The projects NACTO cities build prove every day that better street design can save lives and make our cities happier and stronger.

Seleta Reynolds
NACTO PRESIDENT
GENERAL MANAGER, LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Welcome to the 5th Annual NACTO Designing Cities Conference!

Five year anniversaries are a big deal.

Since the first Designing Cities conference in 2012, NACTO cities have collectively changed the street design game. Protected bike lanes and pedestrian plazas have gone from an experiment to an expectation, and communities are asking more of their streets. Transportation departments are evolving to meet new challenges, and NACTO is helping cities strengthen partnerships with transit agencies to meet the shared goal of moving people to where they want to be. Together, we are building cities that are more connected, beautiful, safe, equitable, and resilient.

The Designing Cities conference has proven to be the nation’s premier gathering of transportation leaders and practitioners—a place to connect with peers from other cities striving for similar visions. In just five years, NACTO has grown from 23 member cities to 52 member cities and transit agencies. In 2012, 400 people from 30 cities gathered for the inaugural Designing Cities conference; this year we’re joined by over 700 transportation professionals from more than 125 cities across the U.S. and world.

Cities aren’t just planning; we’re building. In the past five years, the number of U.S. cities with protected bike lanes has almost tripled to more than 83. Dedicated bus lanes are becoming the norm, and cities from Memphis to Philadelphia to Los Angeles are converting underused asphalt to parks and plazas, creating vibrant places for people. The projects NACTO cities build prove every day that better street design can save lives and make our cities happier and stronger.

We’ve accomplished a great deal, but there is so much more to do. The recently released national traffic fatality data—35,092 killed in 2015 alone—is a sobering reminder of the urgency of our work. These deaths, and the more than 2.4 million injuries that happen annually on our streets through traffic violence, are predictable and preventable. We have the design tools; now we must channel the engineering expertise, strong leadership, community advocacy, and political will to make it happen.

The Designing Cities conference is a time to exchange ideas, celebrate successes, collaborate on solutions, and get re-inspired to build better cities: therapy, grad school, and summer camp all at once! Your presence here is essential to the work we have to do. Let’s get to it.

Seleta Reynolds
NACTO President
General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Transportation
A well-functioning city is greater than the sum of its parts, and its scope increases as cities around the world test and refine new ideas. With a new global playbook for streets, new design guidance for transit, and an expanded focus on all street users, it’s a brave new road ahead for cities everywhere.

Janette Sadik-Khan
NACTO CHAIR
PRINCIPAL OF TRANSPORTATION, BLOOMBERG ASSOCIATES
Welcome to Seattle! Home of the world famous Space Needle, the iconic Pike Place Market, and birthplace of Starbucks, Amazon, Microsoft, Boeing, and the Championship Seattle Seahawks—all surrounded by the sweeping natural beauty of the Cascade and Olympic mountains and Puget Sound.

The things that make us Seattle are the very things that draw so many people to our great city, making us one of the fastest-growing major cities in the country. Our metropolitan area population has reached more than 3.6 million people and sometimes it can feel like we’re all trying to get to work downtown at the same time. We know this feeling is true for all the cities represented here today—we are all growing and face the challenge of getting our residents where they need to go, whether it be on buses, cars, ferries, streetcars, bikes or on foot.

Seattle has tackled this challenge with our 10-year vision for transportation, the Move Seattle Plan, which integrates our city’s many travel modes to better support everyone. We are implementing new RapidRide bus service, protected bike lanes, neighborhood greenways, streetcars, intelligent transportation systems and increased access to a growing light rail network. And now that we are all here for Designing Cities 2016, we can share what has worked for each of us, what can work better, and what new innovations we have yet to consider.

We welcome the top transportation minds in the country to Seattle and look forward to hearing your new ideas, sharing successes and struggles, and learning from each other’s experiences in street design and transportation to address our common challenges. We do this together today, with an eye on tomorrow.

Welcome to the Emerald City!

Scott Kubly
NACTO Vice President
Director, Seattle Department of Transportation
THANK YOU

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AGENDA

SUNDAY 9/25
12:00pm-4:00pm // Open Street Event
SEATTLE SUMMER PARKWAYS

MONDAY 9/26
8:30am – 12:30pm
WORKSHOPS & WORKING MEETINGS
1:00pm / Conference Center
REGISTRATION OPEN
2:30pm – 3:30pm / Tahoma (Level Three)
OPENING PLENARY
Linda Bailey, NACTO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Scott Kubly, SEATTLE
Chris Ward, AECOM
Janette Sadik-Khan, NACTO CHAIR
Crissy Funganello, DENVER
Leah Treat, PORTLAND
Polly Trottenberg, NEW YORK CITY
4:00pm – 5:30pm / Various Rooms
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
6:30pm - 8:30pm
OPENING RECEPTION
ARTS at King Street Station

TUESDAY 9/27
6:45am
FUN RUN

8:00am
BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

8:30am – 9:30am
MORNING PLENARY
Edward B. Murray, MAYOR OF SEATTLE
David Bragdon, TRANSITCENTER
Seleta Reynolds, LOS ANGELES
Stephanie Wiggins, LA METRO
Scott Kubly, SEATTLE
Peter Rogoff, SOUND TRANSIT
9:45am – 11:15am / Various Rooms
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
11:45am – 12:45pm / Tahoma (Level Three)
LUNCH KEYNOTE
Tamika Butler, LA COUNTY BICYCLE COALITION
1:00pm – 3:15pm / Various Meeting Locations
WALKSHOPS
3:30pm – 4:15pm / Tahoma (Level Three)
MEET THE CITIES
4:30pm – 6:00pm / Various Rooms
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
**THURSDAY 9/29**

Various Times

SEATTLE WALKSHOPS

Full Day

TOUR OF PORTLAND, OR

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**WEDNESDAY 9/28**

6:30am

FUN RUN

8:00am

BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

8:30–9:00am

MORNING KEYNOTE

Rohit T. “Rit” Aggarwala, SIDEWALK LABS

9:00am – 12:00pm

CHOICE OF SESSION:

NACTO CAMP

IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION: TECHNOLOGY AND THE SUSTAINABLE CITY

12:00pm – 1:00pm / Tahoma (Level Three)

LUNCH

1:00pm – 3:15pm / Various Meeting Locations

WALKSHOPS

3:30pm – 5:00pm / Various Rooms

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

5:15pm – 6:00pm

CLOSING PLENARY

Scott Kubly, SEATTLE

Shefali Ranganathan, TRANSPORTATION CHOICES

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**CONFERENCE VENUE**

The Conference Center at the Washington State Convention Center (WSCC)

Located at the corner of Pike Place and 8th Avenue, #NACTO16 is within easy walking distance to bus, light rail, streetcar, and the world-famous Pike Place Market.

**Guide to Conference Center Floors**

LL Skagit

1 Yakima

2 Chelan

3 Tahoma
Denver is booming. And as more and more people are attracted to our region’s vibrant downtown and urban centers, we’re matching that growth with increased access and improved mobility, taking the opportunity to reinvent the transportation paradigm.

Crissy Fanganello
NACTO SECRETARY
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY, DENVER PUBLIC WORKS
MONDAY 9/26

WORKSHOPS & WORKING MEETINGS
Morning – 12:30pm

// YAKIMA 1

Training: Transit Street Design Guide
8:30am – 12:30pm

Join NACTO, the City of Seattle, King County Metro, and this year’s Transit Accelerator Cities and transit leaders from around North America in a hands-on workshop combining real-world case studies with an implementation-focused exercise for a local site. As a longstanding leader in the field, Seattle provides the perfect backdrop to develop your transit street design skills.

Inspired by the Transit Street Design Guide’s synthesis of design and operational strategies, this workshop will focus on developing implementable projects that use service and design concepts together to create better transit and better places, covering practical topics such as working with interim materials; finding space for short lanes; constructively dealing with tricky intersections; all-door boarding techniques; and measuring and communicating benefits. CM 4.0

Advance registration required.

// CHELAN 2

Training: Global Street Design Guide
8:30am – 12:30pm

Join the NACTO Global Designing Cities team and experts from around the world for an in-depth training on the new Global Street Design Guide, a timely resource that sets a new global paradigm for designing streets and public spaces, while redefining the role of streets in a rapidly urbanizing world.

The Global Street Design Guide broadens how to measure the success of urban streets to include access, safety and mobility for all users, environmental quality, economic benefit, public health and overall quality of life. This training will introduce the material in the Guide and highlight some of the best practices and strategies from the global context. It will also showcase examples of transformational projects from across the globe that have undertaken innovative approaches to encourage streets that prioritize sustainable mobility choices and put people first. A design charette and presentations from global case study contributors will also be part of this session. Case studies will be showcased from Auckland, New Zealand; Sydney, Australia; and Paso Robles, USA. CM 4.0

Advance registration required.
Meeting: Vision Zero Network Focus Cities
9:00am – 12:30pm

This invitation-only meeting, convened by the Vision Zero Network, will be a gathering of city transportation staff and leadership from the 10 Vision Zero Network Focus Cities to network, share updates, and collectively strategize about the future of Vision Zero in the United States. It will be an intimate, future-focused gathering of peers with an emphasis on collective strategizing and how the leading cities can advance Vision Zero efforts more effectively and quickly. The discussion will span both tactical implementation and high-level leadership topics in a frank conversation about the next steps for Vision Zero in your communities and across the United States.

Workshop: How to Make the Bike Share Planning Process Work for Everyone
10:00am – 12:30pm

Bike share station siting is the most public aspect of the planning process and often the most politically fraught. Cities must balance creating a meaningful bike share transportation network with location-specific concerns and needs. The planning and engagement process that a city chooses to use directly impacts the type of bike share system they will have, and the public perception, and success, of that system.

This 2½ hour workshop explores the New York City public engagement and station siting process which successfully married the city’s large-scale transportation network needs with neighborhood-level goals and opinions. Participants will engage in a simulated bike share station siting workshop, followed by group discussion, and Q&A. The workshop is moderated by NACTO and NYC DOT staff, using real station siting maps and planning tools.

The workshop will also cover NACTO’s new Bike Share Station Siting Guide which lays out best practices in station siting from around the U.S. Recognizing that cities have limited resources and that low-income people and people of color are disproportionately impacted by traffic violence and poor street design, the Guide shows how bike share stations can be used to further Vision Zero goals and help make streets safer. CM 2.5
MONDAY 9/26

REGISTRATION OPENS
1:00pm

OPENING PLENARY
2:30 – 3:30pm // Tahoma (Level 3)

Welcome Remarks

**Linda Bailey**
NACTO Executive Director

**Scott Kubly**
NACTO Vice President
Director, Seattle Department of Transportation

Reimagining Streets, Redesigning Cities

**Chris Ward** *(Introduction)*
Senior Vice President, AECOM

**Janette Sadik-Khan**
NACTO Chair
Principal of Transportation,
Bloomberg Associates

Taste of NACTO: City PechaKucha

NACTO cities inspire all of us to create safe, sustainable, vibrant streets.

**Crissy Fanganello**
NACTO Secretary
Director of Transportation & Mobility,
Denver Public Works

**Leah Treat**
Director, Portland Bureau of Transportation

**Polly Trottenberg**
Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
4:00pm – 5:30pm

// CHELAN 2
Road Safety:
A Global Perspective

Annually, 1.25 million people die as a result of a traffic. Decade of Action for Road Safety calls for a new baseline for street design that shifts the measure of success away from mobility of private vehicles and towards safety for vulnerable users, equitable mobility and access, public health, and livability.

