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# PROGRAM

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**FOCUS**<sup>ON</sup>  
**THE**  
**FUTURE**

**2021**



**BACK  TO OUR FUTURE**

REIMAGINING TRANSPORTATION IN THE POST-COVID WORLD

**NOVEMBER 15-16, 2021**



**Self-Help Counties Coalition**



**RAILPROS**

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## 2021 FOCUS ON THE FUTURE PLATFORM



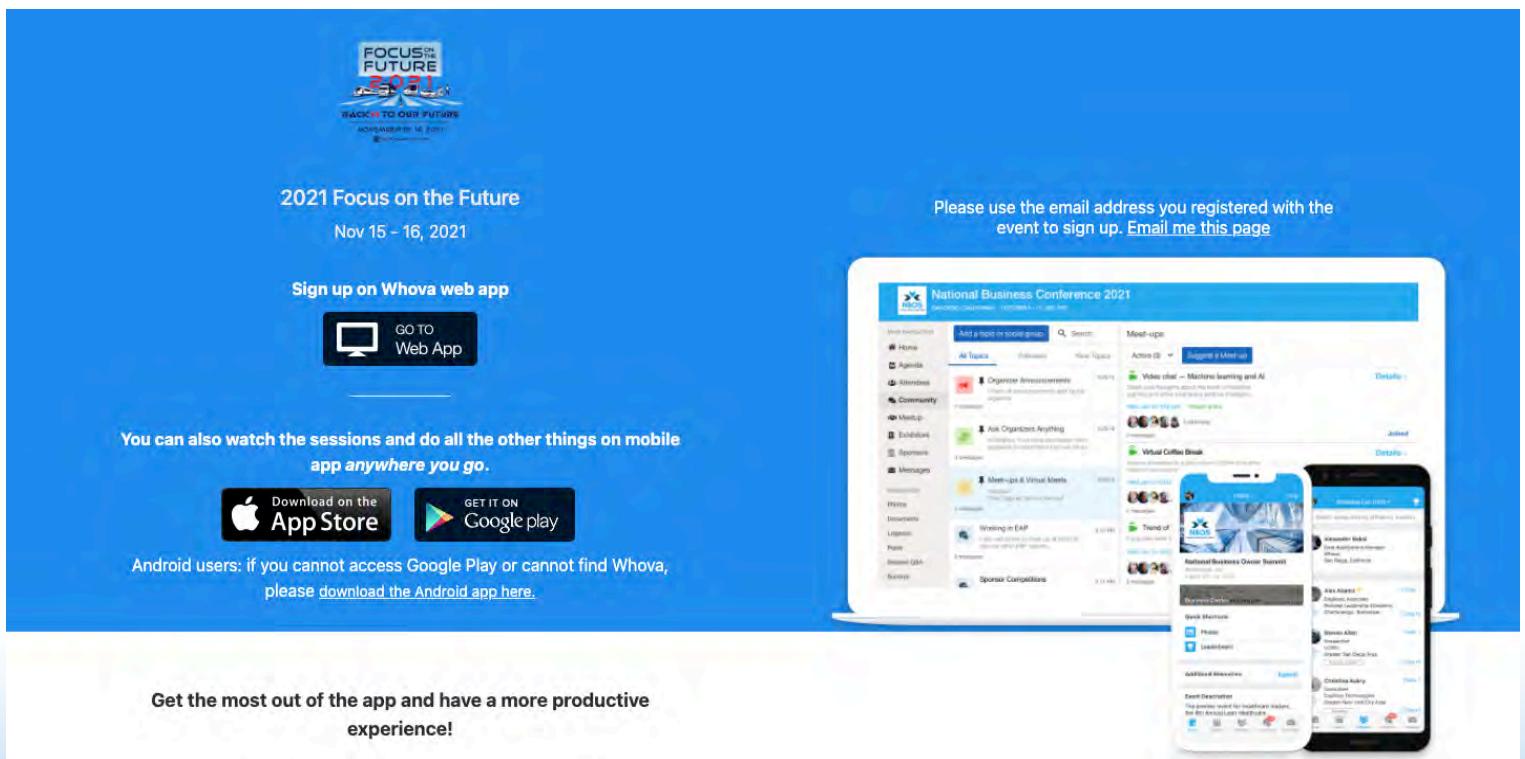
The 2021 Virtual Focus on the Future Conference is using Whova as the virtual conference platform. You can access the Whova platform two ways, via the web or mobile app. Please see below how to access both.

