

September Presentation: Effects of COVID-19 on Travel Conditions

Tim Erney, AICP/PTP/CTP - Senior Principal, Kittelson & Associates
Fernando Sotelo, TE/PTP - Associate Engineer, Kittelson & Associates

Since March, the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed the usage of local and regional roadways, which is affecting multiple aspects of the transportation planning and traffic engineering industry. Leaders from Kittelson & Associates, Inc. will present a summary of their research on how COVID-19 is impacting travel patterns and mode choice, and potential means to assess baseline traffic conditions during this period.

Speaker Bios:



Tim Erney, AICP/PTP/CTP is a Senior Principal at Kittelson & Associates, Inc. and has almost 25 years of experience with planning and engineering projects throughout California. His primary focus has been on managing analyses and documentation for multimodal plans and corridor evaluations. In addition, he has experience with detailed technical analyses of local and regional roadway facilities, including complete street assessments. Given his broad involvement in both planning and engineering, Tim is committed to developing implementable solutions with a broad range of support and incorporating all modes of travel.



Fernando Sotelo, PE/PTP is an Associate Engineer at Kittelson & Associates, Inc. and has extensive experience in CEQA and the technical aspects of transportation planning and traffic engineering. Fernando routinely supports the environmental clearance process, such as conducting the travel demand forecasting, traffic impact analyses, site access/circulation reviews, and parking demand studies. In addition, Fernando has been working with multiple cities, counties and organizations to implement the new SB743 requirements, including the development of policies and methodologies.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

September 24, 2020

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Fees:

Member - FREE

\$5 (Non-Member) - Ends 9/22 @ 5 pm

Please register via Eventbrite at:

https://octec_sept2020.eventbrite.com

If you have any questions,
please contact

Michael Plotnik, at

mplotnik@lahabraca.gov

THIS MONTH'S MEETING IS SPONSORED BY:



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President's Address

Dear OCTEC Members and Future Members,

As another summer ends we find ourselves in unprecedented times. Hopefully you were able to find some sense of normalcy with everything happening around the world. The pandemic has forced all parts of the transportation sector to rethink 'business as usual.' Every area has had to evaluate and come up with adjustments, both short-term and long-term.

That includes OCTEC. Due to the pandemic, we made the difficult decision in March to cancel the luncheon. The OCTEC Board regularly monitored Covid-19 information and canceled events for the safety of everyone. Having had the time in the summer to organize and plan, we made the decision to transition to virtual luncheons for the month of September and our October joint luncheon with SoCal ITE. Additionally, we will not be having a Fall Social this year.

Rest assured, the Board is here to keep OCTEC a thriving organization. Thanks to the support of all our fantastic members and generous sponsors, OCTEC has the financial stability to continue to make contributions to the industry and student scholarships for the entire fiscal year. Our membership and luncheon numbers remain strong. We are committed to bring you interesting and timely topics, networking events, and other functions such as workshops and seminars.

I would like to welcome our newest Board member, Michael Plotnik, as Sponsorship/Membership Coordinator. Michael is a great example of people willing to give their time to help promote our industry and to support the future generation of transportation professionals.

Thank you OCTEC Community for your continued involvement, trust, and support. The Board is here for you, so do not hesitate to contact us. Let's make the most of this year together.

Sincerely,

Archie Tan, OCTEC President 2020 - 2021



Since OCTEC had no June meeting in 2020 due to Covid-19, the Board recognized Kristin Tso's four year service during the July Board Meeting. Archie Tan is presenting the President's Plaque to Kristin Tso



Kristin Tso, OCTEC Immediate Past President



Board members planning out the year ahead during the first Board meeting of the 2020-21 Season

LOCAL, REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

Transit Agencies Join Pledge to Uphold COVID-19 Safety

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Metrolink joined 100 transit agencies across the nation today to commit to specific safety measures as riders return amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transit agencies pledged to adhere to the American Public Transportation Association's Health and Safety Commitments Program.

"This commitment is much more than just words. We intend to put intent into practice as we work to come out from under this pandemic stronger than ever in our efforts to move people safely around Los Angeles County," Metro CEO Phillip Washington said. "But we can't do it alone. It requires a partnership with our riders and a similar commitment to helping keep everyone safe and healthy as we work to get through this situation."

[\[Continue here\]](#)

Coronavirus FAQ: Is It Safe To Get On The Bus (Or Subway)

Is it safe to take public transit?

It's one of those tricky COVID-19 things to navigate ... no pun intended.

On the one hand, data reveals that people are staying away from mass transit in huge numbers compared to before the novel coronavirus. In New York City, for instance, subway ridership is at just 20% of its 5.5 million weekday riders pre-pandemic.