This panel convenes experts from different organizations and global cities to discuss challenges and impediments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of reducing global road traffic deaths and injuries by 50% by 2020 and to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all by 2030. It will highlight different organizations and their programs, publications, guidelines, and on-ground projects. CM 1.5

Kelly Larson, BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES
Oscar E. Diaz, BOGOTÁ
Leah Shahum, VISION ZERO NETWORK
Amit Bhatt, WRI, INDIA
Skye J. Duncan, NACTO GLOBAL DESIGNING CITIES INITIATIVE
Abhimanyu Prakash, NACTO GLOBAL DESIGNING CITIES INITIATIVE

// TAHOMA 1
The Parking Crunch:
Using Data that Matters

Cities can successfully make paid parking management decisions using robust data and active community engagement. San Francisco, Seattle and several other cities have taken varied approaches to performance or variable paid parking programs where large data sets are collected and used to evaluate parking conditions and make management decisions. Cities also share data through Open Data programs and are working together to develop a common, more standardized approach to data collection, warehousing, and management.

This is a chance to talk with parking staff from cities who have successfully implemented innovative programs about how we make decisions about changing rates, installing paid parking, collecting accurate data, and setting and using performance metrics. CM 1.5

Mary Catherine Snyder, SEATTLE DOT
Hank Wilson, SFMTA
Lauren Mattern, NELSON\NYGARD
Automated Vehicles: An Opportunity for our Cities

Automated vehicle technology has advanced rapidly, with numerous technology firms and automakers testing fleets of automated vehicles in cities across the nation. Within a few years, automated vehicles could be operating everywhere on our city streets, with far-reaching consequences and opportunities for safety, mobility, and public space.

This new technology has the potential to reshape our cities for the better—with the right policies. In this session, learn about NACTO’s guidance on automated vehicles and the implications of specific policy decisions. By limiting speed, allowing only fully autonomous vehicles, thinking about the application for transit, and creating data-sharing requirements, we can rethink our streets, expressways, and the ways that we get around and design our cities. CM 1.5

Gabe Klein, CITYFI; NACTO STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD
Seleta Reynolds, LA DOT; NACTO PRESIDENT
Michael Replogle, NYC DOT
David Woessner, LOCAL MOTORS

Strategic Communications: How to Reap Dividends from a Successful Marketing Strategy

Marketing pays dividends. Establishing a tone, making a strategic communications plan, and sticking to it, helps agencies set the media narrative, building public trust, and eventually support for new initiatives. But where to start?

In this session, hear from the operator of Indego on how they work with Philadelphia’s passionate creative community to build stories on Instagram about biking and the city’s bike share system; from LA Metro, which takes a data-driven approach to granularly target messages to the right audience; and from Bike Arlington, which has worked to transform the image of bicyclists from spandex-clad road warriors to everyday neighbors. CM 1.5

Seth Solomonow, BLOOMBERG ASSOCIATES
Kiera Smalls, BICYCLE TRANSIT SYSTEMS
Henry Dunbar, BIKE ARLINGTON
John Gordon, LA METRO
Using Data to Get to Vision Zero

By committing to Vision Zero, cities are proclaiming that no loss of life is inevitable or acceptable on city streets. One death is too many. To get to zero requires cities to use data to understand why crashes occur, and how to prevent them. But not all data is equal. Seemingly mundane decisions about crash data forms dictate what’s collected in the raw data; analytical decisions assign weight to one type of crash over another; and political decisions determine the application of the data to policy. While seemingly small, these decisions influence how we analyze crashes, and allocate resources to prevent them.

Cities’ approach to data informs the decisions about which dangerous behaviors a police department will enforce, which streets a transportation department will redesign, and which citywide strategies a Mayor’s office will prioritize. In this session, learn how three cities—Los Angeles, Seattle, and New York—are studying crashes and making data-driven decisions to achieve Vision Zero. From limiting left turns to lowering the citywide speed limit, how are these cities using data to focus their efforts? CM 1.5

Jim Curtin, SEATTLE DOT
Nat Gale, LA DOT
Ryan Russo, NYC DOT
Perry Tarrant, SEATTLE PD
Charles Territo, AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS

Cutting-Edge Agencies: How Organizational Structure Enables Projects to Get Done, and Done Well

The world of urban transportation is changing quickly, with an increasing need to adapt to new technologies and break down barriers to enact multi-disciplinary projects and policies. But city governments and their agencies are stable institutions, changing slowly and at great effort. What can we learn from cities that have seen success in changing their organizational structure and culture to meet changing demands?

In this session, we will hear from cities across a range of sizes and situations (e.g. those with a DOT, those with a DPW, and those in the process of change) on the pros and cons of different institutional arrangements to get things done. From a new Department of Transportation in Oakland, to Seattle reorganizing to deliver on the city’s 10-year strategic vision, Move Seattle, cities across the country are reorganizing to create the streets of tomorrow. CM 1.5

Corinne Kisner, NACTO
David Hutchinson, CITY OF PITTSBURGH
Jeffrey Tumlin, OAKLAND DOT
Robert Spillar, AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Barbara Gray, SEATTLE DOT
// CHELAN 4

Engineers: Your City’s Problem Solvers

Meet your city’s engineers; your chief problem solvers. With the right problem to solve for, and the appropriate toolbox to work with, PEs and CEs can produce some astounding results.

Hear how engineering culture was bolstered and transformed in Cambridge, Seattle, Arlington, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, often just by changing the word “traffic” to “transportation.”

CM 1.5

Bridget Smith, LA DOT
Dongho Chang, SEATTLE DOT
Melissa Miguel, CAMBRIDGE DPW
Mike Sallaberry, SFMTA
Lawrence Marcus, ARLINGTON COUNTY

// YAKIMA 2

Illuminating Thoughts on Nighttime Design

Conversations about vibrant city design often neglect to consider what happens after dark. In this session, learn about new opportunities for connectivity and ways to boost public health and economic vitality through smart lighting and nighttime design. How are cities using pilot lighting programs and community-based approaches to test the benefits and challenges of different ownership models and lighting strategies? Panelists will discuss how lighting can best support city goals of multi-modal mobility on streets, trails and sidewalks, as well as encouraging greater use of public space.

CM 1.5

Margaret Newman, ARUP
Jason Neches, WATT LIGHTING
Edward Smalley, SEATTLE CITY LIGHT
Leni Schwendinger, ARUP
Michael Poplawski, PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY
Susanne Seitinger, PHILIPS LIGHTING
OPENING RECEPTION
6:30pm – 8:30pm // ARTS @ King Street Station

Join the NACTO staff, board, and member cities for a social networking reception to begin the 2016 Designing Cities conference.

This year, we will be in an inspired art hub located inside an active historic train station! Food and refreshments will be served.

Enjoy the plaza on your way in and out, with a stilt walker performing 6:15-6:45pm, and a fire juggler performing 8:00-8:15pm and 8:30-8:45pm.

Directions to King Street Station

From the Westlake transit tunnel station, take any southbound LINK Light Rail or bus to the International District/Chinatown stop. Then look for the historic train station with the brick clock tower just across the 4th Avenue.
New technology intersecting with the built environment is changing the civic experience, and creating new opportunities and levels of connectivity. Cities need to be out in front defining desired outcomes, and building innovative partnerships to ensure tech contributes to the public good.

Gabe Klein
NACTO STRATEGIC ADVISORY BOARD
CO-FOUNDER, CITYFI
TUESDAY 9/27

FUN RUN
6:45am

Get your energy up by starting the second day of #NACTO16 with an enjoyable jog on a crisp Seattle morning!

Gather at 6:45am at the sidewalk on 6th Avenue in front of the Sheraton, for a prompt 7am departure. We’ll be running at a relaxed, conversational pace for approximately 2.5-3 miles.

REGISTRATION OPENS
7:30am

BREAKFAST
8:00am // Supported by American Traffic Solutions
OPENING PLENARY
8:30am – 9:30am // Tahoma (Level 3)

Welcome

Edward B. Murray
Mayor of Seattle

Panel: Building Great Transit Streets

Transit is returning to its central place in the life of cities. As more and more people choose to live, work, and play in walkable neighborhoods, creating high-quality transit streets is essential to keeping cities moving, while making them great places to be.

Key to making transit work for everyone is strong partnerships between transit agencies and street departments: aligning priorities to build walkable, transit-friendly streets.

David Bragdon
Executive Director, TransitCenter

Seleta Reynolds
General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Transportation; NACTO President

Stephanie Wiggins
Deputy Chief Executive Officer, LA Metro

Scott Kubly
Director, Seattle Department of Transportation; NACTO Vice President

Peter Rogoff
CEO, Sound Transit
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
9:45-11:15AM

// TAHOMA 1
Ride-Hailing Services: Opportunities and Challenges for Cities

It’s clear that ride-hailing applications are becoming an important part of the 21st century transportation ecosystem, providing a flexible mobility option for the car-lite lifestyle. What’s less clear is the scale of their impact on climate, congestion, accessibility, and existing public transit providers.

In this session, hear from a range of speakers on the role and impact of ride-hailing apps in cities today, and the proactive policies cities are enacting to ensure this technology works in concert with public goals of safety, sustainability, and equity. CM 1.5

Amanda Eaken, NRDC
Dave Benson, PORTLAND BOT
Rodney Stiles, NYC TLC
Noah Budnick, ZENDRIVE

// CHELAN 2
Connections: Can Our Public Transportation Infrastructure Also Foster Public Life?

Transportation agencies own and control a lot of real estate in our cities. From the bus shed to transportation hubs, to the sidewalks and streets, these utilitarian places are spread over a wide swath of our cities. We’ve made a lot of progress in using these resources to make our cities more livable, particularly through complete streets, sidewalk improvements and bike infrastructure. Could we also use them to build up societal trust and social capital? Could we use our bus and train stations to connect people not just to destinations but to their neighbors?

Chicago DOT (“Make way for People” and the “People Plazas”), Gehl Institute (“Public Life Instigation” and “Public Life in NYC’s Public Plazas”), Studio Gang (“Polis Station” and “Civic Commons”) and Knight Foundation discuss how the infrastructure of public transportation can also be the infrastructure for public life and civic engagement. CM 1.5

Benjamin de la Peña, KNIGHT FOUNDATION
Shin-pei Tsay, GEHL INSTITUTE
Luann Hamilton, CHICAGO DOT
Gia Biagi, STUDIO GANG
Moving procurement from a bureaucratic checkbox to a source of innovation, cities across the country are discovering that their purchasing power can advance city policies in dramatic ways. Some of the most resourceful communities are using their equipment needs to advance Vision Zero goals, while getting the performance results of well-oiled machines.

Hear from Chicago’s experience in clearing snow from its protected bike lanes, and the equipment purchases that make it possible. Boston has introduced side guards across the city’s extensive fleet of oversized vehicles, equipping a large number of vehicles on the road with the safety technology needed to eliminate fatalities from the city’s streets. The Volpe Center, the research and deployment lab of the USDOT, has partnered with San Francisco, New York City, Boston, and other cities to roll out new vehicle safety technologies, including side guards and innovative mirror systems, on city-owned, city-contracted, and even private truck fleets that are increasingly protecting bicyclists and pedestrians from deadly crashes.

Leah Shahum, VISION ZERO NETWORK
Mike Amsden, CHICAGO DOT
Juliet Flores Wilson, SFMTA
Kris Carter, CITY OF BOSTON
Alexander Epstein, VOLPE CENTER, USDOT

Success begets success. Communicating the success of past projects is critical to building support for new ones. Collecting high-quality data on the performance of a project, from metrics to photos, is one of the most impactful tools cities have for showing the results of their efforts.

In this session, learn what data to start collecting now, before a project is in the ground, and how to build a communications strategy around the measured success of your city’s projects.

With a strategy that emphasizes comprehensible data for the public, SFMTA has seen support soar for new transit initiatives, due to an increased public literacy on the changes possible on the city’s streets. NYC DOT transformed how data reached the public in New York City, helping to enable the rollout of hundreds of miles of initiatives.

