

# A G E N D A

## CFEE Transportation Conference

### Off the Beaten Path: Finding Our Way to Affordable and Green Transportation

September 10-11, 2020

Even before the pandemic rattled the global economy, the delivery of a world class transportation system was not getting any cheaper or easier. Now with strained public budgets and a murky economic outlook, California's ambitious decarbonization agenda and ongoing need to enhance infrastructure is encountering a tougher political and fiscal environment. How do we beat the path to our long-sought, low-cost and low-carbon transportation future? And has COVID-19 changed the way we should approach our long term planning?

This conference will convene California's transportation leaders to consider how we can leverage scarce public and private dollars to build and maintain resilient infrastructure, spur adoption of zero emission vehicles, and invest in and train a skilled workforce. We will also explore how we deliver affordable, clean, and convenient transportation systems for all communities at all income levels throughout the state, from our urban cores and on to our rural settings.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

### The North Room

11:30 – 1:00 pm	Arrivals & Check-In – Buffet Lunch – The South Room
1:00 – 1:15 pm	<b>Welcome – Conference Overview and Roundtable Introductions</b>

- Preview of conference topics, speakers, and goals

**Jay Hansen**, President & CEO, CFEE

1:15 – 2:15 pm	<b><u>Session 1</u></b> <b>Picking Up the Pieces: What's Next as the Pandemic Rolls Along?</b>
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As the world grinded to a halt this spring, so too did our transportation system as workers, students, and travelers remained homebound to reduce the spread of COVID-19. While Californians have gradually started to move around again, transit ridership is far below previous levels, telecommuting and distance learning remain common, and our roads, in some cases, are seeing more drivers than before. How are we adapting to new mobility patterns spurred by the pandemic, and what behaviors might persist even after the crisis passes?

- How are transportation agencies rethinking their approaches to operations and planning?

- What are the short and long term consequences of significantly lower transit ridership? When can we expect people to have more confidence in taking public transportation again?
- Does our transit workforce have access to adequate personal protective equipment (PPE)?
- Will telecommuting remain common in a post-pandemic world?
- Are there long term implications for our decarbonization goals, workforce development strategies, and financing our critical transportation infrastructure?

**Dan Sperling**, Director, Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California Davis, and Board Member, California Air Resources Board  
*(5-10 min)*

**Jeff Tumlin**, Director of Transportation, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency *(5-10 min)*

*Roundtable Discussion*

2:15 – 2:30 pm	Break
2:30 – 3:45 pm	<b><u>Session 2</u></b> <b>Follow the Money: How Are Transportation Dollars Being Spent? Where Will They Come from Next?</b>

With the ever-present public skepticism about big ticket public investments that do not appear to deliver value, there is a need to examine how transportation funds are being spent to ensure we are getting the best bang for our buck. This session will discuss which projects are underway or completed as a result of recent local bonds and sales tax measures as well as the gas tax increase. We will also consider what more might be needed and how to leverage the necessary funding.

- What projects have been launched as result of an influx of state monies following the increase in the gas tax? Which are next up in the pipeline as SB1 dollars are disbursed?
- Which facilities have been repaired, augmented, and newly constructed thanks to local voters who approved a mix of local bond and tax increases?
- What *isn't* happening with transportation and transit dollars? How does that add to public skepticism about investments?
- Going forward, what is the right formula for local leaders to successfully convince residents to invest in transportation infrastructure?
- How will emergency stimulus packages passed by federal and state governments boost the transportation sector?
- What about private capital – what can be done to entice private investment in our public infrastructure?

**Mitch Weiss**, Executive Director, California Transportation Commission (5-10 min)

**David Kim**, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency (5-10 min)

**Michael Quigley**, Executive Director, California Alliance for Jobs (5-10 min)

*Roundtable Discussion*

3:45 – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 – 5:15 pm	<b>Session 3</b> <b>The Great ZEV Pursuit: The Race to 2025 and Beyond</b>

With more than 600,000 zero emission vehicles (ZEV) on California roads, the race is on to achieve the state’s goal to deploy a total of 1.5 million ZEV’s by 2025. And while we diligently pursue this target, we must also contend with the reality that California has more than 26 million vehicles, the majority of which possess internal combustion engines. How do we reshape and support our vehicle fleet and its evolving fuel and infrastructure needs?

