CFEE Roundtable Infrastructure Conference on Climate Financing:

*Building Smart Infrastructure for a Green Future*

April 26-27, 2018

The generational failure to rethink and rebuild our state’s infrastructure has constrained jobs and incomes as well as strained the sustainable use of our resources. Now, as the unpredictable consequences of climate change place new and unique burdens on our natural resources, building stock, and transportation and water systems, the gap between our infrastructure needs and the delivery capacity of our public agencies grows ever wider.

This conference will discuss climate financing, whereby the coordinated power of public and private resources, performance based delivery mechanisms, and integrated planning techniques are leveraged to enable Californians to innovatively, yet pragmatically, adapt our infrastructure and enhance our natural resources to meet the challenges of the changing environment.

**Thursday, April 26th — TBA**

11:30 – 1:00 pm  Buffet Lunch

1:00 – 1:15 pm  Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Conference

*Patrick Mason,* President, CFEE

1:15 – 2:15 pm  Session 1: A Hostile Climate – How will our infrastructure be challenged?

California is projected to experience more extreme weather events in the coming years as air and sea temperatures warm, erratic precipitation patterns intensify, and oceans continue to rise. Beyond an increase in the frequency of dramatic catastrophes like wildfire and flooding, climate impacts will also manifest in subtle ways. The sum of these complex, interconnected consequences will uniquely challenge infrastructure performance.

- In what ways will climate change place new demands on our infrastructure? On our agencies and funding mechanisms?
- What is the state of California infrastructure?
- What are the characteristics of climate-resilient infrastructure?
- As we expand and replace existing roadways, transit systems, water projects, and public buildings, how can we explicitly address carbon footprints and other adverse environmental impacts and the needs of disadvantaged communities?

*Representative, National Climate Assessment*

*Jamesine Rogers Gibson,* Western States Senior Climate Analyst, Union of Concerned Scientists

Roundtable Discussion

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2:15 – 3:00 pm  **Session 2: What is Climate Financing?**

While there is no formal definition for “climate financing,” it has become the catchall term to describe financing mechanisms designed to muster the collective resources of public, private, and non-governmental organizations for purposes of climate adaptation and mitigation.

- What is the projected investment need for infrastructure development? Will public funds be able to cover that need?
- What does climate financing mean in the context of infrastructure projects?
- Where else in the U.S. and the world are public authorities pursuing climate financing? What are some global examples of climate financing?

**Josh Meltzer**, Senior Fellow - Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution

**Dan Carol**, Senior Advisor, Infrastructure and Energy, Office of Governor Brown

Roundtable Discussion

3:00 – 3:15 pm  **Break**

3:15 – 5:00 pm  **Session 3: Project Delivery in Action: Reducing Public Risk While Ensuring Green Benefits**

Despite facing statutory and/or political barriers, agencies across the state have found creative ways to finance and deliver resilient transportation infrastructure. Using either agency-specific, regional or recently-expired state authority, public agencies like Solano Transportation Authority [SR 37] and Los Angeles Metro are spearheading ambitious efforts to remake vital transportation corridors using alternative delivery mechanisms that shift risk to the private sector. In other instances, public agencies have been able to reduce project risk by using planning frameworks, such as advanced mitigation, that proactively address environmental issues.

- What are alternative delivery mechanisms? What is risk transfer? What hurdles need to be overcome to use such mechanisms?
- What is advanced mitigation planning? How does it reduce risk on a project?
- How do these projects mitigate and adapt for climate change impacts?
- How can these projects incorporate nature to ensure resilience?
- What “smart” capabilities do these projects possess?
- What can policymakers do to enable similar projects to come to fruition?

**Geoff Yarema**, Partner, Nossaman

**Michael Turner**, Deputy Executive Officer, LA Metro

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**Daryl Halls**, Executive Director, Solano Transportation Authority

**Elizabeth O’Donoghue**, Director of Infrastructure and Land Use, The Nature Conservancy

Roundtable Discussion

6:30 pm Reception and Dinner

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**Friday, April 27th — TBA**

7:30 – 8:30 am Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 10:00 am Session 4: Beyond Transportation...The Bigger Infrastructure Picture

California’s infrastructure needs extend to water facilities, schools, and hospitals and other public projects that will need to be retrofitted and newly built to keep pace with a changing environment and a growing populace. Moreover, water conveyance, storage and reuse projects as well as our building stock represent important opportunities to address drought resiliency and energy efficiency.

- What tools and mechanisms currently exist for public agencies to build and maintain these projects?
- How are project delivery rules different for non-transportation infrastructure?
- What is project bundling? How might bundling improve project delivery?
- How do we address the needs of vulnerable communities?

**Norma Camacho**, CEO, Santa Clara Valley Water District

**Virginia Grebbien**, Chief of Staff, Parsons

**Daniel Curtin**, Director, California Conference of Carpenters

**Patrick O’Donnell**, Member, California State Assembly (invited)

Roundtable discussion

10:00 – 10:15 am Break


This year, Governor Brown signed an executive order directing state agencies to collaborate with the private sector to get a minimum of 5 million zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) on California roadways by 2030. Underpinning this ambitious goal

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is the installation of 250,000 electric vehicle chargers and 200 hydrogen fueling stations.

- What public funds are available to finance these projects? In what way is the private sector involved?
- How are state and local agencies collaborating to develop a strategic plan to deploy the needed infrastructure?
- Who will be responsible for building and operating hydrogen fueling and electric vehicle (EV) charging stations?
- Under what rules must electric utilities operate in order to construct EV charging stations?
- What opportunities and challenges will ZEV’s as well as autonomous vehicles present for transportation infrastructure performance?

Tyson Eckerle, Deputy Director of Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure, Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development

Representative, Investor-Owned Utility

Representative, Publicly-Owned Utility

Representative, Shell Energy

Representative, Auto Manufacturer

Roundtable Discussion

11:30 - 12:15 pm  Session 6: Summary and Next Steps

What statutory action is needed to enable climate financing? What political obstacles must be overcome? What can we expect from infrastructure development and performance if there is no policy action?

Patrick Mason, President & CEO, CFEE

Roundtable Discussion by all participants

12:15 pm  Adjourn—Patrick Mason

@ 3.1.18

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