Brian Dougherty, SEATTLE DOT
Miriam Sorell, SFMTA
Ann Marie Doherty, NYC DOT
Ludo Campbell-Reid, AUCKLAND DESIGN OFFICE
Delivering Better Projects Quicker: From Project to Process

Going from the status quo to better streets requires more than just knowing best practices; it requires crystal clear processes, and well-understood goals. By integrating policy goals into the design process, cities can streamline the implementation of highly-functioning streets. In other words, they can get things built.

In this session, practitioners will share how they went from building world-class streets one project at a time to internalizing best practices so that every project is a great one, and delivered quickly and more efficiently. From policies, procedures, budgeting, and inter-agency relations, we’ll see what’s needed to get tangible results. CM 1.5

Michael Flynn, SAM SCHWARTZ CONSULTING  
Rosa Rijos, NYC DOT  
Chris Hamby, NYC DOT  
Sam Zimbabwe, DISTRICT DOT  
Daren Fluke, CITY OF BOISE

The Six Ingredients for Successful, Equitable Bike Share

As found in an ongoing Harvard study and reported in the New York Times, “commuting time has emerged as the single strongest factor in the odds of escaping poverty.” Ensuring reliable, efficient, convenient transportation is fundamental to efforts to reduce income inequity in the United States. Cheaper to implement than all other transit modes, scalable, low-cost, and flexible, bike share programs can be part of the solution. Six essential ingredients – scale and density, safe places to ride, focused outreach, smart pricing, connections to transit, and policies that link bike share and employment opportunities – can help ensure that this new mobility option is an option for all.

In Philadelphia, a thoughtful and targeted outreach campaign has made Indego an instant success. In New York City, the city’s commitment to a walkable station density ensures that Citi Bike provides a high-quality transportation option in the entire service area. In Los Angeles, bike share membership is connected to other public transit. Bike share operators like Motivate make hiring and manufacturing decisions that open up job opportunities across the U.S. CM 1.5

Kate Fillin-Yeh, NACTO  
Kiera Smalls, BICYCLE TRANSIT SYSTEMS  
Rubina Ghazarian, LA DOT  
Dani Simons, MOTIVATE  
Tamika Butler, LA COUNTY BICYCLE COALITION  
Beth Heyde, NYC DOT  
Kim Lucas, DISTRICT DOT
Bringing Protected Bike Infrastructure to the Next Level

Protected bike infrastructure continues to expand in cities across North America, from the first modern parking-protected bike lanes in 2007, to raised cycle tracks. Now, cities are beginning to implement more and more physically protected infrastructure, including state-of-the-art protected intersections.

In this session, learn from San Francisco, Cambridge, and Seattle about their experiences in bringing protected bike infrastructure to the next level. CM 1.5

Martha Roskowski, PEOPLEFORBIKES
Mike Sallaberry, SFMTA
Darby Watson, SEATTLE DOT
Joseph Barr, CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Tegin Bennett, CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Running Better Buses: Increasing Reliability Systemwide

Buses are the workhorse of the urban transit system—and a foundation of multimodal streets. Learn how cities are using network, corridor, and systemic strategies to transform the bus from an unsung hero to the watchword of mass mobility.

With a reinvention of its existing network, Houston has dramatically increased the utility of its local bus service. New York City and San Francisco are changing how boarding works, getting people on and off faster with near-level boarding, better fare collection, and consolidated stops. And, transit signal priority techniques in San Francisco are giving buses the leg up that they need, boosting mobility for hundreds at each intersection.

Throughout the session, speakers will touch on policy changes that increase service productivity and reliability systemwide. CM 1.5

Jon Orcutt, TRANSITCENTER
Eric Beaton, NYC DOT
Christof Spieler, HOUSTON METRO
Sean Kennedy, SFMTA
LUNCH KEYNOTE
11:45am – 12:45pm // Tahoma (Level 3)

Planning While Black

One of the country’s most prolific speakers on equity in transportation, Tamika Butler, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, works every day to improve mobility and opportunity for women, youth, low-income people, people with disabilities, and people of color.

In her keynote address, Tamika will underscore the importance of getting street design right, so that Vision Zero doesn’t rely on enforcement, as many street safety laws are disproportionately enforced in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. Attendees will also hear about the importance of meaningful engagement, beyond ‘outreach’, to ensure that well-designed projects benefit their communities, and actually get built.

Tamika Butler
Executive Director
Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition
WALKSHOPS
1:00pm – 3:15pm

See projects with your own eyes, and get an in-depth understanding of how concepts translate to cities’ streets with this year’s WalkShops.

From bikes lanes to streetcars, City of Seattle staff and local partners will host 50+ on-the-ground tours of projects.

Descriptions and Directions
Refer to page 48 for detailed descriptions and meeting locations.

MEET THE CITIES
3:30pm-4:15pm // Tahoma (Level 3)

NACTO member cities will gather to show their success stories, from protected bike lanes to dedicated transit lanes. Meet the faces behind the names of city leaders that are making a difference in urban mobility.

Snacks and coffee will be provided.
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
4:30pm – 6:00pm

// CHELAN 2
Paving the Way for Safe Streets: The Role of Political Leadership

Leadership on safe streets comes from all levels of government. Vocal political leadership from city council members, mayors, and public officials is essential to building community support and creating the political environment necessary for city transportation staff to implement safe street projects. Strong leadership and vision from elected officials can also help encourage DOTs to raise the bar. In this panel, hear from City Council members and Mayors who are paving the way for better transportation in their cities. CM 1.5

Lori Ardito, NEW YORK CITY
Tobi Nussbaum, COUNCILLOR, OTTAWA, BC
Vi Lyles, MAYOR PRO TEM, CHARLOTTE, NC
Shirley Gonzales, COUNCILMEMBER, SAN ANTONIO, TX
Sir Peter Soulsby, MAYOR, LEICESTER, UK

// YAKIMA 2
Hack your State DOT: Practical Design for Transportation Systems

State DOTs in the United States have built incredible highway systems and spectacular bridges—multi-year, multi-billion-dollar projects that many DOTs are well-equipped to produce. As Americans’ transportation habits change and funding runs dry, however, some DOTs are looking for new ways to meet users’ needs in more innovative and flexible ways that cost less or do more with the same amount of money.

Smart Growth America’s Practical Design for Transportation Systems is a comprehensive approach to helping DOTs meet and balance the needs of motorists, freight handlers, bicyclists, pedestrians, transit riders, and other travelers in a variety of contexts. Smart Growth America has worked with DOTs and other public agencies to demonstrate innovative practices and help staff figure out what really needs to change in order to put these practices into action.

Learn how your state DOT can update guidance, procedures, and policies as well as change culture among its staff to build a safe, healthy, reliable, and more equitable transportation network that works for all modes and reduces costs. CM 1.5

Lynn Peterson, SMART GROWTH AMERICA
Roger Millar, WSDOT
Karla Sutliff, CALTRANS
Mary Taylor Raulerson, KITTELSON & ASSOCIATES
Transportation: Creating a Place

Transportation infrastructure serves as a catalyst for building place in cities. With all eyes on a project, new designs allow for a throughway to be transformed into a vibrant, vital urban center. Through placemaking, cities are transforming the transit stop from a sign and a pole to an urban place and a hub for mobility.

Hear from Toronto, which used its new light rail along Queens Quay to revolutionize the image of a run-down part of town; Chicago, which reopened its river into a vital pedestrian hub, humming with conversation at all hours of the day and night; and Leicester, which paired infrastructure improvements, like pedestrianized streets and cycleways, with street engagement and promotions, including an eight-day festival that helped its citizens see their streets in a new way. Day and night, innovative designs can create a place. **CM 1.5**

Don Blakeney, DOWNTOWN SEATTLE ASSOCIATION  
Pina Mallozzi, WATERFRONT TORONTO  
Luann Hamilton, CHICAGO DOT  
Andy Salkeld, LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL  
Brian Stacy, ARUP

Who’s in the Room: Working with Community Partners to Deliver Better Projects

When it comes to public engagement, city staff are often stretched thin, don’t always have the right tools and connections, and don’t always know the right questions to ask. Many cities have found themselves able to extend their ability to deliver better outcomes by working with community partners, creating lasting partnerships that deliver high-quality projects and responding to the needs of communities.

In this session, hear from the partners building better streets. Better Block PDX works in tandem with the Portland Bureau of Transportation, testing out new street configurations using temporary materials, collecting data and resident feedback more systemically and thoroughly than the city could with its own resources. The Better Bike Share Partnership works to incorporate the benefits of bike share into the communities that could most benefit, yet often are the hardest for city officials to reach. Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration pioneered the successful model of partner-run public space, with a plaza that serves as a neighborhood anchor, with 1.5 million visits per year. **CM 1.5**

Phyllis Porter, SEATTLE BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD  
Timur Ender, PORTLAND BOT  
Ryan Hashagen, BETTER BLOCK PDX  
Carniesha Kwashie, MAYOR’S FUND FOR PHILADELPHIA  
Tracey Capers, BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION
Keeping Everyone Moving: Managing Travel Demand in Puget Sound

Downtown Seattle is experiencing such a monumental building boom that locals joke that the construction crane must be the official state bird. With 65 major buildings currently under construction downtown and in the surrounding neighborhoods, it is more important than ever to think proactively about mobility. In the Seattle region, mobility is constricted by geography – building more roads is not an option due to the surrounding water, and people traveling to the Center City must squeeze through the city’s hourglass shape. With roads and bridges at capacity, and exponential population growth, how is the Seattle region managing its transportation demands?

In this session, hear how the Seattle region is tackling the problem of transportation demand at all scales, with partners across all sectors – from one of the city’s largest employers, Seattle Children’s Hospital, to neighboring Bellevue, all the way to WSDOT, which uses demand management strategies to mitigate the need for road expansions and environmental degradation. CM 1.5

Cristina Van Valkenburgh, SEATTLE DOT
Danielle Abbott, COMMUTE SEATTLE
Amy Scarton, WSDOT
Alex Krieg, PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL
Kate Johnson, CITY OF BELLEVUE
Jamie Cheney, SEATTLE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

Ballot Initiatives and Bond Measures: Funding a Transportation Vision

Some cities have been more successful than others in introducing ballot initiatives and communicating the bold visions behind major funding requests. What’s worked?

With federal resources declining, cities, states, and regions have been making up the difference. One of the most powerful tools at governments’ disposal is the ability to galvanize citizens to support a transportation vision, and a new funding stream to build on that blueprint.

Hear how Seattle used a vision, Move Seattle, to build support for a substantial $930 million transportation levy, giving the city a 250% larger transportation budget than before. Hear how Phoenix voters passed a $31.5 billion, 35-year transportation plan that depends on a 0.7% sales tax from 2016 through 2050. And hear lessons learned from Austin’s not-passed bond measure, and how the city is retooling after its surprising defeat. CM 1.5

Chris Ward, AECOM
Andrew Glass-Hastings, SEATTLE DOT
Rachel Smith, KING COUNTY METRO
Robert Spillar, AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Ray Dovalina, CITY OF PHOENIX
From a Trickle to a Stream: Achieving Major Bike Mode Shift

Many cities are committed to dramatically increasing the amount of trips made by bike, and for good reason. Biking is one of the few modes that is carbon-neutral, physiologically beneficial, non-traffic-inducing, and highly equitable. But how do you get from a handful of committed riders to a critical mass? Data shows that cities that make serious commitments to bike infrastructure see greater increases in the number of people riding, and infrastructure that is comfortable for all ages and abilities will encourage even more people to ride. Learn about NACTO’s Bikeway Contextual Guidance for planning bicycle facilities that can provide a high level of comfort. Hear from three cities that are making major investments and seeing major returns in bike ridership.

