



Conference Program

APTA's TRANSform Conference is the flagship event for public transportation professionals to engage in workshops, experience technical tours, and network with colleagues. Keynote speakers and educational sessions explore cutting-edge hot topics, including transformative technology, equity, community building, funding and finance, safety and security, workforce development, worldwide mega projects, and more.


Location: The Saturday & Sunday committee meetings will be held at the **Hyatt Regency Orlando**. Registration, Welcome Reception, EXPO, and all events beginning on Monday will be held at the **Orange County Convention Center**.

Additional Schedules

[View Committee Meetings](#) | [EXPO Free Learning Zones](#) | [Procurement Summit](#)

APTA Program and schedules are subject to change.

 Friday, Oct 06, 2023

 1:30 PM - 7:00 PM EDT


[Equity Summit](#) **SOLD OUT**



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Location: Orlando Ballroom L, Hyatt Regency Orlando

 Saturday, Oct 07, 2023

 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM EDT

[Registration](#)



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Location: Registration Concourse B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center


 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM EDT

[Transit Board Administrators Development Day](#)



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Location: Orlando Ballroom L, Hyatt Regency Orlando

 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM EDT

[APTA Board of Directors Meeting](#)



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Location: Plaza International Ballroom H-K, Hyatt Regency Orlando

 Sunday, Oct 08, 2023

 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM EDT

[Registration](#)

Location: Registration Concourse B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center



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🕒 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM EDT

[Welcome Reception](#)

Location: Valencia Ballroom, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center



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SPONSORED BY:

Atkins

🕒 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM EDT

[American Public Transportation Foundation Reception](#)

Location: Upper Pool Deck, 4th Floor, Hyatt Regency Orlando



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📅 Monday, Oct 09, 2023

🕒 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM EDT

[Coffee Service](#)

Location: Chapin Theater Foyer, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center



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🕒 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM EDT

[Registration](#)

Location: Registration Concourse B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center



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🕒 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM EDT

[Meet One-on-One with the US DOT’s Build America Bureau](#)

Location: Orange County Convention Center



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🕒 8:15 AM - 10:00 AM EDT

[Opening Ceremonies and Keynote Address: AI is Not Your Enemy, Duncan Wardle](#)



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Speaker(s):

👤 [Chair's Welcome: Michele Wong Krause, Chair, APTA; Chair, Board of Directors, Dallas Area Rapid Transit](#) 👤 [President's Welcome: Paul P. Skoutelas, President and CEO, American Public Transportation Association](#) 👤 [Keynote Speaker: Duncan Wardle, Former Head of Innovation & Creativity, Disney](#) 👤 [Remarks: Jerry L. Demings, Mayor, Orange County](#) 👤 [Remarks: John Hugh "Buddy" Dyer, Mayor of Orlando, City of Orlando](#) 👤 [Host: Tiffany Homler Hawkins, Chief Executive Officer, LYNX - Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority](#) 👤 [Sponsor Remarks: Veronique Hakim, Sr VP & National Transit & Rail Market Sector Leader, HNTB Corporation](#) 👤 [Sponsor Remarks: Sally Librera, North American Transit Leader, Senior Vice President, AECOM](#)

Location: Chapin Theater, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

AECOM

🕒 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EDT

[EXPO Grand Opening](#)

Location: West Hall A-D1, Orange County Convention Center



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🕒 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM EDT

[EXPO Floor Hours](#)

Location: West Hall A-D1, Orange County Convention Center



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🕒 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM EDT

General Session: New York’s Mass Transit Success Story



Speaker(s):

[Featured Speaker: John \(“Janno”\) Lieber, Chair and CEO, Metropolitan Transportation Authority \(MTA\)](#) [Facilitator: Dorval Carter Jr., Chair, APTA; and President, Chicago Transit Authority](#)

Location: Chapin Theater, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

11:45 AM - 1:30 PM EDT

Lunch in EXPO Hall/Visit EXPO



Location: West Hall A-D1, Orange County Convention Center

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM EDT

General Session: Federal Partners Update



Speaker(s):

[Featured Speaker: The Honorable Nuria Fernandez, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration](#)

Location: Chapin Theater, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT

Strengthening Manufacturing in Turbulent Times



Location: 304 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Racial Equity Commitment Round Table: A year of progress



Speaker(s):