Transit, a mobile app providing real-time public transit data, analyzed 139 transit agencies spanning 68 metro areas and 6 countries and found that demand for public transit has dropped 53% since the onset of the pandemic. [\[Continue here\]](#)

Micromobility Trips Explode 60 Percent In One Year — But Bikeshares Lag

The popularity of micromobility absolutely exploded in 2019, a new report reveals — and the surge came almost completely from dockless e-scooter companies rather than bikeshare systems, which grew, but more modestly.

Between 2018 and 2019, the number of total microtransit trips

on American streets soared from 84 million to 136 million, according to the National Association of City Transportation Officials, but bikeshare grew a respectable 10 percent, even as the number of bikeshare systems shrank four percent overall. Scooter trips, though, more than doubled over the same period, as a combination of venture capital and growing revenues sent scooters rolling through more cities across America than ever before. [\[Continue here\]](#)

FTA announces \$14 million in grant awards to 25 projects to advance transit innovation nationwide

A total of 25 projects in 24 states and one territory will receive a share of nearly \$14 million in funding through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Accelerating Innovative Mobility (AIM) initiative to support mobility and innovation in the industry.

"As we face this public health emergency, investments in innovation are critical for transit agencies to better meet rider expectations and adapt to changes in our transportation system," said FTA Deputy Administrator K. Jane Williams. "We are pleased to collaborate with these grant recipients to develop new service methods to improve safety, increase access, develop more efficient operations and enhance the transit experience for all."

AIM grant recipients will deploy new transportation technologies and services, including microtransit, vehicle automation, integrating ride-hailing services with transit and contactless fare payments. By supporting state-of-the-art approaches, the AIM initiative supports innovators testing nationwide approaches that will benefit other public transportation providers and passengers. [\[Continue here\]](#)

Fast-Tracking Roadway Improvements

A bridge over Jamboree Road. A wider University Drive. More synchronized lights.

These are just some of the 72 key transportation projects — totaling about \$200 million — Irvine city leaders are focused on to help local traffic flow. Traffic has been lighter during the pandemic, so the city took the opportunity to accelerate numerous projects. This has led to some projects tracking ahead of schedule. That includes the widening of University Drive between MacArthur Boulevard at Campus Drive. This \$20 million improvement project adds new lanes to reduce traffic and enhances streetlight systems for better flow. [\[Continue here\]](#)

OCTEC NEWS

This page is dedicated to Kristin Tso, Senior Transportation Engineer at Iteris and OCTEC Immediate Past President.

Together we had countless happy memories. Thank you Kristin for serving on the OCTEC Board and for enabling so many great things to happen.

You always brought your passion, intellect, experience and ideas to the table! As OCTEC members we value your willingness to serve and help, and will always remember your dedication to OCTEC. Thank you for your service!



2017 OCTEC Golf Tournament



OCTEC Social Mixer



2019 OCTEC Luncheon Meeting



Holiday Mixer 2017



ITE/OCTEC Student Night

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City of Corona Public Works Department -Traffic Division: Assistant Engineer

The Assistant Engineer - Traffic is the entry-level classification in the professional engineering series. This classification performs varied engineering assignments requiring knowledge of civil engineering principles, design standards, and construction regulations. The job is distinguished from the Associate Engineer - Traffic classification given that it is expected to perform less complex work with little field experience and primary knowledge gained through graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in civil engineering. See [website](#) for more details

The City of Irvine: Senior Transportation Engineer

The City of Irvine is seeking an action-oriented and innovative professional to serve as Senior Transportation Engineer in the Neighborhood Traffic Division of the Public Works and Transportation Department. This position will supervise the division, perform advanced transportation analyses and studies, and respond to community requests. The selected candidate will work directly with various stakeholders on complex transportation-related tasks and provide project leadership and technical guidance to engineers, analysts, consultants, work groups and/or other staff. The ideal candidate for this role will possess strong analytical, communication and negotiation skills, as well as provide a high level of service delivery and exceptional customer service. Please apply before 9/27/2020, see [website](#) for more details.

The City of Costa Mesa: Senior Engineer, Transportation Division

The City of Costa Mesa is seeking a Senior Engineer in the Transportation Division of the Public Services Department. The first application review date is August 31, 2020.

Under general direction, plans, organizes, supervises and performs responsible and complex professional level engineering work in the field and office associated with design, development, investigation, construction and maintenance of parks and parkway projects, public works infrastructure and City facilities; and serves as resident engineer and/or project manager on assigned projects.

