



DESIGNING CITIES

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS / OCT 27-29, 2013

ABOUT DESIGNING CITIES

Designing Cities is an initiative of the National Association of City Transportation Officials to dramatically transform street design and transportation engineering practices in cities across the United States. Based on the principle that streets are public spaces for people as well as arteries for traffic, NACTO members have created an *Urban Street Design Guide* that illustrates how city leaders and practitioners can best design streets that meet the needs of their communities and support the safety, economy, and livability of cities.

SUNDAY/10.27

10:00 AM

4:00 PM

The Urban Street Design Guide Applied

Sunday Workshop, Phoenix City Hall

Co-led by Michael King, Principal at Nelson\Nygaard and Ryan Russo, Assistant Commissioner, NYC DOT

**Participation is limited to 40. Pre-registration is required.*

6:00 PM

8:00 PM

Opening Reception

Lustre Lounge & Deck, Hotel Palomar

MONDAY/10.28

Hotel Palomar Phoenix
2 East Jefferson Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Registration

Third Floor Foyer

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Continental Breakfast

Lustre Lounge & Deck

9:00 AM

9:45 AM

Opening Plenary

Dreamcatcher Ballroom

Janette Sadik-Khan

Commissioner

New York City Department of Transportation

NACTO President

Wylie Bearup

Director

Phoenix Street Transportation Department

NACTO Secretary

Greg Stanton

Mayor

City of Phoenix

Agenda as of October 1, 2013.

Visit www.nacto.org/designingcities2013 for updated information.

MONDAY/10.28

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9:45 AM

10:30 AM

Regional Transportation Challenges

How growing cities are adapting sustainable transportation best practices to meet their regions' needs

With a population of nearly 1.5 million people spread across 520 square miles, Phoenix, like many cities that boomed in the postwar era, must supply transportation services to residents across an area that is both expansive and diffuse. Hear from transportation directors in three growing cities to understand how each is tackling transportation in this context, the challenges they face, and the way they manage and design streets through vastly different contexts.

Moderator: **Jeffrey Tumlin**, Nelson\Nygaard Associates (invited)
Robin Hutcheson, Director, Transportation Division, Community and Economic Development, Salt Lake City
Wylie Bearup, Director, Phoenix Street Transportation Department
Danny Pleasant, Transportation Director, City of Charlotte
Doug Weirsig, Transportation Director, City of Fort Worth

10:45 AM

11:45 AM

Commissioners' Panel

The Urban Street Design Guide: Changing the DNA of City Streets

Building on the 2012 Commissioners' Panel in New York City, NACTO will again convene its top leaders to discuss the most noteworthy transportation trends of 2013. The panel will touch upon recent progress at NACTO and in cities around the US, including the Urban Street Design Guide, bike sharing, and the outlook for the next federal transportation reauthorization.

Moderator: **Mary Peters**, Former United States Secretary of Transportation
Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation
Tom Tinlin, Director, Boston Transportation Department (invited)
Gabe Klein, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Transportation (invited)
Rina Cutler, Deputy Mayor of Transportation & Utilities, City of Philadelphia (invited)

12:00 PM

1:00 PM

Lunch

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1:00 PM

2:45 PM

Panels

Shared Mobility Systems

Bikesharing, carsharing and the future of mobility

Shared mobility systems offer convenient new transportation options for city-dwellers while challenging the conventional transportation paradigm in our cities. How are these systems already altering how people move around their cities and how will they transform individual transportation choices over the next decade? What financial, physical, political, or regulatory hurdles prevent them from attaining their full scale and full potential, and how are cities and their partners striving to overcome these?

Moderator: **Timothy Papandreou**, Deputy Director, Sustainable Streets- Strategic Policy & Planning, SFMTA (invited)
Nicholas Cole, CEO, car2go (invited)
Scott Kubly, Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Transportation

Transforming Streets through Transit

Light rail, streetcar, and rapid bus success stories

Large cities across the country have transformed major urban streets through the addition of light rail, streetcar, and rapid bus. These projects thrive as a result of coordinated, interagency efforts to integrate transit with ambitious land use and redevelopment initiatives, as well as upgrades to the existing streetscape and urban fabric. Learn from implementers who have spearheaded game-changing local transit initiatives and hear how high quality transit-oriented development can come to fruition.