[Moderator: Dawn Distler, Chief Executive Officer, METRO Regional Transit Authority](#) [Panelist: Eric Kaled, President, Genfare](#) [Panelist: Jacqueline Evans, Director, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#) [Panelist: Tracy Archie, Executive Vice President of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Regional Transit Service](#) [Panelist: Nichole Gladney, Vice President of Inclusion & Engagement, Keolis Transit America](#) [Panelist: Veronique Hakim, Sr VP & National Transit & Rail Market Sector Leader, HNTB Corporation](#) [Panelist: Rosalyn Green, Deputy Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#)

Location: 311 E-F, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

CEO Roundtable: Data-Driven Workforce Investment



Speaker(s):

[Moderator: Carmino Basile, Chief Executive Officer, Capital District Transportation Authority](#) [Panelist: Debra Johnson, General Manager and CEO, Regional Transportation District](#) [Panelist: Jameson Auten, Chief Executive Officer, Lane Transit District](#) [Panelist: Heather Dalmolin, CEO & General Manager, Mountain Line](#)

Location: 312, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Congress and the Year Ahead in Infrastructure Investment



Location: 414 A-B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Moving Through the Pipeline: Project Delivery Success



Speaker(s):

[Moderator: Carolyn Gonot, CEO/General Manager, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority](#) [Panelist: Jennifer Mitchell, Deputy Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration](#) [Panelist: Morteza Farajian, Executive Director, Build America Bureau, U.S. Department of Transportation](#) [Panelist: Kris Kolluri, President & CEO, Gateway Development Commission \(GDC\)](#) [Panelist: Sally Librera, North American Transit Leader, Senior Vice President, AECOM](#) [Panelist: Joe Marie, Senior Vice President of Global Rail and Transit Systems, Parsons](#)

Location: 414 C-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Zero Emission Bus: A Global Perspective



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Lauren Skiver, Chief Operating Officer, Transdev](#) Panelist: [Diego Cruz Padilla, Director of Finance, DTPM](#)
 Panelist: [Brad Miller, Chief Executive Officer, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority](#) Panelist: [Kaan Yildizgoz, Senior Director - Membership & Global Operations, UITP](#) Remarks: [Abby Brown, Transportation Project Lead, National Renewable Energy Laboratory / Joint Office of Energy and Transportation](#) Sponsor Remarks: [Maggie Clancy, EVP, Business Development, Zenobe Americas, Inc.](#)

Location: 311 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Zenobe America

🕒 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM EDT

Workforce Success Stories: Learn from Today, Prepare Tomorrow



Speaker(s):

Panelist: [Thomas McKone, Chief Administrative Officer, Chicago Transit Authority](#) Panelist: [W.C. Pihl, Senior Vice President of Business Development, Transdev North America](#) Panelist: [Judy Shanley, Easterseals Director, National Center for Mobility Management; Assistant Vi, Easterseals](#) Panelist: [Julia Costello, Director of Talent Acquisition, Amtrak](#)
 Sponsor Remarks: [Frank Girardot, Sr. Director of Communications, BYD Motors Inc](#)

Location: 312, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

BYD/RIDE

Telling the Transit Success Story: Infrastructure Investment



Speaker(s):

Sponsor Remarks: [Frank Girardot, Sr. Director of Communications, BYD Motors Inc](#)

Location: 414 A-B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

BYD/RIDE

Transit’s Impact: Fostering Opportunity and Growth in Communities



Speaker(s):

Sponsor Remarks: [Robert Victor, Vice President, HASTUS, USA, GIRO Inc.](#)

Location: 414 C-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

GIRO

Untapped Resources: Sustainable Funding for an Evolving Reality



Location: 311 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Cambridge Systematics

Lessons from Down Under: APTA 2023 Study Mission in Review



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Dorval Carter Jr., Chair, APTA; and President, Chicago Transit Authority](#) Panelist: [Greer Johnson Gillis, SVP - Chief Infrastructure & Development Officer, Jacksonville Transportation Authority](#) Panelist: [Joel Young, President, Board of Directors, AC Transit \(Alameda Contra-Costa Transit District\)](#) Panelist: [Jose Bustamante, Vice President, T&I National Business Development, STV Incorporated](#) Panelist: [Jannet Walker-Ford, Senior Vice President & National Transit & Rail Business Line Leader, WSP USA](#) Panelist: [Deanna Leggett, Executive Vice President/Chief Development Officer, Dallas Area Rapid Transit \(DART\)](#)

