

AI at Work: Tools That Keep US Moving

November 2025



Imagine asking your computer to summarize a 200-page report, design a presentation slide, or translate a policy brief into plain language—and having it done in seconds. What once sounded like science fiction is now reality. Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming how we learn, create, and communicate, including in the transportation industry. How can all of us take advantage of this innovation to work smarter, faster, and more efficiently?

According to a 2024 [study](#) from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and the Transportation Research Board (TRB), AI has the potential to revolutionize much of the industry: “With predictive analytics and real-time data processing, AI systems show promise in alleviating congestion, reducing travel times, and enhancing overall safety by alerting drivers to potential hazards. AI-driven simulations are also used for testing and improving transportation systems, saving time and resources that would otherwise be needed for physical tests.”

AI is everywhere, including at San José State University (SJSU), MTI’s home. SJSU, at the heart of Silicon Valley, is at the [forefront](#) of AI education, developing curriculum and programs that prepare students for a world in which AI use is ubiquitous. The university has also created an AI Advisory Committee to help embrace a “shared responsibility and commitment to ethical principles as we adapt our evolving curricula” to AI and machine learning use.

Still, AI, like any new tech or tool, only works when it is accessible and when we know how to use it. AI is already playing a role in research, data analytics, and planning, but many transportation professionals haven't yet explored how to integrate it into their day-to-day workflows. This gap is why we're launching a new MTI webinar series: [Everyday GenAI: Research, Writing, and Design Tools for Transportation Professionals](#). This free, three-part online series invites you to discover how AI tools that everyone can use (like ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, MidJourney, and others) can support your essential, everyday work that keeps the country running.

I am so excited about this series, which you can read more about below.

- **[Finding Information](#) – November 13**

Online

12:00-12:45p.m. (PT) | [Link to register](#).

The first webinar will be led by Dr. Egbe-Etu Etu, MTI Research Associate and Assistant Professor of Business Analytics at SJSU. Dr. Etu will demonstrate how to use free AI tools to quickly locate and validate transportation-related data, teaching participants the art of “prompt engineering” to ask the right questions and verify results. By learning how to navigate these tools responsibly, industry professionals can make faster data-informed decisions that support the communities they serve.

- **Writing with AI – Coming in Early 2026**

The second session in this series will explore how GenAI can enhance writing, including brainstorming, organizing ideas, and polishing reports. Participants will learn how AI can act as a writing tool and editing partner that *strengthens clarity without compromising originality*.

- **Design and Formatting with AI – Coming in 2026**

The final webinar will focus on how AI can support design and formatting, helping professionals turn data into engaging visual stories.

Connecting Innovation to Practice

As AI evolves, so too must our ability to use it effectively and ethically. AI literacy is becoming a core skill in every industry—and transportation is no exception. By understanding how to apply these tools, we can further the impact of our research, writing, and everyday work.

I hope you join us and take advantage of these learning opportunities to benefit your workflow and your organization. Collectively, using these latest tools, we can better serve our communities and advance mobility for all.

MTI Executive Director, Karen Philbrick, PhD