Austin’s citywide analysis and network planning effort shows the bike ridership increase and street capacity gains that are possible with an investment in bike infrastructure. Vancouver has seen a major shift to biking since building a downtown protected bike lane network, with 7% of all trips citywide made by bike. Through investments in its bike lane network and a dense bike share program, NYC has tripled the number of cycling trips taken since 2001—to over 400,000 per day.

Ken Zatarain, TRIMET
Eric Beaton, NYC DOT
Sarah Wyss, MTA NYCT
Ben Smith, SEATTLE DOT
Bill Bryant, KING COUNTY METRO
Tom Maguire, SFMTA
Julie Kirschbaum, SFMTA

Nathan Wilkes, AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Dale Bracewell, CITY OF VANCOUVER
Sean Quinn, NYC DOT

Shared Goals: Moving People by Combining the Strengths of DOTs and Transit Agencies

People riding transit care less about agency structure and more about seamless, frequent, reliable service that gets them where they need to go. Many cities have both a street transportation department and a transit agency, and the distinction can sometimes be lost on the public. How are city transportation departments and transit agencies cutting through bureaucracy and delivering the results that matter to the user experience of city transportation?

In this session, SFMTA will explore the advantages, and complexities, they have serving as both a street department and a transit agency. Seattle DOT and King County Metro will take a dive into their Transit Master Plan, and associated agreements. NYC DOT and MTA will talk about their Select Bus Service collaboration, and how staff-to-staff partnerships and a problem-solving approach can provide the basis for innovative projects.

CM 1.5

Nathan Wilkes, AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Dale Bracewell, CITY OF VANCOUVER
Sean Quinn, NYC DOT
Transit is the key to unlocking street space, allowing cities to grow without slowing down. Well-designed transit streets keep cities moving, and are attractive, friendly places to be.

Danny Pleasant
NACTO TREASURER
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR,
CITY OF CHARLOTTE
WEDNESDAY 9/28

FUN RUN
6:45am

Get your energy up by starting the third day of #NACTO16 with an enjoyable jog on a crisp Seattle morning!

Gather at 6:45am at the sidewalk on 6th Ave in front of the Sheraton, for a prompt 7:00am departure. We’ll be running at a relaxed, conversational pace for approximately 3.5-4 miles (a little longer than on Tuesday).

REGISTRATION OPENS
7:30am

BREAKFAST
8:00am // Supported by Zipcar
Rohit T. “Rit” Aggarwala, Chief Policy Officer for Sidewalk Labs, is one of the world’s foremost experts in environmental policy, city planning, and transportation.

Among many other notable accomplishments, Rit led the creation and implementation of PlaNYC, one of the world’s best urban sustainability plans.

How people interact with their cities is rapidly changing through technology, and tech-enabled sustainable transportation is a major opportunity to revolutionize mobility for everyone. Rit will share his ideas about how cities and transportation officials should be thinking about making the best—and avoiding the worst—of technology.
Following successful NACTO Camps at Designing Cities 2014 and 2015, we’re bringing back the format again for this year’s conference. NACTO Camp is a participant-driven “unconference” where the session topics and activities are proposed by attendees, providing an opportunity for you to shape and lead the event. The quality of these sessions depends on your contribution!

Session proposals will be on display during the Designing Cities conference, where you will have the opportunity to propose topics and weigh in on your favorites. On Wednesday morning (9/28), the final sessions will be posted.

**Featured NACTO Camp Sessions**

**Urban Street Stormwater Guide**

Members of the GSI Steering Committee—representing transportation, water, and public works departments from NACTO cities—are invited to join this working meeting.

**Bridging the Divide: From Highways to Equitable Places**

Learn more about the eleven cities participating in two exciting programs, LadderSTEP and the Every Place Counts Design Challenge and FHWA’s upcoming Community Connections efforts.

**Cities for Cycling**

Meeting for members of NACTO’s Cities for Cycling steering committee.

**Urban Street Design**

Meeting for members of NACTO’s Urban Street Design steering committee.

**New Rules, New Streets**

What are cities - and states - doing to make safe street design easier after the recent Controlling Criteria and other changes?
Join NACTO for an in-depth discussion of the opportunities and challenges that new technologies pose for 21st century transportation systems. Building on the USDOT Smart Cities challenge, and in partnership with the Natural Resources Defense Council, NACTO has convened forward-thinking city transportation leaders for a conversation on the near-term opportunities and long-term visions for leveraging technology to achieve safe, sustainable city transportation systems for people walking, biking, and taking transit.

**Panel Discussion**
9:00am-10:10am
City challenges, opportunities and funding pathways for technological solutions.

- **Linda Bailey**, NACTO
- **Mark Dowd**, USDOT
- **Leah Treat**, PORTLAND BOT
- **Rob Spillar**, AUSTIN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
- **Candace Faber**, CITY OF SEATTLE

**Topic-Specific Breakout Groups**
10:15am-11:15am
Open Data
Moderated by Jay Primus, CONSULTANT
Policy
Moderated by Al Biehler, SSTI
Scaling Up
Moderated by Mark Dowd, USDOT
Multimodal, Shared, Autonomous Mobility
Moderated by Amanda Eaken, NRDC

**Panel Discussion**
11:20am-12:00pm
Moderated summary from groups and discussion of how cities can collaborate to seize opportunities to integrate technology into transportation.

- **Linda Bailey**, NACTO
- **Mark Dowd**, USDOT
- **Amanda Eaken**, NRDC
- **Jay Primus**, CONSULTANT
- **Al Biehler**, SSTI
LUNCH
12:00pm-1:00pm // Tahoma (Level 3)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS LUNCH
12:10-1:00 // Chelan 5

Representatives from NACTO Affiliate Member cities are invited to join Joe Barr, City of Cambridge Transportation Director and Affiliate Member Representative on NACTO’s Executive Board, for a conversation over lunch.

WALKSHOPS
1:00pm – 3:15pm

See projects with your own eyes, and get an in-depth understanding of how concepts translate to cities’ streets with this year’s WalkShops.

From bikes lanes to streetcars, City of Seattle staff and local partners will host 50+ on-the-ground tours of projects.

Descriptions and Directions
Refer to page 48 for detailed descriptions and meeting locations.
Breakout Sessions

3:30pm – 5:00pm

// Tahoma 1

Globe-Hop: Inspiring Lessons from Around the World

Explore street transformations and innovative projects from around the world through 6 pecha-kucha presentations. Presenters from various corners of the world will showcase projects from their local contexts, share their experiences and discuss the challenges they faced while improving street environments.

Projects include bike networks, bike-signal practices, examples from great waterfront streets, daylighting of underground streams along streets, and simple yet effective street transformations from Fortaleza, Melbourne, Mexico City, New Delhi, Paso Robles, and Toronto. CM 1.5

Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto
Mukul Malhotra, MIGSVR
Tais Costa, City of Fortaleza
Rocio Romero Hernandez, Mexico City
Kerry Gallagher, City of Melbourne
Amit Bhatt, WRI, India

// Tahoma 2

Shared Mobility Planning: Lessons from Seattle

Managing the adoption and integration of new and emerging mobility innovations to achieve a successful new transportation paradigm is a defining issue of our time. The City of Seattle’s and King County’s Mobility Services Planning project presents the opportunity to create the nation’s most forward-thinking and forward-doing comprehensive shared mobility plan and to ensure these transportation options are integrated to manage the City’s escalating growth, creating a mobility network that is efficient, equitable, and sustainable.

This panel features experts in the field of shared mobility to describe the process and outcomes of developing an actionable shared mobility strategy while creating the nation’s first Shared Mobility Master Plan. Learn about the ways this plan looks ahead into the future to integrate shared mobility into Seattle’s overall transportation system while optimizing the public good. CM 1.5

Joe Iacobucci, Sam Schwartz Consulting
Scott Kubly, Seattle DOT
Kevin Desmond, Translink
Evan Corey, Seattle DOT
Justin Holmes, Zipcar
Laura Bisesto, Lyft
Peter Dempster, ReachNow
Wait, No One Told Me About This: From Outreach to Engagement

Despite what can seem like an exhaustive outreach process, with staff and resources dedicated to getting the word out about upcoming changes to a community, planners inevitably hear these words when a project is getting in the ground: “Wait, no one told me about this.”

In this session, hear how cities have gone from outreach to engagement, working with partners and communities in a more integrated manner, and eventually building projects with a high level of political support. The LA Bicycle Coalition brings diverse communities together to improve the bicycling environment across a wide swath of communities in Los Angeles county. Multicultural Communities for Mobility gives a voice to residents who may not otherwise participate in city planning processes. Safe Routes to School has directly seen the difference between simple participation and active engagement, and the dramatic differences in outcome the two provide.

Boston is beginning the challenging transition to hosting community conversations to share knowledge, rather than the typical design-display-defend approach.

Dawn Schellenberg, SEATTLE DOT
Tamika Butler, LA COUNTY BICYCLE COALITION
Rio (Jill) Contreras, MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES FOR MOBILITY
Najah Casimir, CITY OF BOSTON
Keith Benjamin, SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
Curb Space: An Asset Hidden in Plain Sight

Curb space is moving beyond parking. With increased demand for ride-hailing services, private employer-provided commuter shuttles, and burgeoning delivery and freight, cities are finding that the most valuable real estate in a city is often at the curb.

Efficient use of curbside space is one of the most valuable, and underutilized, tools that cities have to manage freight, shuttle, and for-hire vehicle traffic. With new approaches to curbside management including deliveries, loading zones, drop-off points, and shifted timetables, cities are getting ahead of the increasing demand for deliveries and shared mobility services.

DC is piloting a number of approaches through MoveDC to considerable early success. Seattle’s new freight master plan is aiming to get ahead of an anticipated surge in demand for deliveries throughout the Puget Sound area. San Francisco developed the nation’s first regulatory program focused on private employer-provided commuter shuttles (aka “Google buses”). CM 1.5

Kevin O’Neill, SEATTLE DOT
Meghan Shepard, SEATTLE DOT
Sam Zimbabwe, DISTRICT DOT
Carli Paine, SFMTA

Measuring what Matters: New Metrics for a Multimodal Future

Cities across North America have historically used narrow metrics, like vehicle traffic counts, to measure a given street’s capacity and performance. Now, cities are breaking that paradigm and are starting to use more effective and holistic measurements that capture the entirety of multi-modal activities taking place on urban streets, citywide.

Simply put, some modes are more efficient than others when utilized to their full capacity. Person throughput or metrics for economic and social activity, instead of vehicle throughput, helps cities see their streets’ full potential for mobility.

Hear from Seattle, whose mobility plan will measure mode share as a proxy for people-moving capacity; Portland, which has extensive methods for counting bicycling; New York City, which recently released a comprehensive Mobility Report; and San Francisco, which has replaced level-of-service analysis with a transportation sustainability program. Also, hear about NACTO’s Intercept Survey Toolkit, designed to help cities better measure and understand the detailed demographics and perceptions of people riding bikes, using bike share, or walking. CM 1.5

Jeffrey Tumlin, OAKLAND DOT
Tracy Krawczyk, SEATTLE DOT
Roger Geller, PORTLAND DOT
Alexander Keating, NYC DOT
Sarah Jones, SFMTA
Ted Graves, NACTO
High-Demand Corridors: Integrating Bikes and Transit on the Same Street

Great corridors, with a high demand for transit, often likewise have a high demand for cycling infrastructure. With careful planning, the two can not just coexist, but help bolster each other seamlessly, and induce more demand for walking, biking, and transit.

