

DESIGNING CITIES

San Francisco



DESIGNING CITIES

Cities today are in the midst of a transportation revolution. Old forms of transportation - bikes, buses, and streetcars - are being reinvented, while new technologies, data, and increased connectivity are making us smarter about how we choose to get from point A to point B.

The future of cities will be shaped by how these transformative technologies intersect with changing preferences for how people want to live, get around, and interact. As we approach an increasingly urban future, public and private actors must confront the possibilities, implications, and consequences of this fast changing new mobility paradigm.

The Designing Cities Conference will convene national experts and local leaders building more livable, walkable cities for a game-changing meeting in the heart of the Bay Area. The conference will feature real projects being implemented by cities from around the country, presentations by innovative leaders who are instituting policies and programs that transform city streets and public spaces, and participant-driven forums with practitioners who are achieving real results. It is an invaluable opportunity to foster cross-pollination between cities, knowledge-sharing among experts, and a wide-reaching discourse about the future of transportation and urban design.





NACTO's Urban Street Design Guide has cemented a new framework for cities to design world-class streets that better serve bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users.

CATALYZING CIVIC LEADERSHIP IN TRANSPORTATION



Amidst rising concerns about climate change and shrinking local budgets, cities are driving unprecedented reforms in transportation policies and projects. NACTO stands at the center of these efforts, resetting the national transportation dialogue through local innovation.

NACTO's theory of change rests on a conviction that many of the reforms sought by transportation advocates and political leaders can be accomplished by changing local policies through a focus on design and barriers to implementation. Altering how our streets are managed and built has the potential not only to help communities comprehensively combat environmental change and rising greenhouse gas emissions through mode shift, but also to create a better quality of life for residents and a more economically vibrant public realm.

As NACTO President, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Director Ed Reiskin serves as chair of the 2014 Designing Cities conference on street design and sustainable transportation in the Bay Area. The Designing Cities conference is based in San Francisco and will feature transportation innovation in neighboring Bay Area jurisdictions, including Oakland and San Jose.

Above: The highlight of NACTO's 2012 conference was the Commissioners' Panel, which brought together our nation's foremost transportation leaders for a discussion moderated by Chris Hayes of MSNBC.

BUILDING PEER-TO-PEER RELATIONSHIPS



Above: Attendees learn how to make a dangerous intersection safer to cross.

NACTO's Designing Cities conference strives to give public sector actors the agency and expertise to innovate and experiment. Conference attendees will share their experiences in delivering challenging, transformative projects, setting strong precedents for their peers to replicate these exemplary efforts. Participants will engage in hands-on walking and biking tours of real projects, as well as interactive, applied workshops on street design and public space.