- Are customers purchasing electric and hydrogen vehicles at the rate needed to meet our 2025 target? If not, what can be done to close the gap and set us up to take on the next goal of five million ZEV’s by 2030?
- What is the latest with medium and heavy-duty vehicles – where do we stand with ZEV commercialization of this critical market segment?
- How do we build roads that are physically ready for the heavier batteries in electric vehicles and trucks?
- What is the strategy for fleet turnover for rideshare drivers, whose vehicles are “dead-heading” and driving far more than the average Californian?
- As we pursue our ZEV objectives, what is our projected demand for gasoline? How can oil and gas companies partner in efforts achieve state transportation goals?
- In addition to ZEV’s, what are the short and long term tradeoffs of embracing low emission vehicles?

**Hector De La Torre**, Board Member, California Air Resources Board (5-10 min)

**Chelsea Jenkins**, Vice President of Government Relations, ROUSH CleanTech (5-10 min)

**Trem Smith**, CEO & President, Berry Corporation (5-10 min)

*Roundtable Discussion*

6:00 pm	Reception and Dinner – The South Room
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## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

### The North Room

7:00 – 8:30 am	Buffet Breakfast – The North Room
9:00 – 10:15 am	<b><u>Session 4</u></b> <b>Let's Get to Work! What's Our Workforce Development Strategy?</b>

The backbone of any prosperous economy is a skilled workforce, and California's transportation system is one of the more fertile areas to seed a steady supply of well-trained workers. In addition to the continual need to build, maintain, and operate infrastructure, there are emerging and matured industries that need California to foster a healthy labor market. What is the strategy to make it happen?

- What type of jobs are needed in the transportation sector today? What about 10 years from now?
- Do we have policies and programs in place to develop the pipeline of needed workers?
- What does a realistic expansion of apprenticeship programs look like?
- How can regulations and laws facilitate job creation, particularly zero-emission transportation policies support job development?
- How are construction labor unions partnering with government to develop monies for transportation projects? How does that drive workforce development, and subsequently, public acceptance of infrastructure investments?

**Aileen Nowlan**, Senior Manager, EDF+Business (5-10 min)

**Tim Cremins**, Political Director - Western Region, Cal-Nev Conference of Operating Engineers (5-10 min)

**Jeremy Smith**, Deputy Legislative Director, State Building & Construction Trades Council of CA (5-10 min)

*Roundtable Discussion*

10:15 – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 – 12:00 pm	<b><u>Session 5</u></b> <b>One Size Fits None? How Can We Tailor Our Transportation Solutions?</b>

As we work to decarbonize and expand our mobility systems, an ongoing challenge is the social and geographic diversity of the state. Simply put, transportation solutions that may work for one community or region may not be suitable for others. How do we craft policies to accommodate the different needs of different communities while still making progress on statewide goals?

- What programs do we have in place to ensure vulnerable communities benefit from our efforts to remake California’s transportation system?
- How about rural communities? What mobility innovations are practical in low-density settings?
- What “first mile” and “last mile” solutions need to be better developed to integrate our transportation systems more completely?
- How do we incorporate environmental and conservation benefits into regional transportation planning? What are “Greenprints,” and how might they become the preeminent tool for multi-benefit land use development?

**Gloria Salazar**, Chief Executive Officer, San Joaquin Regional Transit District  
(5-10 min)

**John Bauters**, Councilmember, City of Emeryville and Vice-Chair, Alameda County Transportation Commission (5-10 min)

**Alvaro Sanchez**, Environmental Equity Director, The Greenlining Institute  
(5-10 min)

**Kome Ajise**, Executive Director, Southern California Association of Governments (5-10 min)

*Roundtable Discussion*

12:00 – 12:15 pm

**Summary, Next Steps, and Adjournment**

**Jay Hansen**, President & CEO, CFEE