This session will look at examples from Chicago, where the Loop Link project created dedicated and separate space for transit users and people riding their bikes through Chicago's congested downtown; Seattle, where bus bulbs simultaneously speed transit, provide a high-quality boarding experience, and separate bikes from other modes; and San Francisco, where the city’s most important transit and biking street has undergone tremendous change to improve safety and increase reliability. **CM 1.5**

Craig Toocheck, NACTO
Mike Amsden, CHICAGO DOT
Britt Tanner, SFMTA
Mark Bandy, SEATTLE DOT

Green Streets, Complete Streets

A flooded street is not a complete street, and federal USEPA mandates require pollutant reductions from the rights-of-way. Stormwater management, often overlooked in urban street design is leading city transportation departments to partner with water purveying and stormwater permitting agencies to fully leverage the opportunities for sustainable stormwater management in the rights-of-way. It’s also the evolving work of inclusive and partnering agencies that seek higher public service and benefits through integrated designs. These designs can achieve other city goals such as equity and livability, traffic calming, increasing public open and infiltrative space, improving pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and enhancing transit. Through inter-departmental collaboration, cities can unlock opportunities for new funding and achieving shared goals of more sustainable streetscapes.

Learn more about the newest NACTO design guide, which details strategies to incorporate green stormwater infrastructure into urban street designs. Hear from three cities that have built strong partnerships between their DOTs and water departments, and discuss strategies to scale up green infrastructure for more livable, beautiful streets. **CM 1.5**

Aaron Villere, NACTO
Susan McLaughlin, SEATTLE DOT
Shanti Colwell, SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES
Valerie Watson, LA DOT
Deborah Deets, CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Nicole Blanchard, PORTLAND BOT
CLOSING PLENARY
5:15pm – 6:00pm // Tahoma (Level 3)

As Designing Cities 2016 draws to a close, hear from Shefali Ranganathan about Seattle's successful campaigns for sustainable transportation, and watch Seattle pass the crown to the Designing Cities 2017 Host City.

Keynote

Shefali Ranganathan is the Executive Director at Transportation Choices Coalition (TCC), a Washington State based non-profit working to create more opportunities to take transit, walk or bike. TCC has led successful campaigns all across the state securing more than $25B for transit, biking and walking including the $930M Move Seattle transportation levy in 2015.

Shefali works on a range of transportation policy issues at the regional and local level coordinating a broad coalition of social justice, immigrant and refugee, public health, affordable housing, student, and senior groups working on transportation equity. She has served on several regional and local transportation advisory committees advocating for more transportation options including the Puget Sound Region Transportation Policy Board, the Move Seattle Oversight Committee, King County Metro’s Service Guidelines Taskforce, the Puget Sound Region Transportation Futures Taskforce, and the Seattle Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee. Prior to TCC, she was a policy expert in Washington DC working on federal transportation policy.

Introduction

Scott Kubly
Director, Seattle Department of Transportation
NACTO Vice President

Shefali Ranganathan
Executive Director
Transportation Choices Coalition
We know we cannot build our way out of congestion. In Cambridge, we're prioritizing transit, biking, and walking for a vibrant, diverse, and accessible city.

Joseph Barr
DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC, PARKING, AND TRANSPORTATION; CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
NACTO AFFILIATE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE
FULL DAY TOUR OF PORTLAND, OR
7:00am-8:00pm

Transit Track or Bike Track available.
Advance registration required.

WALKSHOPS
8:00am – 1:00pm

See projects with your own eyes, and get an in-depth understanding of how concepts translate to cities’ streets with this year’s WalkShops.
From bikes lanes to streetcars, City of Seattle staff and local partners will host 50+ on-the-ground tours of projects.

Descriptions and Directions
Note that Thursday WalkShops have varied start times. Refer to page 48 for detailed descriptions, start times, and meeting locations.
Designing Cities is a time to share what has worked for our cities, challenges we face, and new innovations to move our cities forward.

Scott Kubly
DIRECTOR, SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NACTO VICE PRESIDENT
See projects with your own eyes, and get an in-depth understanding of how concepts translate to cities’ streets with this year’s WalkShops.

From bike lanes to streetcars, City of Seattle staff and local partners will host 50+ on-the-ground tours of projects on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes, wear comfortable business casual attire, and bring sunscreen. Otherwise, all equipment will be provided: bikes, helmets, sea kayaks, binoculars, and transit passes, depending on the tour. Note that advance registration is required for all.
SUNDAY, 9/25, 12-4PM

Seattle Summer Parkways: Car-Free Streets

What do you get when you mix together a water taxi, car-free streets, and an iconic city beach? A perfect Sunday. The second annual Seattle Summer Parkways is a car-free and carefree time along Seattle’s Alki Beach. Take the water taxi over to Alki, then bike, walk, and roll with locals and new NACTO friends. Learn about permitting, programming and promoting an open streets event while experiencing one first-hand.

Patti Quirk, SEATTLE DOT
Emily Ehlers, SEATTLE DOT
TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM  WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Downtown Seattle: Blending Streets, Parks, and Public Space

Meeting Point: Chelan 2

See parks that act as streets, and streets that act as parks on this walk through Downtown Seattle. Visit the new, vastly-improved Westlake Park. This major park fell into disuse and was considered a public safety problem until last year. After a turnaround effort, Westlake is once again a central, vibrant space. Next, see Seattle’s first attempt to turn a downtown street—Pine Street—into a park, now reopened to traffic after being closed for more than a decade. Then, head to McGraw Square, a plaza built in reclaimed street space that hosts street food, streetcars and public art. Finally, onto Bell Street: a park that functions as a street. Or is it a street that functions as a park? You be the judge. Learn about the development, programming, and maintenance of these unique spaces, as well as how the legal differences between park land and street right-of-way play out in daily management.

Barbara Gray, SEATTLE DOT
Gary Johnson, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Jon Scholes, DOWNTOWN SEATTLE ASSOCIATION
TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM  
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM  
Hollow Sidewalks with Modern Streetcars  
Meeting Point: Chelan 2

Witness the fusion of hollow sidewalks, hints of historic trolleys, and a modern streetcar, all in Pioneer Square—Seattle’s original neighborhood. See recent interventions that integrate new with old, including reimagined alleys and a new bike rack designed specifically for the neighborhood. Learn how Seattle’s newest streetcar seamlessly integrates into a neighborhood previously served by a historic trolley. Observe the challenges of ensuring a fully accessible community when nearly all of its sidewalks are hollow. After the tour, return with the group via light rail, or stay for shopping, refreshments, and entertainment.

Patti Quirk, SEATTLE DOT  
Carl Leighty, ALLIANCE FOR PIONEER SQUARE
TUESDAY 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM  
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Walking Tour of Seattle’s Bike Infrastructure

Meeting Point: Chelan 4

This is the perfect tour for those who want to see some of Seattle’s newest bike facilities, but prefer to travel on foot. Visit protected bicycle lanes built as part of a downtown campus development. Next, make a stop at one of Seattle’s most bike-friendly apartment buildings, which offers secure, private, bike parking, a bike wash station, artistic public bike parking, a bike shop, and ViaBike, a membership bike club. Continue onto Bell Street Park, a park that’s also a street, where the right-of-way has been transformed into a vibrant, safe, and green public space, while continuing to serve cars, bikes, and transit. We will finish up our tour with a stroll down Second Avenue to take a look at a two-way protected bicycle lane on a one-way street, built in 2014 as a demonstration project and recently upgraded with planters, raised driveways, loading zones, and traffic signal enhancements.

Carol McMahan, SEATTLE DOT  
AJ Verdugo, SEATTLE DOT  
Steve Kennedy, SEATTLE BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD
TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM  WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Remove the Alaskan Way Viaduct, Transform Seattle’s Waterfront

Meeting Point: Chelan 4

Removing the Alaskan Way Viaduct opened miles of opportunity for Seattle’s waterfront—and years of new projects to rebuild this area with world-class public spaces. Join leaders from the Office of the Waterfront for a walking tour showcasing the challenges and opportunities that they face. We’ll begin down Pike Street, where efforts are underway to improve multimodal connections between downtown neighborhoods and the water. Enjoy the views at Victor Steinbrueck Park, where we’ll discuss design efforts to capitalize on view opportunities, efforts with project partners to connect the historic Pike Place Market with the nearby water, and the new surface streets that have replaced the old Alaskan Way Viaduct. Then, we’ll walk to Waterfront Park to discuss planned park improvements, and visit the Waterfront Space project showroom.

This WalkShop is supported by the Seattle Office of the Waterfront.

Marshall Foster, OFFICE OF THE WATERFRONT
Kate Cole, ENVIROISSUES
TUESDAY 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

72 Hours to Safety: Rainier Avenue Rechannelization

Meeting Point: Chelan 5

The best way to transform a four-lane road into a two-lane neighborhood street: implement it over one weekend. Visit one of Seattle’s most ambitious road rechannelization projects, the Rainier Avenue corridor project, which rechannelized a principal arterial with up to 26,000 vehicles per day, taking it from four lanes to one lane in each direction, with a center turn lane. The project improved safety for everyone by reducing speeds, improving pedestrian crossings, and ordering turning movements at intersections. On this tour, learn about the data analysis behind the engineering decisions, the extensive community outreach in one of the country’s most diverse neighborhoods, and the planning and teamwork behind completing most of the installation over 72 hours.

Jim Curtin, SEATTLE DOT
James Le, SEATTLE DOT
TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM

WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

**Before, During and After: A Street Transformation in Progress**

**Meeting Point: Chelan 5**

See the before, during, and after of transforming a street in this tour of the the 23rd Avenue Complete Corridor Project. This project is transforming a corridor with many collisions, poor pavement conditions, narrow lanes, and challenging conditions for people walking and biking into a model complete corridor with improvements for all modes, including a parallel all ages and abilities bike route. The project is being completed in phases, so by traveling along the corridor you’ll see a timeline of conditions before, during, and after construction. Learn about the outreach and mitigation efforts in this diverse neighborhood, and see one of Seattle’s famous Community Crosswalks, which celebrate community identity with colorful crosswalk markings.

Maribel Cruz, SEATTLE DOT
TUESDAY, 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28, THURSDAY 9/29

Micro-Spaces: Seattle’s Parklets and Streateries

Meeting Point: Chelan 1
Thursday Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

Experience some of Seattle’s newest public spaces: its parklets and streateries! These micro-spaces have added community-driven public space to business districts throughout Seattle. As privately-funded and privately-maintained structures, parklets and streateries have been a cost-effective way to activate streets and promote economic vitality. During this tour, we’ll walk to four of the projects that have been built around downtown Seattle and its surrounding neighborhoods. We’ll hear from City staff, parklet designers, and hosting businesses about the benefits and challenges of the program, as well as the City’s strategies for improving the program in years to come.

David Burgesser, SEATTLE DOT
Ellie Smith, SEATTLE DOT
Creating Transit-Priority Streets, and Riders, in South Lake Union

Meeting Point: Tahoma 1

Learn about Seattle’s recent project to improve transit speed and reliability in the fast-growing South Lake Union neighborhood, and the related efforts to spread the word about transit service to the area’s burgeoning workforce. A series of relatively low-cost changes to the street made it possible to double the number of people using transit along Westlake Avenue, without widening the road. You’ll also learn about the work Seattle did with local employers to get the word out about the coming improvements to transit service, and to encourage people to start commuting by bus and streetcar.

This WalkShop is supported by Commute Seattle.

Dawn Schellenberg, SEATTLE DOT
Sara Walton, SEATTLE DOT
Seattle is well-known for its lush landscape, and it welcomes the rain, using it to transform public spaces into green oases. Tour the nation’s first green streets, with sustainable elements that store, drain, and clean stormwater runoff. With Seattle Department of Transportation and Public Utilities staff, see the celebrated Bell Street park, the Swale on Yale—a vertical green wall built through public private partnerships, and Growing Vine Street—a block-long community-led functional sculpture that astounds in its beauty, utility, and expanse.

This WalkShop is supported by Seattle Public Utilities.

