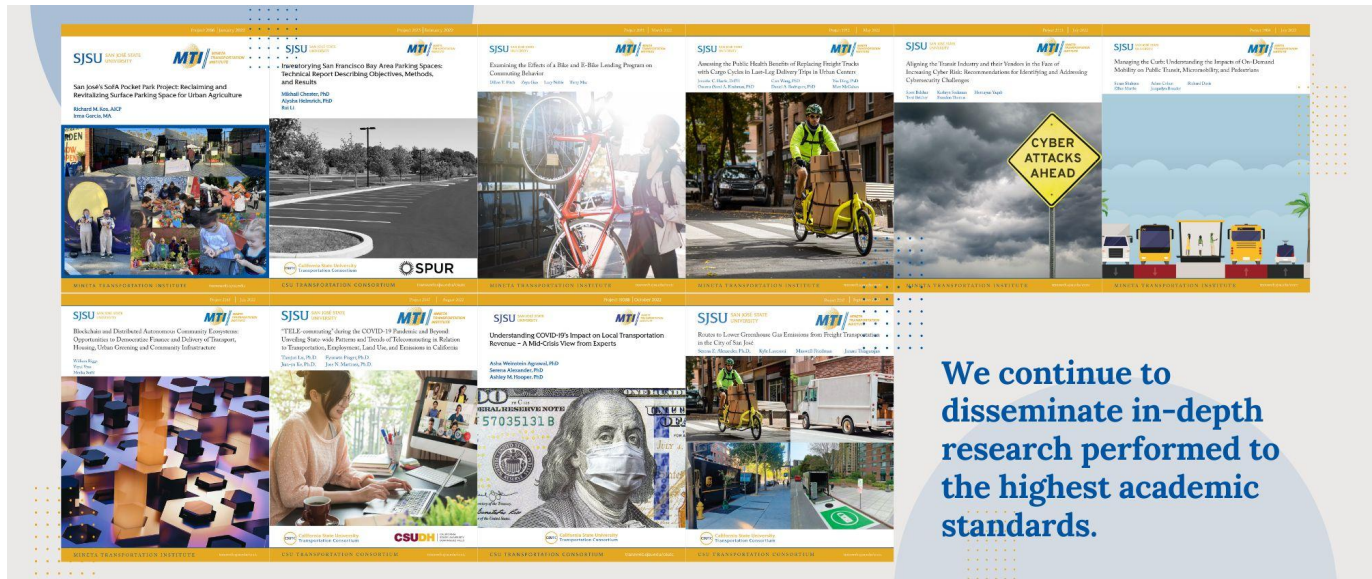
In addition to leading the USDOT funded Mineta Consortium for Transportation Mobility ([MCTM](#)) and the California State University Transportation Consortium ([CSUTC](#)), MTI won the opportunity to establish a third competitively selected multi-university consortia—the Climate Change and Extreme Events Training and Research ([CCEETR](#)) program funded by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

Our students and researchers won numerous awards for their academic work, we delivered state and federal testimony, created and implemented transportation [curriculum](#) for elementary school students while also engaging [middle school](#), [high school](#), and [post secondary students](#) in innovative programs to build the transportation workforce pipeline of the future!

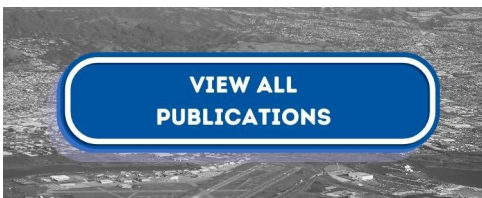
Overall, I hope we helped make 2022 the best year yet through our continued efforts to empower our communities through transportation. By improving the safety, efficiency, accessibility, and convenience of our nation's transportation system, we connect the world and increase mobility for all.

Now, let's look back at the most memorable moments of 2022 and see what we've achieved together.

Research Publications



We continue to disseminate in-depth research performed to the highest academic standards.