You must use the **email address that you registered** with when signing up in the app. When you sign-up, please create a strong password. Once you're signed up, you should be taken directly to our event!

Already used the Whova app at another event in the past? Double-check that it is installed on your phone, and log in using your **email address that you registered** with and password you previously created. No need to worry if you cannot remember your password, click on Forgot Password and Whova will send you a link to reset. If you have any further issues, you can contact Whova by emailing Customer Support: [Support@whova.com](mailto:Support@whova.com)

### Go to Web App

### Get Mobile App



The image shows the Whova mobile app landing page. At the top, there is a banner for the "2021 Focus on the Future" conference, dated Nov 15 - 16, 2021. Below the banner, there is a "Sign up on Whova web app" button with a computer icon and the text "GO TO Web App". A note says "Please use the email address you registered with the event to sign up. [Email me this page](#)". Below this, there is a section for "Sessions" with a list of topics like "Machine learning and AI", "Video call - Machine learning and AI", and "Virtual Coffee Break". There are also sections for "Meet-ups", "Meet-ups & Virtual Meetups", and "Networking in EAP". At the bottom, there are download links for the App Store and Google Play, and a note for Android users: "Android users: if you cannot access Google Play or cannot find Whova, please [download the Android app here](#)". A note at the very bottom says "Get the most out of the app and have a more productive experience!"

## THE SELF-HELP COUNTIES COALITION MEMBERS

Alameda County Transportation Commission

Contra Costa Transportation Authority

Fresno County Transportation Authority

Imperial County Transportation Commission

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Madera County Transportation Authority

Marin County Transportation Authority

Merced Transit Authority

Transportation Agency for Monterey County

Napa County Transportation & Planning Agency

Orange County Transportation Authority

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San Francisco County Transportation Authority

San Joaquin County Council of Governments

San Mateo County Transportation Authority

Santa Barbara County Association of Governments

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission

Sonoma County Transportation Authority

Stanislaus Council of Governments

Tulare County Association of Governments

## WELCOME CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

November 15, 2021

Dear conference attendees:

Even though we cannot meet in person once again this year, we are very excited to celebrate the 32nd Annual Focus on the Future in a virtual setting. This conference is made possible by the extraordinary support the Self-Help Counties Coalition (SHCC) receives from our sponsors, county host, attendees, and the conference planning committee. We would also like to thank RailPros once again for being our host sponsor.

The Focus on the Future virtual conference will be taking place on the Whova platform. Each attendee who registered should have received a confirmation with a guide on how to access the Whova platform via the web or mobile app, if you do not already have a profile set-up. If you do not remember your password, you will have the ability to reset in order to login. Once you login to the platform, you will have access to the program, our sponsor profiles, the community center where you can network with other attendees, and see a full list of attendees. Please visit the Self-Help Counties Coalition website, [www.selfhelpcounties.org](http://www.selfhelpcounties.org), for instructions on how to access the Whova platform, if you run into any issues.

Our virtual conference will begin on Monday, with a welcome message from both myself and Keith Dunn, Self-Help Counties Coalition Executive Director. The Monday morning program will then lead into a general session where attendees will hear a discussion between select SHCC CEOs, and Keith Dunn, SHCC Executive Director, as they discuss updates from their region. Thank you WSP for sponsoring the roundtable discussion. After the general session, we will host four breakout sessions. We have some amazing speakers and panels that offer a broad range of experience and insights in planning for the future. The sessions will be live and a recording will be available to all registered attendees after the conference.