Moderator: **Rich Weaver**, Director of Planning, Policy & Sustainability, APTA

Debra Campbell, Planning Director, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Department
Mike Barton, Vice President, Tuscon Managing Principal at HDR
Curt Upton, Planner, Reinvent Phoenix

Quick Change Design Strategies

Repurposing roadways and curbsides as public space

Conventional project development and construction timelines make it difficult for cities to realize transformational projects quickly. A growing number of cities are experimenting with an "interim" project delivery method that uses low-cost, flexible materials to realize the benefits of a project or public space in the near term, while funding for the full scale implementation accumulates. How can these interim design strategies, from parklets to public plazas to temporary sidewalk widenings, be used in the life of a capital project or as part of a citywide open space initiative? When are these strategies effective and how can they be used to enhance public space more quickly?

Moderator: **Christine Fanchi**, City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department

Margaret Newman, Chief of Staff, NYC DOT
Andrew Howard, Co-Founder, Team Better Block
Zaki Mustafa, Transportation Engineer, LA DOT
Darin Gatti, Chief Engineer and Surveyor, Philadelphia Mayor's Office of Transportation & Utilities

MONDAY/10.28

Economic Benefits of Multi-Modal Transportation and Mixed-Use Development

Selling more walkable, mixed-use communities on their “livability” is not always enough. Understanding the economic impacts of infrastructure investments is critical not only to gain support for projects from businesses but also to justify such projects when budgets are tight. Measuring economic benefits can also present an opportunity for new funding streams by capturing some of the private value created by those public improvements. Cities will present on-the-ground examples of how they measured the benefits of their projects for surrounding businesses or the larger economy. In particular, presenters will demonstrate how they utilized this data to build project support among the business community and other stakeholders, and how they have leveraged public investments to spur private development and vice versa.

Moderator: **Paul Crabtree**, President, Crabtree Group
Tom Maguire, Assistant Commissioner, NYC DOT
Janet Attarian, Complete Streets Program Director, Chicago DOT
Teri Killgore, Downtown Redevelopment Manager, City of Chandler

3:15 PM
5:00 PM

Panels

Integrating Space and Time

How signal timing adjustments contribute to safe, multi-modal streets

Prevailing notions of complete streets tend to privilege spatial changes to the layout of a street over the allotment of time at a given intersection, along a corridor, or throughout a street network. As cities redesign their streets, they have increasingly found corridor-based signal timing schemes that create frustrating delays and undermine the balance sought in a multimodal street network. Learn from leading practitioners about the trade-offs to be considered between space and time, as well as other signalization strategies that can make cities function better in time, as well as space.

Moderator: **Shane Silsby**, Deputy Street Transportation Director, City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department
Ryan Russo, Assistant Commissioner, NYC DOT
Gary Schatz, Assistant Director, Transportation Management, City of Austin (invited)

Data Collection for Safe, Livable Streets

From safety statistics to business revenues and mode counts, data collection is a crucial yet underappreciated aspect of transformative street design. Data collection strategies should begin with a project’s conception and be tracked after implementation to demonstrate how a project has succeeded or which aspects need to improve going forward. Learn from researchers and project managers about how to better understand safety, performance, and livability through data, and which strategies can help cities obtain better research for major projects and initiatives.

Moderator: **Linda Bailey**, Acting Executive Director, NACTO
Eric Dumbaugh, Associate Professor and Director of the School of Urban & Regional Planning, Florida Atlantic University
April Bertelsen, Pedestrian Coordinator, Portland Bureau of Transportation (invited)
Luann Hamilton, Deputy Commissioner, Chicago DOT

Participatory Planning Applications and New Technologies

Mobile applications and new technologies are making it easier for citizens to directly participate in the planning process. People can alert their city to potholes, help plan a city’s bike network, and even make suggestions on a roadway’s redesign through new, easy-to-use online platforms. Do these new citizen participation platforms make the planning process more democratic and representative? What are their strengths, pitfalls, and unintended consequences? How are cities incorporating these new voices into their existing processes?

Moderator: **Frank Hebbert**, Open Plans
Elizabeth Sall, San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Lou Huang, Creator, StreetMix

Making the Case for Complete Streets

While complete streets have a positive connotation for many people and neighborhoods, their implementation also has the potential to spark controversy and debate about the present and future use of city streets. New streetscapes and development can set off tensions about gentrification or bubble to the surface generational or class differences. Hear from planners about their process and recommendations for engaging communities in street design, from forging partnerships to shepherd projects through to the finish line to the social-cultural barriers that may frustrate a project’s goals.