This year we published 66 reports from 53 researchers. These research projects engaged 121 student research assistants with paid opportunities and real-world experience. Each research report reflects a new depth of knowledge and includes actionable intelligence to improve our nation's transportation systems and the industry as a whole. For example, MTI Research Associate

Scott Belcher, an author of [**Aligning the Transit Industry and Their Vendors in the Face of Increasing Cyber Risk**](#), presented the findings of this crucial cybersecurity report at the APTA's Rail and TRANSform Conferences, ITS World Congress, and others. Mr. Belcher also testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on cybersecurity issues impacting the transportation industry in November 2021. Dr. Asha Weinstein Agrawal, Director of MTI's National Transportation Finance center, provided testimony on the impact of zero-emission vehicles on the state's transportation revenue to both the California Senate and Assembly Transportation Committees. Dr. Agrawal also lent her expertise on transportation finance to KTVU special coverage on [**California's Electric Revolution**](#). MTI also published perspective pieces written by industry experts, Dr. Joshua Schank and Emma Huang, exploring the ideas of [**fareless transit**](#) and [**microtransit**](#) to bridge the gaps in services and improve equity in green transportation programs.

Events



San José State University. This forum brought together Silicon Valley leaders in academia, government, and industry to showcase the regional capabilities available to address climate change and aviation challenges, and to encourage the public-private partnerships and collaborations needed to do so. We also hosted one of our signature events, the [13th Annual Mineta National Transportation Policy Summit: Mapping the Route to Equitable Road User Charges](#), featuring Congressman Peter DeFazio and US DOT Deputy Secretary Polly Trottenberg. This event, presented in partnership with the Commonwealth Club of California since 2010, brings together national experts to discuss cutting-edge transportation challenges and opportunities. And we did not stop there, we also explored proposals including fee rates that vary by driver income, vehicle characteristics, or time and place, and equity-centered policies for responding to non-payment of tolls or other fees. We rounded out the year by partnering with the Women's Transportation Seminar ([WTS](#)) to deliver a series of webinars focusing on entrepreneurship and an introductory networking event for students and emerging professionals.

Education Program



MTI supports an interdisciplinary California State University [Master of Science in Transportation Management](#) program, fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Because our program caters to working professionals, it brings a diversity of experiences and perspectives to the classroom—a typical cohort can include transit agency CEOs studying alongside train operators and front-line transit workers. MTI is proud to have supported our students with close to \$1 million in fellowships since 1996. In 2022, MTI awarded 48 fellowships in addition to partnering with the American Public Transportation Foundation (APTF) to competitively award a 10K scholarship to one deserving student! Nine of our graduate students won other prestigious state and national awards, including scholarships from the American Public Transportation Foundation ([APTF](#)), Latinos in Transit ([LiT](#)), Women's Transportation Seminar ([WTS](#)), as well as Mass Transit Magazine's "40 Under 40."



Workforce Development



MTI delivered 15 workforce development events and programs, engaging audiences ranging from elementary students to mid-level managers this year. In total, we connected with over 1,100 individuals in our efforts to plan for the future of the transportation workforce. In addition, we partnered with educational institutions, non-profit organizations, professional

associations, and transit agencies to engage communities at large in advancing the knowledge of various transportation career paths. Our [annual elementary poster contest](#) received more than 80 entries from various schools in Santa Clara County, and we awarded cash prizes to the winning students as well as paid field trips, and pizza and popsicle parties to their classes. After a two year hiatus, MTI was proud to resume the [Mineta Summer Transportation Institute](#), funded by [Caltrans](#), with 33 high-school student participants. Students participated in a series of comprehensive hands-on projects, academic lectures, and field trips to the [Port of Oakland](#), [Coast Guard Island](#), and future [California High-Speed Rail](#) sites, introducing them to the principles of transportation systems. MTI also hosted its 22nd [Garrett Morgan Sustainable Transportation Competition](#), which challenges middle-school students to apply science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) to solve a real-life transportation issue.

That's a wrap for 2022!

As we move toward the new year, please consider sharing this message with colleagues who will benefit from transportation news, professional development opportunities, and industry connections. Be sure to follow us on social media to see what's in store for 2023 and to learn, grow, and improve the world of transportation along with us!