On Monday, after the breakout sessions, our top sponsors will be hosting a "vendor showcase" and we will then move into a live roundtable discussion on innovative projects.

On Tuesday there will be an update from the California Transportation Commission, the California Department of Transportation, and CalSTA. The Sisyphus Award will be taking one more year off due to COVID-19, but attendees will hear SHCC key agency staff, where they will discuss their future plans. Thank you TY. Lin International for sponsoring the roundtable discussion. Attendees will then be able to choose from three very timely and informative sessions before we wrap up the conference.

On behalf of the host community and planning committee, we hope you are looking forward to the 32nd Annual Virtual Focus on the Future Conference; we are looking forward to "seeing" you virtually. We believe you will find that the 2021 Focus on the Future conference provides new information, gets you thinking about new projects, policies, and programs, and gives you a glimpse of how critical transportation is to a strong economy, sustainable environment, and safe communities.

Mark your calendars for the 2022 Focus on the Future Conference, November 13 - 15, 2022, at the Marriott Newport Beach.

Sincerely,



Darrell E. Johnson  
Chief Executive Officer  
Orange County Transportation Authority



# RailPros is honored to be the host sponsor of the 2021 Focus on the Future Conference

## ***BACK TO OUR FUTURE: REIMAGINING TRANSPORTATION IN THE POST-COVID WORLD***

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**2021**



**BACK  TO OUR FUTURE**

REIMAGINING TRANSPORTATION IN THE POST-COVID WORLD

**NOVEMBER 15-16, 2021**



**Self-Help Counties Coalition**

**VIRTUAL  
CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULE**

# SCHEDULE



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2021

All Day **Visit Sponsors**

9:00 am - 10:15 am **Welcome & General Session**

Live

**Introduction:** Doug Sawyer, RailPros (pre-recorded)

**Speakers:** Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, OCTA & Keith Dunn, Executive Director, Self-Help Counties Coalition

## **CEO Roundtable & Discussion**

Plan to join the SHCC CEO's as they discuss updates within their region.

**Introduction:** Chris Peters, WSP

**Moderator:** Keith Dunn, Executive Director, Self-Help Counties Coalition

**Speakers:** SHCC CEOs

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# SCHEDULE



10:45 am - 12:00 pm

## Breakout Sessions

### Federal Infrastructure Package and What it Means for California and Self-Help Counties

Live

This panel will discuss the key components of the federal infrastructure package, how agencies are preparing and positioning for future funding, and what should be done within California to best take advantage of the policies and funding included in the package.

**Moderator:** Andrew Dohrmann, T.Y. Lin International Group

#### Speakers

- Giles Giovinazzi, California State Transportation Agency
- Anne Mayer, Riverside County Transportation Commission
- Suzanne Smith, Sonoma County Transportation Authority
- Andrew Wishnia, U.S. Department of Transportation

### "Let's Get This Project Done" - Project Delivery in the Modern Age

Pre-Recorded

Delivering infrastructure projects becomes more difficult every year with limited resources, escalation costs, regional development issues, environmental considerations, and navigating complex partnerships. This session will highlight ways to deliver a successful project in a rapidly changing world of policy and circumstances when there are often decades between the planning process and project delivery. Panelists will share lessons learned and best practices for different stages of the project realization process about how to adapt to the challenges of delivering modern infrastructure for public use.

**Moderator:** Ivan Ramirez, Director of Construction, Contra Costa Transportation Authority

#### Speakers:

- JC Lacey, JCL Consulting Group, Inc.
- Jeffrey Newman, Caltrans District 7, Chief of Staff
- Stephen Polechronis, Sr. Vice President AECOM
- Mary Teichert, Teichert Inc.

