2020 National Planning Conference

Filters: Track: Transportation | 

Saturday, April 25
Saturday, April 25 | 10:45 a.m.

Risk Based Transportation Planning for Uncertainty

Recent university research combined with interactive workshop elements allows attendees to contemplate how risk and uncertainty impact transportation and community planning, brainstorm strategies for local implementation, and try out tools and methods for incorporating risk into long-range planning efforts.

April 25, 10:45 a.m. to noon

Location: General Assembly C

Ruth Steiner | Jeremy Crute
Saturday, April 25 | 12:30 p.m.

**METRO’s Rail System and Operations**

Look inside METRO’s rail system and operations — a service that provides safe, reliable, and convenient ways to travel to Downtown, the Medical Center, and Houston’s oldest African-American communities, while connecting to Texas Southern University and the University of Houston.

April 25, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
**Cost:** $30.00

Kenneth Luebeck | Scott Grogan

Saturday, April 25 | 12:45 p.m.

**Downtown TOD: Capitol/Rusk Corridor**

Opened to the public in 2015, METRO’s Green and Purple light rail on Capitol and Rusk Streets has spurred a conglomeration of development along 17 blocks of downtown Houston. This corridor tour will highlight 18 new or renovated buildings.

April 25, 12:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
**Cost:** $25.00

Benjamin Llana | Philip Croker | Christof Spieler

Saturday, April 25 | 1 p.m.

**Examining Informal and Emerging Microtransit Services**

New York City is home to a commuter van system that serves approximately 90,000 daily riders, primarily in immigrant communities. Learn about NYC’s approach to understanding and regulating private transit in the context of a broader microtransit discussion.

April 25, 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
Location: 310

Kenny Fennell | Christina Blackston | Christopher Henry, AICP | Matt Cunningham, AICP
Port-City Planning Partnerships and Pitfalls

Public port authorities are like cities on their own, many times not well integrated into local government planning. This session will focus on ports that are actively working with their cities and regional governments to plan for the future.

April 25, 2:45 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: 320

Jeffrey Pollack, AICP  |  Deirdre Wilson, AICP  |  Max Taffet, AICP  |  Amelia Pellegrin, AICP

Creating Mobility Equity Through Congestion Pricing

U.S. cities are exploring congestion pricing to create more equitable transportation systems. This session will feature an exciting discussion with city leaders and planners who are creating and implementing congestion pricing in Seattle, San Francisco, New York, and Los Angeles.

April 25, 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Location: 330

Jennifer Wieland  |  Joseph Iacobucci

Optimizing the Transit Experience Through BOOST

Take a ride on a Houston bus route and learn about BOOST. To prevent future gridlock due to Houston’s growing population, Houston METRO is implementing Bus Operation Optimized System Treatments (BOOST). BOOST is a process designed to make transit faster and more reliable in high traveled areas.

April 26, 7:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2
Ticket Required
Cost: $30.00

Yuhayna Mahmud, AICP  |  Kelsey Walker  |  Clint Harbert, AICP  |  Amar Mohite
Sunday, April 26 | 8:15 a.m.

**Getting Around Sugar Land by Bike**

The desire for communities to become bicycle-friendly is growing nationwide. Experience what it is like to bike to popular destinations in Sugar Land, Texas. Participants will learn about challenges faced when building bicycle projects in an established suburban community.

April 26, 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required

**Cost:** $97.00

Kimberly Terrell | Patrick Owens | Adam McGovern | Monique Johnson, AICP | Keehren Baah | Abigail Martinez

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Sunday, April 26 | 8:30 a.m.

**Planning Can’t Forget Freight**

What good is a walkable neighborhood if the corner store you walk to is out of milk? This session focuses on how to integrate freight into land-use decisions to support livable communities while minimizing the negative impacts of freight.

April 26, 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Location: General Assembly C

Daniel Studdard, AICP | Jeffrey Wojtowicz | Daniel Haake, AICP

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Sunday, April 26 | 12:30 p.m.

**Vision Zero Texas: Challenges and Solutions**

The Texas Department of Transportation has set a goal of cutting the state's number of traffic deaths in half by 2035. Four cities have adopted a Vision Zero approach. Learn from the innovative solutions they have implemented to achieve zero roadway fatalities.