To view the detailed job announcement and submit an application, please see [website](#)

Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority: Chief Executive Officer

Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART), Hillsborough County, FL (pop. 1.5 M) seeks its next Chief Executive Officer. HART was created in 1979 and serves all of Hillsborough County, the fourth most populated county in Florida. The Chief Executive Officer reports to the 15-member Board of Directors of HART which is comprised of representatives from Hillsborough County, the City of Tampa, the City of Temple Terrace, and appointees of the Governor of Florida.

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for directing the day to day operations of HART and working with the Board of Directors on short- and long-range policy and planning. HART has a 2020 adopted budget of \$121,452,784 with approximately 800 employees, of which over three quarters are unionized employees.

HART provides fixed-route local and express bus service, door-to-door paratransit service (HARTPlus), flex route neighborhood con-

ductor service (HARTFlex) and bus rapid transit (MetroRapid). HART has a fleet of over 184 buses and 85 paratransit vehicles to cover 1000 square miles, with 2 transit centers and 5 transfer stations.

HART also operates the 2.7-mile TECO line Streetcar System that runs along Downtown Tampa through the Channel District and Ybor City. HART serves 35,000 (pre COVID) customers each day with a mission to take people to places that enhance their lives.

HART is interested in a highly collaborative leader with a communicative, team-oriented management style with strong skills in strategic planning and community engagement. HART's next CEO should be a forward thinking, passionate advocate for transit who is able to embrace today's challenges and build a sustainable best in class transit system for the region.

Candidates must have:

- A bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, transportation planning or a related field.

- Candidates will ideally have ten (10) to twelve (12) years' experience in transit operations with at least five years of senior level management experience, preferably in an organization of similar size.

Starting salary is \$200,000 = \$250,000+/- DOQ with excellent benefits. Interested candidates should apply by September 14, 2020 with resume, cover letter and five professional references to: Joellen Cademartori, Chief Executive Officer or Charlene Stevens, Senior Vice President, GovHR USA. Visit [website](#) to apply. HART is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The City of Costa Mesa: Assistant Engineer/Associate Engineer (Transportation)

Under general supervision, the Assistant Engineer performs a variety of technical and routine professional level civil engineering work in the field and office associated with the design, development, investigation, construction, and maintenance of public works projects. Incumbents may be assigned to any of the following divisions: Engineering or Transportation Services.

Work involves the application of basic and technical engineering practices and principles to a variety of public works engineering projects. Assignments are broad in scope and require the use of good judgment in making technical decisions. Work is reviewed by an Associate Engineer or Senior Engineer regularly to determine general progress. An incumbent may train and functionally lead entry-level engineering and clerical staff members.

Please apply before 9/28/2020, see [website](#) for more details

Please contact [Archie Tan](#) or any Board member if you have any job listings that you would like posted to the OCTEC website or included in the next month's OCTEC newsletter.

Visit our [WEBSITE](#) for the latest job posts, newsletters, and presentations from current and past meetings.



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2020 -2021 Sponsors

OCTEC would like to give a special thanks to all of our generous sponsors!

Meeting Date

Newsletter Sponsors

Lunch/Meeting Sponsors

September 24, 2020

Econolite
RK Engineering



October 22, 2020
Joint Meeting – ITE SoCal

General Technologies and Solutions
Bear Electrical



January 28, 2021

AGA Engineers, Inc.
Mark Thomas



February 25, 2021

Iteris
RailPros



March 25, 2021

Wavetronix
KOA Corporation



April 22, 2021

DDL Traffic
Michael Baker International



May 7, 2021
TBD

OCTEC Golf Tournament
SoCal ITE/OCTEC Student Chapter Night

<Sponsorship Available>

June 24, 2021

Ganddini Group, Inc.
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For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Michael Plotnik at (562) 383-4162 or mplotnik@lahabraca.gov

OCTEC 2020 - 2021 Officers



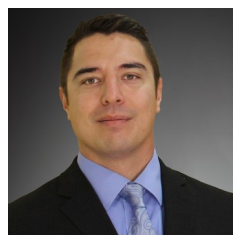
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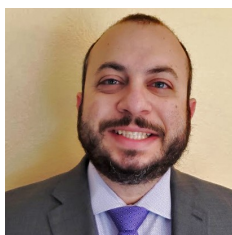
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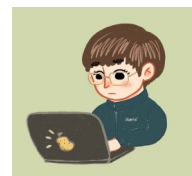
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OCTEC Committee Chairs



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Social Media Chair

OCTEC has two Social Media Chair positions available.

Contact any of the board members if you are interested in joining the OCTEC Team.