### Finding the Silver Lining: How the Global Pandemic is Allowing Us to Create a California for Everyone

Live

California is at an inflection point. Do we want to go back to pre-pandemic business as usual or is there an opportunity to be intentional about rethinking work, and setting a new balance point along the work-life continuum? With remote work, companies are now tapping into the global talent pool and lowering overhead costs. Workers are no longer tied to an hour radius around their work site to find housing. However, equity issues around transportation, broadband, and the definition of "essential work" could play into who gets to take advantage of greater flexibility. Adjusting productivity metrics and shifting our mindset from "butts in seats" to asynchronous work; from input to and outcomes, is a sea change that could have a once-in-a-generation impact on the workforce. This panel will examine the post-COVID opportunities that can help your organization not only survive but thrive while embracing "California Dreaming for All" approach.

**Moderator:** James Corless, Sacramento Area Council of Governments

#### Speakers:

- Gabbi Brazzil, WSP
- Darren Kettle, Metrolink
- Aaron Ochoco, Caltrans

# SCHEDULE



10:45 am - 12:00 pm

## Breakout Sessions continued

### BIG DATA

Transportation lays at the intersection of many of our society's core tenants that we want to change and improve. From social equity to economic development to housing, transportation can be a catalyst or detractor from our goals. During this panel, you'll hear from CCTA, the City of Pasadena and StreetLight Data on how they are using mobility data to plan for the future and the challenges ahead.

**Moderator:** Keith Dunn, Self-Help Counties Coalition

#### Speakers

- Tim Haile, CCTA
- Kevin Hathaway, StreetLight
- Kevin Johnson, Fehr and Peers

Live

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

## Vendor Networking Showcase

Live  
Roundtables

Join three of our sponsors in a roundtable discussion. Each table is open to 8 participants at a time, but each participant can rotate, and is open to all attendees.

**Roundtable #1:** Jacobs

**Roundtable #2:** LSA Associates, Inc.

**Roundtable #3:** T.Y. Lin International Group

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

## RailPros Trivia Hour

Live Trivia!

**Stream Time:** November 15th, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**Link:** <https://triviahub-io.zoom.us/j/87175889024>

**Note:** Winning team gets \$200 worth of gift cards!

2:15 pm - 3:15 pm

## Innovative Projects: A Roundtable Discussion

Live Roundtable  
Discussion

**Moderator:** Keith Dunn, Self-Help Counties Coalition

#### Speakers:

- Krystal Ayala, San Diego Associates of Governments
- Chris Caputo, Caltrans
- Jason Caudle, City of Lancaster
- Marlin Feenstra, Riverside County Transportation Commission
- Ray Wolfe, San Bernardino County Transportation Authority