Shanti Colwell, SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES
Susan McLaughlin, SEATTLE DOT
Shane Dewald, SEATTLE DOT
This three mile bike tour will showcase two of America’s 10 Best New Bike Lanes as reported by People for Bikes: Broadway and Second Avenue. These projects represent two ends of the construction spectrum: Broadway was built as part of a complete street reconstruction for the First Hill Streetcar, while Second Avenue is an example of a low cost rapid implementation project. Along the way we’ll pass one of Seattle’s nine bike counters (and add our numbers to the day’s count!). These counters are helping track Seattle’s progress toward quadrupling bike ridership by 2030, along with providing granular data about times, days, and conditions that affect ridership. This tour will make frequent stops to discuss context, constraints, success stories, and lessons learned.

This WalkShop is supported by Eco-Counter.

Kyle Rowe, SEATTLE DOT
Craig Moore, SEATTLE DOT
Bill Laborde, SEATTLE DOT
William Hyerle, ECO-COUNTER
Jean-Francois Rheault, ECO-COUNTER
TUESDAY 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM    WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM
Designing for Pedestrians, Bikes, and Bees
Meeting Point: Yakima 2

You might have seen lanes for bikes, for buses, and for cars. What about for bees? This tour will showcase how communities have shaped the urban space to embrace pedestrians and cyclists, along with our winged friends. Highlights include two pavement-to-parks projects, protected bike lanes, the Columbia neighborhood greenway, the Terry Avenue Streetscape Design, a mile-long pollinator pathway, and other neighborhood-driven projects. The tour includes frequent stops to discuss context, constraints and success stories.

Norene Pen, SEATTLE DOT
Emily Ehlers, SEATTLE DOT
Howard Wu, SEATTLE DOT
TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM  
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

**Take the Bike to the Train: Integrating Multimodal Trips**

Meeting Point: Yakima 1

This cycling tour will highlight new bike infrastructure being implemented that provides an all ages and abilities connection from the University of Washington to Center City. The tour will travel by light rail to the UW Link Light Rail station, which just opened this year. We’ll experience the station’s bike and pedestrian amenities, then bike on the Burke-Gilman Trail and Seattle’s newest two-way protected bicycle lane, the Westlake Cycle Track, with a focus on the project development, community outreach, design, and construction of this project. The tour includes frequent stops to discuss context, constraints and success stories.

Sam Woods, SEATTLE DOT  
CJ Holt, SEATTLE DOT  
Peter Trinh, SEATTLE DOT  
Rebecca Raush, SOUND TRANSIT
TUESDAY 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

High-Tech Cycling in South Lake Union
Meeting Point: Yakima 1

Houseboats, sea planes, and biotech firms coexist on this four-mile ride through Seattle’s high-tech South Lake Union neighborhood, home to Amazon and many other tech firms. Bike infrastructure is connecting this rapidly redeveloping area with Seattle’s treasures. See houseboats and Lake Union sea planes while you learn how bicycle facilities are attracting employees and residents to new developments. We’ll also explore how Seattle is dealing with the challenges, timing, and tradeoffs of implementing bike infrastructure in a rapidly changing neighborhood with many competing needs.

This WalkShop is supported by Cascade Bicycle Club.

Kevin O’Neill, SEATTLE DOT
Dongho Chang, SEATTLE DOT
Kelli Refer, CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB
Jeff Aken, CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB
Blake Trask, CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB
TUESDAY 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Multi-Context Cycling: From Neighborhood Streets to Light Rail

Meeting Point: Yakima 2

Bike infrastructure coexists with light rail tracks and older (retrofitted) bridge design in these two neighborhoods. This tour will travel by light rail to the Beacon Hill Station and then bike on one of Seattle’s first neighborhood greenways, a Safe Routes to School trail connection, a rechannelization project, a multiuse widened sidewalk, a bridge being retrofitted to accommodate cyclists, and the SODO trail that parallels light rail tracks. The tour includes frequent stops to discuss context, constraints, success stories and lessons learned.

Brian Dougherty, SEATTLE DOT
Jason Fialkoff, SEATTLE DOT
Donald Brubeck, SEATTLE BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD
Curious what goes into operating a bike share system? Get a behind-the-scenes tour of the Pronto! bike share facility. Learn about bike rebalancing, helmet rentals, and the technology built into the bikes and stations. We will use Pronto! bike share bikes to bike approximately one mile to the Pronto! operations facility, where the 'real' tour will then begin.

This tour will be by foot on Tuesday, and by Pronto bikes on Wednesday.

Sara Spicer, SEATTLE DOT
Demi Allen, PRONTO! BIKE SHARE
TUESDAY, 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

Temporary or Permanent? The Advantages of Both Approaches

Meeting Point: Tahoma 2

This walk will highlight the broad range of ways that Seattle has reshaped the right-of-way—from low-cost, temporary interventions to more substantial transformations requiring significant funding and public support. We'll examine the successes and challenges of each approach, observe how each space is being used today, and consider the long-term future of this kind of intervention amidst Seattle's rapid development. Each stop will reflect a different facet of Seattle's culture: public appreciation of art, Northwest cuisine, a growing café culture, ties to Scandinavia, respect for alternative modes of transit, and our thriving urban gardens.

Diane Walsh, SEATTLE DOT
Seattle is rethinking how its streets can foster vibrancy and community-building. This tour will visit several projects in the First Hill and Capitol Hill neighborhoods that have repurposed right of way for placemaking and neighborhood identification. We’ll see how the City’s Adaptive Streets program has improved safety and provided public space in the street using only low-cost, adaptable materials. The tour will also explore the right of way activation strategies that are being employed in rapidly-growing Capitol Hill, including painted crosswalks and pilot street closures in the Pike-Pine area. We’ll also see how video camera technology helped with evaluating the pilot street closures.

This WalkShop is supported by Miovision.

Seth Geiser, SEATTLE DOT
TUESDAY, 9/27: 1:00-3:15PM
WEDNESDAY, 9/28: 1:00-3:15PM

1% Investment + 40 Years = A Lot of Public Art

Meeting Point: Tahoma 1

For 40 years Seattle has invested 1% of the cost of its capital projects for art, with a profound impact on public space and culture. Walk from the conference center to Freeway Park and the Seattle Public Library to see the evolution of public art in Seattle and hear the interesting histories behind individual art pieces. Then visit the University Street and Westlake transit tunnel stations to see how art, and the stations, have been integrated into the urban context.

Darby Watson, SEATTLE DOT
Kristen Ramirez, SEATTLE DOT
Tuesday, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM
Wednesday, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Improving Transportation through Technology

Meeting Point: Tahoma 2

Seattle has made a significant commitment to using technology to improve transit speed and reliability, manage the transportation system, and provide the traveling public with real-time information. This tour will travel on foot to see transit infrastructure and operations along the Third Avenue transit spine, including streetscape improvements and enforcement of transit priority designations. Next we'll visit the Seattle Department of Transportation’s Transportation Operations Center to learn how the center manages day-to-day operations and incident response, and see the multifaceted ways the public is notified of travel conditions and options.

This WalkShop is supported by Siemens and Western Systems.

Adiam Emery, SEATTLE DOT
Jason Cambridge, SEATTLE DOT
TUESDAY 9/27, WEDNESDAY 9/28

Building a Platinum Walk-Friendly Community

Meeting Point: Tahoma 1

In 2011, Seattle was awarded the first ever Platinum Level Walk Friendly Community designation. Join staff from Seattle and the Walk Friendly Communities program to explore how a comprehensive approach to planning and design, along with enforcement, education, and encouragement strategies, can create safe and vibrant places for people to walk and socialize. Starting from the conference center, we’ll go by monorail to Seattle Center, then walk through Belltown before returning to the conference center on foot. Highlights will include crossing treatments, streetscape improvements, and a discussion of education, encouragement and enforcement strategies.

This WalkShop is supported by Walk Friendly Communities.

Ross McFarland, SEATTLE DOT
Michelle Marx, PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION
Carl Sundstrom, WALK FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES
It’s a Street. It’s a Park. It’s Bell Street!

Meeting Point: Tahoma 2
Thursday Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

Seattle’s famous Bell Street is a park that’s also a street. Or maybe a street that’s also a park? Several walking tours pay a brief visit here, but this tour will take time to focus exclusively on Bell Street, with the design team on-hand to showcase how they increased public space in a dense urban area through this innovative design, along with lessons learned through the process. See how streets and parks can converge in urban areas, with urban design elements that can effectively delineate different uses. We’ll also look at how through careful design and operation, the street reduces vehicle volumes and speeds. We’ll take a look at how the street has brought to life adjacent businesses and residential buildings, and how buses and commercial vehicles have adapted to the new ‘streetpark’.

Lyle Bicknell, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Patrick Donohue, SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM

Olmsted’s Park Plan: 113 Years Later

Meeting point: Chelan 2

The 1903 Olmsted Plan for Seattle’s parks has continued to be the basis of the city’s modern day park system over 100 years later. One of the prescient features of the plan was a 20-mile landscaped boulevard linking most of the existing and planned parks and greenbelts within the city limits. This legacy lives on today. On this tour, we’ll travel by shuttle to see part of the Olmsted system in Seattle, and how the Olmsted Parks and Boulevard System has retained its character even as transportation improvements and other emerging uses have been integrated into it. We’ll visit Lake Washington and Cheasty Boulevards, and take some short, scenic, walks.

Kathleen Conner, SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION

Jennifer Ott, FRIENDS OF SEATTLE’S OLMSTED PARKS
As a Pacific Rim city, Seattle boasts a vibrant International District that remains the cultural hub of the city’s diverse Asian-American community, home to the city’s Chinatown, one of the few international neighborhoods in the city. On this tour, learn how the modern Seattle Streetcar integrated into this historic, multicultural, multi-generational community—a task that brought challenges and opportunities in this changing neighborhood. We’ll also see early 20th-century commercial and hotel buildings, and hear about community-sponsored park and alley transformation projects that will expand the district’s pedestrian realm.

Catherine Maggio, SEATTLE DOT
Seattle has an entire city hidden beneath its streets—literally. Travel back in time to Seattle's historic birthplace in Pioneer Square. Rebuilt in the late 1800s following the Great Fire, the neighborhood is built on top of an older streetscape creating unusual challenges, including hollow streets and sidewalks, and also an opportunity for historic discovery through a fascinating underground labyrinth. We’ll travel to Pioneer Square via the transit tunnel, then explore under the sidewalks with professional, entertaining, guides.

Tuesday:
Mary Catherine Snyder, SEATTLE DOT with guides from Beneath the Streets

Wednesday:
Elliot Helmbrecht, SEATTLE DOT with guides from Beneath the Streets
TUESDAY, 9/27, WEDNESDAY, 9/28

TUESDAY, 9/27 1:00-3:15PM
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Off-Street Parking: Building Community Support
Meeting point: Tahoma 1

Learn how Seattle uses off-street parking as a tool for neighborhood support during and after major construction projects. We’ll travel on foot to Seattle’s scenic waterfront and historic Pioneer Square neighborhoods, stopping to learn about Seattle’s e-Park system, and about construction-related parking and business promotion programs. Return via the downtown transit tunnel, or linger in Pioneer Square for coffee before heading back.

Meghan Shepard, SEATTLE DOT
Lisa Dixon, ALLIANCE FOR PIONEER SQUARE
WEDNESDAY, 9/28 1:00-3:15PM

Helping Buildings Interact with the Street

Meeting point: Tahoma 1

Seattle's design review process helps integrate new development into established districts in a contextually-appropriate way. In this walk through Seattle's rapidly evolving Pike Pine neighborhood, we'll learn about how new development integrates into already-existing streetscapes, and how the design review process improves how new buildings meet and interact with the sidewalk and public realm. We'll also look at pedestrian and transit and pedestrian improvements in this burgeoning area.