RE-ENVISIONING CITY STREETS



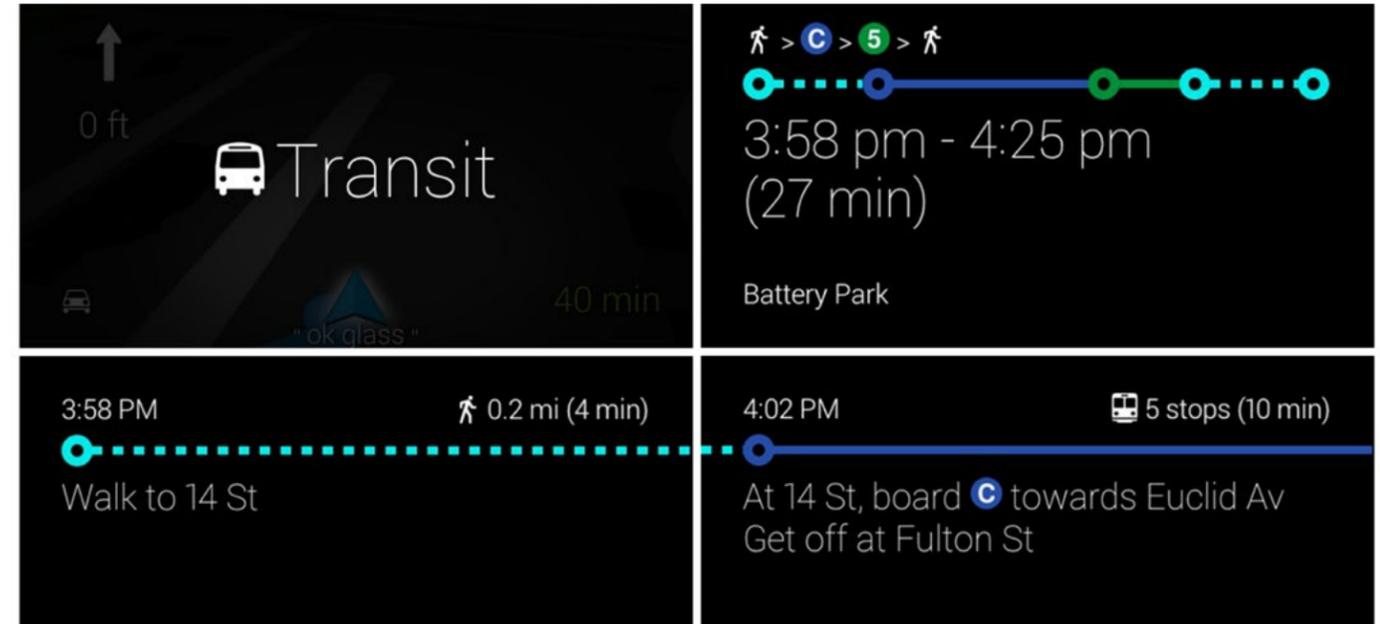
Above: Vassar Street, Cambridge, MA

City streets comprise a significant portion of public, open space in many cities. Too often, however, these streets act as barriers between communities, rather than bridges that connect them. NACTO has been working across its member agencies to creatively rethink how we use streets as public spaces. New design templates have emerged for bikeways, buses, green infrastructure, and public plazas, among other areas. These collective efforts, encapsulated in the association's two leading publications, the *Urban Street Design Guide* and *Urban Bikeway Design Guide*, have the potential to reshape how we move through cities, as well as how we define our streets.

Protected bikeways, designated bus lanes, and wider sidewalks are together changing the face of city streets across the United States.



ENHANCING TRANSPORTATION THROUGH NEW TECHNOLOGIES



(above) Credit: Google
(left) Credit: Car2Go

Over the next decade, transportation systems will have to adapt to quickly changing trends in technology, payment systems, and real-time information. Pervasive mobile technologies and handheld devices have the potential to revolutionize transportation, but their widespread benefits will require creative, active partnerships between public and private actors working collaboratively to deliver better service and mobility.

As part of its 2014 conference in San Francisco, NACTO will take advantage of its proximity to the nexus of technological innovation in Silicon Valley by working to promote mutually beneficial dialogues and partnerships between these sectors.

START-UP DAY



OCTOBER 22, 2014

Technology and mobile applications are changing the way we move throughout a city and informing our choices about transportation. Today, cities are experimenting with smart new strategies for data-driven policy, efficient project delivery, and rich public engagement. On October 22, NACTO and SFMTA will hold a Start-Up Day featuring new and transformative transportation technology companies. This outdoor street fair will foster conversations between city transportation practitioners and entrepreneurs about how to integrate cutting-edge innovations into a shared vision for city life.

THEMES



Streets as Public Spaces



Activating Streets



Better Bikeways



Making Transit Work



Shared Mobility



Innovative Transportation Technologies



Engaging the Community



Great Streets are Great for Business



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Mission

The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit association that represents large cities on transportation issues of local, regional and national significance. NACTO views the transportation departments of major cities as effective and necessary partners in regional and national transportation efforts, promoting their interests in federal decision-making.

We facilitate the exchange of transportation ideas, insights and best practices among large cities, while fostering a cooperative approach to key issues facing cities and metropolitan areas. As a coalition of city transportation departments, NACTO is committed to raising the state of the practice for street design and transportation by building a common vision, sharing data, peer-to-peer exchange in workshops and conferences, and regular communication among member cities. We believe that by working together, cities can save time and money, while more effectively achieving their policy goals and objectives.

Member Cities

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 Baltimore
 Boston
 Charlotte
 Chicago
 Denver
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 Houston
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 New York
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 Phoenix
 Portland
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