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

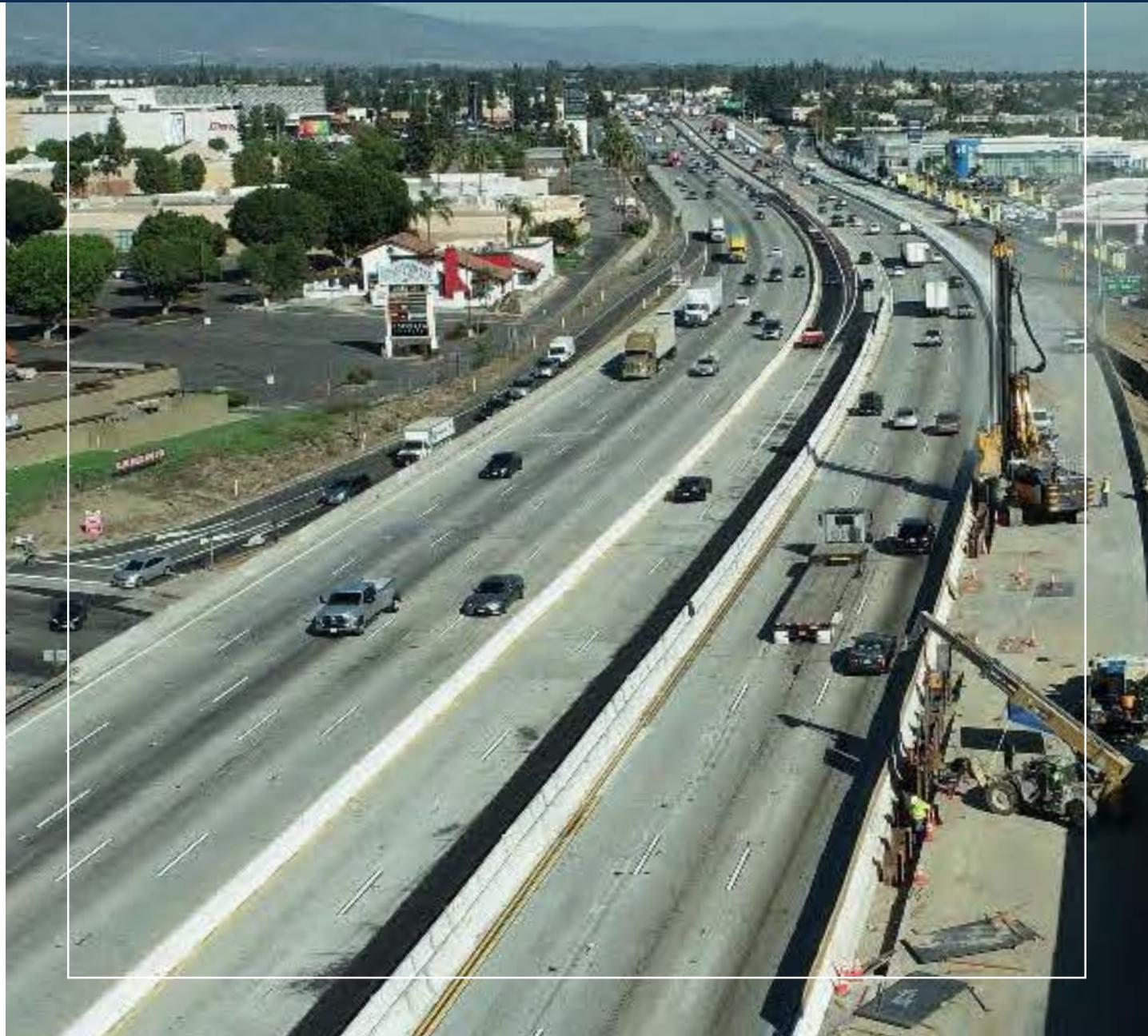
## AECOM Trivia Night

Live Trivia!

**Stream Time:** November 15th, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Link:** <https://triviahub-io.zoom.us/j/87594719139>

## PROVIDING A FULL CONTINUUM OF INNOVATIVE SERVICES TO RESTORE AND ENHANCE OUR NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE



# SCHEDULE



**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

All Day	<b>Visit Sponsors</b>	
8:45 am - 9:00 am	<b>CTC Update</b>  <b>Speaker:</b> Mitch Weiss, Executive Director, CTC	Pre-Recorded
9:00 am - 9:15 am	<b>Annual State of Caltrans</b>  <b>Speaker:</b> Toks Omishakin, Director, Caltrans	Pre-Recorded
9:15 am - 9:30 am	<b>Update on the Status of Transportation Infrastructure and Funding in California</b>  <b>Speaker:</b> Secretary David Kim, California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)	Pre-Recorded
9:30 am - 10:30 am	<b>Agency Staff Roundtable</b> Join select SHCC Agency Staff in a roundtable discussion as they talk about innovative projects, VMT, COVID-19 updates, and other key items impacting the counties.  <b>Moderator:</b> Sarkes Khachek, Director of Programming, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>James Cameron, Sonoma County Transportation Authority</li><li>Marcella Rensi, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority</li><li>Otis Greer, San Bernardino County Transportation Authority</li><li>Kristin Jacinto, Orange County Transportation Authority</li><li>Troy McNeil, Madera County Transportation Commission</li><li>Danielle Schmitz, Napa Valley Transportation Authority</li><li>Will Ridder, LA Metro</li></ul>	Live