Lisa Rutzick, OFFICE OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Seattle's Mercer Corridor project is transforming what was once known as the Mercer Mess into a rebuilt corridor that calms the daily street fight among modes for space, pace and safety, and strengthens multimodal connections between neighborhoods. See how efficiency, safety and mobility are being enhanced by intelligent, sensor-based infrastructure, including adaptive signal controls, real-time transit information, and video detection that differentiates bicycles from vehicles. On this tour, we'll also hear from the vendor and city staff about video detection's added value to collect vehicle and bicycle counts, and how video detection can be leveraged to improve infrastructure management and prioritize investment decisions for today's transportation systems.

This WalkShop will be by bike on Tuesday, and by foot on Wednesday.

This WalkShop is supported by Iteris.

John Lower, ITERIS
Ahmed Darrat, SEATTLE DOT
Seattle Center: A Northwest Icon

Meeting point: Tahoma 1

As the region’s top visitor destination and home to more than 30 arts, entertainment, educational and sports organizations, Seattle Center relies on public-private partnerships to realize a range of public programs, redevelopment on the grounds and multiple earned revenue streams. It also collaborates with a number of transportation entities to maintain campus access. Learn about innovative approaches to balancing polarities and maintaining productive partnerships at Seattle Center while exploring points of interest on the 74-acre campus.

After arriving by monorail, we’ll traverse the grounds to view active pedestrian rights-of-way, living garage rooftops (including a community garden), and vistas of surrounding transportation projects in which the Center has been involved.

This WalkShop is supported by Seattle Center.
Seattle’s festival streets are an ingenious hybrid design: public streets and shared environments that improve safety, comfort, and accessibility for pedestrians and bicyclists, but still function to support motor traffic and deliveries. More importantly, they are designed to easily close to cars and open to people for events and celebrations, which each festival street does numerous times per year!

On this tour, we’ll visit Georgetown Festival Street: one of Seattle’s newest festival streets (in one of Seattle’s oldest neighborhoods), and learn about this community-led project, from neighborhood and stakeholder involvement to the details of the clever project design. We’ll also get to experience the kinetic sculpture created by a local artist as part of the project, which gets great use during the activation and programming of the space. Most of all, we’ll learn the tricks and details from the project designers that created a space with a traffic-calmed environment, that can then seamlessly transform into a community gathering hub.

This WalkShop is supported by Otak and Fehr & Peers.
The Seattle Housing Authority is redeveloping a 1940s-era public housing complex near downtown into a dynamic, mixed-use community that honors the area’s history while expanding opportunities for housing, parks and transportation.

NACTO Street Design Guide principles were followed for all new and rebuilt streets, along with innovative features including a mobile art studio, an urban farm, an accessible pedestrian hillclimb, and creative wayfinding during construction.

On this tour, we'll see how the First Hill Streetcar, pedestrian improvements, and protected bike lanes provide multi-modal access, contribute to a sense of place, and generate relationships with surrounding neighborhoods.

Mark Hinshaw, SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
Aditi Kambuj, SEATTLE DOT
Where the Sea Meets Seattle: Urban Port Operations

Meeting point: Skagit 2

The Port of Seattle plays a key role in providing an international gateway for trade and travel to the Pacific Northwest. The container terminals, cruise terminals and industrial properties on the waterfront are owned by the Port, but supported by important road and rail infrastructure adjacent to downtown. This tour will include a visit to see container and intermodal rail operations, with an overview of gate operations, queuing space, infrastructure and operational issues. The interface between Port operations and city streets will be of interest to cities with ports, intermodal yards, or similar uses. The new Atlantic Street overpass improves efficiency and access by providing grade separation from truck and rail operations. We’ll also visit the Bell Street Cruise Terminal at Pier 66, the homeport for week-long Alaska cruises from May to October. Learn how this 11-acre complex accommodates taxi queueing, truck provisioning, and passenger access in a beautiful but constrained setting.

Geri Poor, PORT OF SEATTLE
Joseph Gellings, PORT OF SEATTLE
Bellevue: The Eastside Hub of Puget Sound

Meeting point: Chelan 2

With beautiful parks, top schools and a vibrant economy, Bellevue is routinely ranked among the best mid-sized cities in the country. Just across Lake Washington from Seattle, it is the high-tech and retail center of the Eastside, with a downtown skyline of gleaming high-rises.

Bellevue’s Downtown Transportation Plan aspires to make walking the easiest way to get around Downtown Bellevue, and this tour will show how small investments can make a big difference for pedestrians, access to transit, and public spaces.

After a scenic bus trip over a floating bridge, we’ll see intersections that are now considered exceptional examples of pedestrian design, and walk along a pedestrian corridor once known as a “cattle chute” and now considered a civic treasure.

Kevin McDonald, CITY OF BELLEVUE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
Seattle’s Westlake transit hub is located at a confluence of multimodal networks: light rail, streetcar, regional bus service, and bike share all converge at this point on the boundary between Downtown and South Lake Union. However, the paths between systems are not explicit and locals and tourists alike experience confusion when trying to connect from one mode to another. How can wayfinding and urban design cues help to solve this navigational challenge?

Join VIA Architecture and Commute Seattle for a walk through the hub and take part in the deployment of guerilla wayfinding elements to create and test an interim navigational solution at this vibrant multimodal hub.

This WalkShop is supported by Commute Seattle and Via Architecture.
West Seattle Boat and Bike

Meeting point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

Take a scenic Water Taxi ride to Seattle’s first protected bike lane. From the conference center, we’ll travel by bike via the 2nd Avenue protected bike lane to the waterfront, across Elliott Bay via the Water Taxi to Alki Trail. The Alki Trail is a combination of multiuse trail, separated pedestrian and bicycle trail and parking-protected bike lanes. The tour will include stops to discuss partnerships with other city departments in developing bike facilities, as well as some Seattle history. Bring your camera—photo opportunities of the Seattle skyline abound!

Emily Ehlers, SEATTLE DOT
Patti Quirk, SEATTLE DOT
David Graves, SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION
THURSDAY 9/29

THURSDAY, 9/29 8:00AM-12:00PM

**Bikes & Birds: See Seattle's Spectacular Avian Diversity**

Meeting point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

Light rail, bikes, and birds—wake up early and experience all three! On this intimate tour, we’ll explore two of Seattle’s best birding hot spots: Union Bay Natural Area and Magnuson Park. This route is nearly level and approximately 3 miles each way. We’ll travel by light rail to the University of Washington link station, bird the Union Bay Natural Area, bike along the Burke-Gilman Trail, and bird Magnuson Park. Both birding areas are restoration projects along Lake Washington and provide some of the largest intact shoreline habitat remaining in Seattle. Binoculars will be provided.

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Sam Woods, SEATTLE DOT

Emily Reardon, SEATTLE DOT

Merlin Rainwater, SEATTLE BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD
What happens when a community plans a street safety transformation for PARK(ing) Day? You get #PARKingDayPlus! SDOT has introduced a unique program where community groups can transform streets with safety improvements. Some of these tactical projects have led to permanent street modifications. All involve data collection as part of their installation.

See the most recent Tactical Urbanism project and hear from community activists about construction challenges and data collection. Take a direct Metro bus from downtown to the site, followed by an optional no-host lunch at a restaurant in the vibrant Greenwood neighborhood.

Robin Randels, SEATTLE NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAYS
80% of our public space is streets and sidewalks, and using them is a central part of our daily lives. But often cities are designed based on efficiency and speed instead of putting people first. The ‘Mobility Challenge’ focuses on the user experience of moving around the city. It’s not just about getting from A-B, but also about everything in between. It’s about the journey, the quality of the public realm, and more importantly it is about people!

Participants will travel to the same location in Downtown Seattle by different modes, each group guided by a Gehl team member. At our final destination we will evaluate our respective journeys in teams. Evaluation will be guided by Gehl-developed metrics that relate transportation to the quality of public life and public space. The final destination and location for sharing experiences will be at Marination Ma Kai, West Seattle, where participants will also be able to purchase lunch.

Sofie Kvist, GEHL IN SAN FRANCISCO
Shin-pei Tsay, GEHL INSTITUTE
Quick-Build Trail: The Cross Kirkland Corridor

Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

On this tour, go across Lake Washington to Kirkland, the first city in Washington State to adopt a complete street ordinance. We’ll see the fruit of the city’s Active Transportation Plan with its new, ambitious, rails-to-trails project: the Cross Kirkland Corridor.

The Cross Kirkland Corridor trail connects people, parks, businesses, and schools in an active living environment. Constructed using quick-build materials, the 5.75-mile trail was opened in less than three years, at a cost of $3 million.

The tour will pass through Feriton Spur, a public-private partnership between the City of Kirkland, Google, and SRM Development that includes a paved trail, community event areas, and sports facilities. We’ll also discuss future plans for the corridor, including high-capacity transit.

At the end, we’ll arrive in downtown Kirkland where you will have the choice of returning back to Seattle via shuttle, or staying to enjoy Kirkland’s lakefront and charming downtown.

Stephen Padua, CITY OF KIRKLAND
Kimberly Scrivner, PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL
Sea Kayak Tour of Seattle

Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

Get out on the water and paddle! On this tour, we’ll see Seattle from a different perspective – the seat of a sea kayak. Departing from South Lake Union, we’ll paddle with professional kayak outfitters to explore the city’s maritime history, evolving priorities for shoreline uses, and the region’s famous house boats and sea planes.

Margo Polley, SEATTLE DOT
and guides from Moss Bay
THURSDAY, 9/29 9:00AM-1:00PM
An Island in Puget Sound Joins the Bike and Pedestrian Revolution
Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

Travel to scenic Bainbridge Island, nestled right in Puget Sound, via one of the region’s iconic ferry boats to learn about recent and planned projects including a redesign of the town of Winslow’s main street, the Sound to Olympics shared use path, and a project to improve bike and pedestrian connections between the ferry terminal and the town. You’re on a boat!

Alyse Nelson, SEATTLE DOT
Chris Hammer, CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND
THURSDAY, 9/29 9:00AM-1:00PM

Waterfront and Locks and Greenways: Seattle’s Maritime Environment

Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

On this expansive 13-mile-long tour, we’ll explore Seattle’s maritime environment, from the Ballard Locks to the Fremont Bridge, as well as a wide range of bicycle facilities from trails to protected bike lanes to neighborhood greenways. The tour includes frequent stops to discuss context, constraints, success stories and lessons learned.

Dongho Chang, SEATTLE DOT
Sara Zora, SEATTLE DOT
Kyle Rowe, SEATTLE DOT
THURSDAY, 9/29 9:45AM-12:00PM

Multimodal Connectivity: Pronto + Light Rail + Bike Infrastructure

Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

The best bike infrastructure in the world is useful only if it gets you where you need to go. We’ll explore the importance of connectivity on a route that includes existing greenways and protected bike lanes, as well as greenway routes that are planned and under construction.

Led by Central Seattle Greenways leaders, the group will travel by light rail to the Capitol Hill station, pick up bikes there, and travel a loop of planned and future connections. After our ride, you can stay with the group on Capitol Hill for a no-host lunch to talk about the challenges and opportunities in creating a connected network, or return on your own.

Brie Gyncild, CENTRAL SEATTLE GREENWAYS
The Central Area Neighborhood Greenway (CANG) represents Seattle’s most ambitious greenway to date. In order to accommodate all modes in a constrained corridor, Seattle built a neighborhood greenway parallel to a major road reconstruction.

Learn from SDOT staff and neighborhood advocates about how they addressed the many challenges of creating a unified bicycle facility connecting through a variety of neighborhoods, crossing an interstate highway, going through city parks and school zones, developing new quality control metrics and methods for speed humps that are comfortable for bicycles, integrating a regional trail and an historic Olmsted Boulevard property, and crossing numerous existing arterial and transit routes.