Moderator: **Jim Sebastian**, Active Transportation Planner, District DOT
Margaret Newman, Chief of Staff, NYC DOT
Jeff Risom, Head of the Gehl Institute, Gehl Architects

TUESDAY/10.29

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Breakfast

Keynote Address

Victor Mendez

Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

9:15 AM

11:00 AM

Designing the World-Class Street

Speed dating the Urban Street Design Guide

Led by the creators and implementers of the Urban Street Design Guide, this “speed dating” activity will give conference attendees an opportunity to learn directly from the experts who helped to craft the Urban Street Design Guide. City staff with varied expertise will be on hand to present on the key principles of different chapters of the guide, including interim design strategies, stormwater management, complex intersection design, design speed and other key topics.

11:00 AM

1:00 PM

Panels

Level of Service

Measuring performance for everyone using the street

Cities use development review policy to ensure that new development contributes positively to the urban landscape and surrounding communities. However, the traditional use of auto Level of Service (LOS) grades to assess project impacts encourages auto-oriented streets and inhibits in-fill development. Hear from cities about how they use LOS in their development review process, how other performance metrics can supersede or supplement it, and how emerging tools and policies can promote urban development and multi-modal transportation systems simultaneously.

Moderator: **Jamie Parks**, Complete Streets Program Manager, City of Oakland Public Works Department

Viktoriya Wise, San Francisco County Planning Department

Jamie Henson, Transportation Planner, District DOT

Marc Butorac, Senior Principal Engineer, Kittelson & Associates

Getting Across the Divide

Crosswalk policies and designs that create safe and walkable neighborhoods

Giving people safe and convenient crossings is a precursor to walkability. Existing standards and practices often make it difficult for cities to justify adding stop or signal control for fully protected crossings, while high-quality midblock or minor street crossings can be expensive to implement with medians and raised treatments. How are cities addressing pedestrian crossings at mid-block locations and minor street crossings? Are citywide policies informing these decisions or are they based solely on context? How does satisfaction of specific warrants mesh with desired or projected pedestrian life in a particular area?

Moderator: **Kerry Wilcoxon**, Traffic Engineer, City of Phoenix

Richard Nassi, Transportation Administrator, City of Tucson

Michael King, Principal, Nelson\Nygaard Associates

Next Generation Bikeways

Urban Bikeway Design Guide Training

Protected bike lanes, also known as cycle tracks, have emerged as a crucial tool for every city that is working to make bicycling an appealing, safe option. Yet implementing protected lanes can pose significant challenges, from separate signal phases to conflicts with transit and parking removal. How have cities around the country successfully designed innovative bicycle infrastructure and what are some of the key lessons learned from their first projects in the ground?

Moderator: **Kit Keller**, Executive Director, Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals

David Vega-Barachowitz, Director, Designing Cities initiative, NACTO

Becka Roolf, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, Transportation Division, Community & Economic Development, Salt Lake City

Mike Sallaberry, Senior Engineer, Livable Streets Subdivision, SFMTA

Financing City Transportation Infrastructure

Historically, the federal government has provided the majority of funding for transportation projects using revenues raised by levying a tax on gasoline. While current gas taxes cover 53% of transportation needs each year, by 2035, gas taxes will cover just 33% of these needs. At a time when cities are aggressively building transportation infrastructure to compete globally, where does that leave mayors and transportation officials seeking resources for transportation investments? This panel will explore value capture and innovative financing structures that cities are increasingly using for transportation infrastructure investments.

Moderator: **Eric Anderson**, Transportation Director, Maricopa Association of Governments

Scott Kubly, Managing Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Transportation

Rafael Aldrete, Center Director, Senior Research Scientist, Texas Transportation Institute

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1:00 PM

4:00 PM

To-Go Lunch

WalkShops

PHX Sky Train via Phoenix METRO Light Rail

led by Kyle Kotchou, City of Phoenix and Mark Pilwallis, Gannett-Fleming

Urban Bike Tour

led by Joseph Perez, Bicycle Coordinator, City of Phoenix

Pedestrian Areas in the Sonoran Desert

led by Wylie Bearup, Street Transportation Director, City of Phoenix, Eric Anderson, City of Phoenix Economic Development Manager, and Beth Harmon-Vaughan, Gensler Managing Director

Trolley Tour of Downtown Phoenix

led by Ray Dovalina, Assistant Director, Street Transportation Department, City of Phoenix

Sports District off Jefferson Street

led by Shane Silsby, Deputy Street Transportation Director, City of Phoenix

Training the Trainer

Teaching the Urban Street Design Guide

NACTO's Urban Street Design Guide Steering Committee will assemble for a lunch meeting on presenting and training on the Urban Street Design Guide. All steering committee members and key guide contributors should plan to attend.