# SCHEDULE



10:45 am - 12:00 pm

## Breakout Sessions

### Future of the Highway - How do We Get to the Future When We are Stuck in Traffic Today?

Live

Has the system that grew to facilitate mobility throughout California to accommodate the world's most dominant mode - motor driven personal and commercial vehicles come to a reckoning? When it comes to highways, we can't live without them, yet we find ourselves faced with the dilemma of highway capacity nearly always lagging demand, affecting not just SOV's but transit services as well." Who owns these issues and who or what can heighten performance levels for our state's urban, suburban, and rural populations, cultures and the economic drivers that carry us into the future? Is this even a transportation issue or is it a land use issue? Or is it both?

This session convenes a breadth of informed perspectives of those who have been engaged in the mix of policy, engineering, and politics that are always in play when highways are the topic in order to take us on a ride into the future.

**Moderator:** Tess Lengyel, Alameda County Transportation Commission

#### Speakers:

- Darin Chidsey, Southern California Association of Governments
- Lee Ann Eager, California Transportation Commission
- Darren Henderson, WSP
- Mike Keever, Caltrans
- Eric Sauer, California Trucking Association

### Making Autonomous Not So Anonymous: An update on the status of autonomous vehicles

Live

What is the status of Autonomous Vehicles (AV)? Lots of research is being conducted in the space but when will we see self-driving vehicles? It seems like Autonomous Vehicle adoption is still "5 years away." What is the realistic timeframe for widespread AV deployment? How can infrastructure make AV adoption safer? How can we ensure that the potential benefits of self-driving vehicles are felt by all? And how will AV impact the future of legacy transportation options, especially transit and car ownership. This discussion will address those questions as well as explore the realities of deploying self-driving technology and contemplate issues such as equitable access to disadvantaged communities. The advantages of AV to society are numerous and include solving the first/last mile gap, adding mobility options for the elderly and differently abled individuals via AV. While this emerging technology provides many solutions, there are also several questions such as potential impacts to current transit ridership as well as infrastructure needed to deploy the vehicles onto our roadways. Potential drawbacks, including increasing congestion, cannibalizing transit, and depending on fuel type increased emissions. This panel will provide insights into how the industry is addressing safety, equity, sustainability, what changes to our infrastructure are needed to support the new technology, and what the real timeframe for deployment may be.

**Moderator:** Manal Yamout, Caliber Strategies

#### Panelist:

- Jaime Waydo, Cavnue
- Phil Pierce, Zoox
- Baptiste Le Poittevin, EasyMile

# SCHEDULE



10:45 am - 12:00 pm

## Breakout Sessions continued

Post-Pandemic Transportation: How to Adapt to Change, and What Should We be Thinking When We're in the Middle of It?

Live

What will commuting, recreational, and active transportation look like going forward, and how can transportation agencies in California best prepare for the future? Can California turn post-pandemic travel from catastrophe to opportunity? The pandemic, climate pressures, social justice movements, and technologies are already causing massive changes in work, school, and many other aspects of daily life. This expert panel will assess what we know about these once in a millennial societal change, what they mean for transport, and how agencies can anticipate and plan for changed (and still changing) travel patterns, employment, and housing trends. Panelists include specialists in economics, travel modeling, public policy, and will engage in a data-driven discussion of our future.

Moderator: Anne Richman, Transportation Authority of Marin

Speakers:

- Patrick Kallerman, Bay Area Council
- Dr. Deborah Salon, University of Arizona
- Mark Vallianatos, LA Metro
- Dave Vautin, Metropolitan Transportation Commission
- Paul Granillo, Inland Empire Economic Partnership



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