April 26, 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Location: General Assembly B

Lauren Grove | Marco Hinojosa | Dug Begley
Connecting Communities: Alternate Service Vehicles

METRO’s Alternate Service Vehicles, known as Community Connectors, bring personalized, curb-to-destination services in Houston areas that may not have the density and infrastructure to support regular, fixed-route bus service. Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the dispatch unit and vehicles.

April 26, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
Cost: $40.00
Andrew Skabowski | Michael Andrade

More Than Moving People Faster: BostonBRT

Testing on-the-ground Bus Rapid Transit elements in Greater Boston proved transformational. BostonBRT, a public and private partnership, worked to leverage the potential of BRT. Learn about the local pilots that improved bus service while engaging in community dialogues about transit and place.

April 26, 3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: 361
Tegin Teich | Joseph Monty | Jennifer Raitt | Julia Walerce

From the Trenches: Abolishing Parking Minimums

Many cities need parking reform to meet housing affordability, emissions, and public health goals. Learn from cities recently approving and implementing removal of minimums. This session is all about action: how did they do it, and how you can too.

April 27, 8 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.
Location: 351
Matt Eierman | Greg Sandlund | Alyssa Muto | Daniel Bartman | Ezra Pincus-Roth, AICP | Thomas Pace | Lauren Mattern
Monday, April 27 | 9 a.m.

Uptown Houston Transformed

Combining transportation practicality with urban design, Uptown Houston, METRO, Texas Department of Transportation, and City of Houston joined forces to dramatically improve transit service, while preserving existing auto access and creating a beautifully landscaped pedestrian environment along Post Oak Boulevard.

April 27, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
Cost: $45.00
Eliza Paul | John Breeding | Ramesh Gunda | Thomas Lambert | Barbara Koslov | Robert McHaney, AICP, CTP | Lata Krishnarao, AICP

Monday, April 27 | 9:15 a.m.

A Freight Rail Tour of Houston

Loop through Houston's East Side, which is dense with rail. Freight rail is a critical part of national transpiration and local economies, with significant impacts on neighborhoods and local transportation networks. If planners understand how rail works they can work with railroads to benefit everyone.

April 27, 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
Cost: $40.00
EDWARD EMMETT | Bakeyah Nelson | Christof Spieler

Monday, April 27 | 11 a.m.

Granite Becomes Gold: Curb Value Transformations

Once gray and uninteresting, miles of urban curbs are becoming instruments of transformation, enabling cities to advance mobility programs, developers to reallocate funding away from parking, and communities to create equitable funding for sustainable land use and mobility programs.

April 27, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Location: 310

Willa Ng | Joseph Monty | Jason Schrieber, AICP
Managing Micromobility: Policies, Tools, and Tradeoffs

Shared micromobility has taken cities by storm. Learn how some cutting-edge cities are shaping and managing their programs to minimize impacts and maximize benefits. Discussion also includes national trends around data specifications and management, privacy, and software tools.

April 27, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Location: 361

Joseph Al-hajeri | Robert Modys, AICP | Michael Schwartz | Jessica Stetson

Tuesday, April 28

Tuesday, April 28 | 7:45 a.m.

Main Street: Rail Line, Innovation Corridor

In 2004 Houston opened a new light rail line, and within a year it was the second busiest in the U.S. This tour shows why, showcasing the educational and cultural destinations the Red Line connects and plans for an innovation corridor.

April 28, 7:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
Cost: $25.00
Abbey Roberson, AICP | Christof Spieler

Tuesday, April 28 | 8:15 a.m.

Exploring the Central City Bikeway Network

Bike through Central Houston’s expanding network of high-comfort bike lanes and trails. Learn about how the bikeways and trails were planned and partnerships that enable rapid implementation. Learn some history about downtown, its transportation systems, and the surrounding neighborhoods.

April 28, 8:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Location: Mobile Workshop Departure Area, Level 2

Ticket Required
Cost: $65.00
Amar Mohite | Peter Eccles | Jessica Wiggins | Robert Carleton, AICP