Bob Edmiston, SEATTLE
NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAYS
Norene Pen, SDOT
THURSDAY, 9/29 10:00AM-12:00PM

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Tour

Meeting Point: Seattle Sheraton, Main fireplace lobby

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is the largest private foundation in the world, and is focused on poverty, health and education. After traveling to the Foundation’s headquarters by monorail, you’ll hear about their progressive and innovative Transportation Demand Management programs in Seattle and at their offices in India and China. You’ll see some of the campus’s sustainable features and artwork, and tour the Foundation’s Visitor Center, where you’ll learn more about the work the foundation and our partners are focusing on to create a world where every person has the opportunity to live a healthy and productive life.

Bree Moore, BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION
Lynn Perkins, BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION
THURSDAY, 9/29 ALL DAY

Tour of Portland, OR

Transit Track
Our tour will cover the breadth of Portland’s central city: from the Pearl District (One of PBS’s “Ten Towns that Changed America”), along the Portland Mall (winner of multiple design awards), through the mixed use South Waterfront redevelopment area, and over the new Tilikum Crossing (Portland’s famous major bridge without cars). Then, we'll end the evening with food and conversation at one of Portland’s micro brewpubs.

Bike Track
Over 20 miles, we will look at various forms of protected bikeways, including grade-separated cycle tracks and North America’s shortest contra-flow protected bikeway. We will look at bicycle scramble signals, pedestrian hybrid beacons, bike boxes, and Portland’s bicycle boulevards. Along the boulevards we’ll see traffic diverters, crossing treatments, and Portland’s newest treatment: the crossbike. And of course, we'll bike over Portland's famous Tilikum Crossing.

Ken Zatarain, TRIMET
Roger Geller, PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION
# INDEX OF WALKSHOPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Walkshop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>1% Investment + 40 Years = A Lot of Public Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>72 Hours to Safety: Rainier Avenue Rechannelization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>An Island in Puget Sound Joins the Bike and Pedestrian Revolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Before, During and After: A Street Transformation in Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Bellevue: The Eastside Hub of Puget Sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Beneath the Streets: Hollow Sidewalks and Historic Passageway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Bikes &amp; Birds: See Seattle's Spectacular Avian Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Building a Platinum Walk-Friendly Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Central Area Neighborhood Greenway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Channel the Rain: Green Streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Creating Transit-Priority Streets, and Riders, in South Lake Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Designing for Pedestrians, Bikes, and Bees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Designing the User Experience: Guerilla Wayfinding for Mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Downtown Seattle: Blending Streets, Parks, and Public Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Festival Streets: Community Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Helping Buildings Interact with the Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>High-Tech Cycling in South Lake Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Hollow Sidewalks with Modern Streetcars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Improving Transportation through Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Integrating the Streetcar into an International Neighborhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>It's a Street. It's a Park. It's Bell Street!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Micro-Spaces: Seattle's Parklets and Streateries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86</td>
<td>Mobility Challenge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Multi-Context Cycling: From Neighborhood Streets to Light Rail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Multimodal Connectivity: Pronto + Light Rail + Bike Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Off-Street Parking: Building Community Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Olmsted's Park Plan: 113 Years Later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Painted Intersections and Public Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Pronto's Bike Share Shop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87</td>
<td>Quick-Build Trail: The Cross Kirkland Corridor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Rapid Implementation vs. Capital Construction: What's Appropriate Where?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Remove the Alaskan Way Viaduct, Transform Seattle's Waterfront</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEX OF WALKSHOPS

Page    Walkshop

88      Sea Kayak Tour of Seattle
77      Seattle Center: A Northwest Icon
49      Seattle Summer Parkways: Car-Free Streets
76      Sensors, Cameras, and Data: Improving Safety and Mobility
85      Tactical Urbanism and Data Collection
61      Take the Bike to the Train: Integrating Multimodal Trips
65      Temporary or Permanent? The Advantages of Both Approaches
94      Tour of Portland, OR
79      Transforming a Neighborhood through Street Design: Yesler Terrace
52      Walking Tour of Seattle’s Bike Infrastructure
90      Waterfront and Locks and Greenways: Seattle’s Maritime Environment
83      West Seattle Boat and Bike
80      Where the Sea Meets Seattle: Urban Port Operations
## INDEX OF BREAKOUT SESSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Automated Vehicles: An Opportunity for our Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Ballot Initiatives and Bond Measures: Funding a Transportation Vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Bringing Protected Bike Infrastructure to the Next Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Connections: Can Our Public Transportation Infrastructure Also Foster Public Life?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Curb Space: An Asset Hidden in Plain Sight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cutting-Edge Agencies: How Organizational Structure Enables Projects to Get Done, and Done Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Delivering Better Projects Quicker: From Project to Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Engineers: Your City’s Problem Solvers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>From a Trickle to a Stream: Achieving Major Bike Mode Shift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Getting the Most from Your Data: Using Project Evaluations to Bolster Public Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Globe-Hop: Inspiring Lessons from Around the World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Green Streets, Complete Streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Hack your State DOT: Practical Design for Transportation Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>High-Demand Corridors: Integrating Bikes and Transit on the Same Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Illuminating Thoughts on Nighttime Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Iteratively Building: Quick-Build Projects as a Pathstone to Permanent Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Keeping Everyone Moving: Managing Travel Demand in Puget Sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Leveraging City Fleets and Purchasing Power for Vision Zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Measuring what Matters: New Metrics for a Multimodal Future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>New Rules, New Streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Paving the Way for Safe Streets: The Role of Political Leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Ride-Hailing Services: Opportunities and Challenges for Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Road Safety: A Global Perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Running Better Buses: Increasing Reliability Systemwide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Shared Goals: Moving People by Combining the Strengths of DOTs and Transit Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Shared Mobility Planning: Lessons from Seattle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Strategic Communications: How to Reap Dividends from a Successful Marketing Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>The Parking Crunch: Using Data that Matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>The Six Ingredients for Successful, Equitable Bike Share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Using Data to Get to Vision Zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Wait, No One Told Me About This: From Outreach to Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Who’s in the Room: Working with Community Partners to Deliver Better Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Page(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbott, Danielle</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggarwala, Rohit</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aken, Jeff</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen, Demi</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amsden, Mike</td>
<td>23, 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ardito, Lori</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey, Linda</td>
<td>12, 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bandy, Mark</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barr, Joseph</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaton, Eric</td>
<td>25, 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin, Keith</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett, Tegin</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benson, Dave</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhatt, Amit</td>
<td>13, 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biagi, Gia</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicknell, Lyle</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biehler, Al</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisesto, Laura</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blakeney, Don</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanchard, Nicole</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bracewell, Dale</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bragdon, David</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brochet, Art</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brubeck, Donald</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryant, Bill</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budnick, Noah</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burgesser, David</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butler, Tamika</td>
<td>24, 26, 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge, Jason</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell-Reid, Ludo</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capers, Tracey</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carter, Kris</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casimir, Najah</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casper, Therese</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chang, Dongho</td>
<td>16, 62, 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheney, Jamie</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cole, Kate</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colwell, Shanti</td>
<td>42, 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conner, Kathleen</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contreras, Rio (Jill)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey, Evan</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa, Tais</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruz, Maribel</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curtin, Jim</td>
<td>15, 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daoust, Deborah</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darrat, Ahmed</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>de la Peña, Benjamin</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deets, Deborah</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dempster, Peter</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desmond, Kevin</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewald, Shane</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diaz, Oscar</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dixon, Lisa</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doherty, Ann Marie</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donohue, Patrick</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dougherty, Brian</td>
<td>23, 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dovalina, Ray</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowd, Mark</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dunbar, Henry ................................................................. 14
Duncan, Skye ................................................................. 13

E
Eaken, Amanda ............................................................. 22, 37
Edmiston, Bob ................................................................. 92
Ehlers, Emily ................................................................. 49, 60, 83
Emery, Adiam ................................................................. 68
Ender, Timur ................................................................. 29
Epstein, Alexander ........................................................ 23

F
Faber, Candace ............................................................... 37
Fanganello, Crissy .......................................................... 12
Fialkoff, Jason ................................................................. 63
Fillin-Yeh, Kate ............................................................... 24
Flores, Juliet ................................................................. 23
Fluke, Daren ................................................................. 24
Flynn, Michael ............................................................... 24
Foster, Marshall ............................................................. 53

G
Gale, Nat ........................................................................... 15
Gallagher, Kerry ............................................................. 39
Geiser, Seth ................................................................. 66
Geller, Roger ................................................................. 41, 94
Gellings, Joseph ............................................................... 80
Ghazarian, Rubina .......................................................... 24
Glass-Hastings, Andrew ............................................... 30
Gonzales, Shirley ........................................................... 28
Gordon, John ................................................................. 14
Graves, David ................................................................. 83
Graves, Ted ................................................................. 41
Gray, Barbara ............................................................... 15, 50
Gyncild, Brie ................................................................. 91

H
Hafkenschiel, Erin .......................................................... 40
Hamby, Chris ................................................................. 24
Hamilton, Luann ............................................................ 22, 29
Hammer, Chris .............................................................. 89
Hashagen, Ryan ............................................................. 29
Helmbrecht, Elliot ......................................................... 73
Heyde, Beth ................................................................. 24
Hinshaw, Mark ............................................................... 79
Hoffman, Jemae ............................................................ 82
Holmes, Justin ............................................................... 39
Holt, CJ ................................................................. 61
Hutchinson, David ........................................................ 15
Hyerle, William ............................................................ 59

I
Iacobucci, Joe ................................................................. 39

J
Johnson, Gary ............................................................... 50
Johnson, Kate ................................................................. 30
Jones, Sarah ................................................................. 41

K
Kambuj, Aditi ................................................................. 79
Keating, Alexander ......................................................... 41
Kennedy, Sean .............................................................. 25
Kennedy, Steve ............................................................. 52
Kirschbaum, Julie ........................................................... 31
Kisner, Corinne .............................................................. 15
Klein, Gabe ................................................................. 14
Krawczyk, Tracy ............................................................ 41
Krieg, Alex ................................................................. 30
Kubly, Scott ................................................................. 12, 21, 39, 43
Kvist, Sofie ................................................................. 86
Kwashie, Carniesha ....................................................... 29
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laborde, Bill</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larson, Kelly</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le, James</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leighty, Carl</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisska, Will</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower, John</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas, Kim</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyles, Vi</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maggio, Catherine</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maguire, Tom</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malhotra, Mukul</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mallozzi, Pina</td>
<td>29, 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus, Lawrence</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marx, Michelle</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattern, Lauren</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald, Kevin</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McFarland, Lori</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McFarland, Ross</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McLaughlin, Susan</td>
<td>42, 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McMahan, Carol</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miguel, Melissa</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millar, Roger</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore, Bree</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moore, Craig</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murray, Edward</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neches, Jason</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson, Alyse</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newman, Margaret</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nussbaum, Tobi</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**O**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>O’Neill, Kevin</td>
<td>41, 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orcutt, Jon</td>
<td>25, 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ott, Jennifer</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Padua, Stephen</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paine, Carli</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pen, Norene</td>
<td>60, 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perkins, Lynn</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, Lynn</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polley, Margo</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor, Geri</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poplawski, Michael</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter, Phyllis</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prakash, Abhimanyu</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primus, Jay</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinn, Sean</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quirk, Patti</td>
<td>49, 51, 83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**R**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, Merlin</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramirez, Kristen</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randels, Robin</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranganathan, Shefali</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raush, Rebecca</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reardon, Emily</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer, Kelli</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replogle, Michael</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reynolds, Seleta</td>
<td>14, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheault, Jean-Francois</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rijos, Rosa</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts, Mandi</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogoff, Peter</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romero Hernandez, Rocio</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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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.
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