Location: 311 E-H, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Safeguarding the Commute: Cybersecurity Best Practices



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Michael Echols, CEO, Max Cybersecurity LLC](#) **Panelist:** [Shawn Smith, VP Business Development and Strategic Alliances, Cylus Cybersecurity Ltd](#) **Panelist:** [Hadi Meshgi, Transit Comms/Sytems Engineering Lead, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. \(VHB\)](#) **Panelist:** [Sophia Mohr, Chief Innovation Officer, Central Ohio Transit Authority \(COTA\)](#) **Sponsor Remarks:** [Ravi Tallury, Principal Solutions Architect, Amazon Web Services](#)

Location: 304 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Amazon Web Services

Tuesday, Oct 10, 2023

7:30 AM - 4:30 PM EDT

Registration



Location: Registration Concourse B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM EDT

APTA Honors Awards Breakfast



Location: Valencia Ballroom, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Genfare

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM EDT

Meet One-on-One with the US DOT’s Build America Bureau



Location: Orange County Convention Center

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM EDT

APTA Honors Awards Ceremony



Location: Chapin Theater, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

9:00 AM - 4:30 PM EDT

EXPO FLOOR



Location: West Hall A-D1, Orange County Convention Center

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

Transit’s Critical Role in Managing Special Events



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Polly Hanson, Senior Director - Security, Risk and Emergency Management, American Public Transportation Association](#) **Panelist:** [Stephanie Wiggins, Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#) **Panelist:** [Jessica Mefford-Miller, Chief Executive Officer, Valley Metro](#) **Panelist:** [MJ Maynard, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada](#)

Location: 304 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Building Equity Together: The Power of Partnerships



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Cathy Morrison, Architect, Neighboring Concepts](#) **Panelist:** [Deborah Prato, CEO, Interurban Transit Partnership \(The Rapid\)](#) **Panelist:** [Luke Volkmar, Partner, Neighboring Concepts](#) **Panelist:** [Zaccary Bradt, Associate Regional Planner, San Diego Association of Governments](#) **Panelist:** [Eric Orozco, Urban Planner, Neighboring Concepts](#)

Location: 312, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Transforming Transit: Harnessing the Power of AI and Augmented Reality



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [David Jackson, Sr Program Manager, Transit ITS Technology, Jacobs](#) Panelist: [Ethan Benatan, Chief Information Officer, Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon \(TriMet\)](#) Panelist: [Rahul Sood, Workday](#) Panelist: [Manjit Sooch, Director of Innovation and Technology, AC Transit \(Alameda Contra-Costa Transit District\)](#) Sponsor Remarks: [Ravi Tallury, Principal Solutions Architect, Amazon Web Services](#)

Location: 414 A-B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Amazon Web Services

Making the Connection: The Intersection of Cities and Transit



Speaker(s):

Sponsor Remarks: [Uli Gal-Oz, GM North America and VP Business Development, Moovit](#)

Location: 414 C-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Moovit

Next Stop: Sustainability! Achieving Climate Resilience and Carbon Avoidance



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Amy Shatzkin, APTA Sustainability Committee Chair; Director of Sustainability, Sound Transit](#) Panelist: [Eric Wilson, Vice President, Climate Resilience & Sustainability Planning, MTA Construct, Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#) Panelist: [Carlos Cruz-Casas, Chief Innovation Officer, Miami-Dade Transit](#) Panelist: [Justin Leighton, Executive Director, Washington State Transit Association](#) Panelist: [Brad Moore, Sustainable Infrastructure Team Lead, Stantec](#)

Location: 311 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Fast Tracks: A Showcase of Rail Transit Innovation



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Carolyn Gonot, CEO/General Manager, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority](#) Panelist: [Lori Kahikina, Chief Executive Officer, Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation](#) Panelist: [Mark Hitchcock, Sr. Project Manager - Transportation & Transit, Jacobs](#) Panelist: [Ryan Judge, Senior Long Range Planner, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority \(SEPTA\)](#)

Location: 311 E-H, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT

Lunch in EXPO Hall/Visit EXPO



Location: West Hall A-D1, Orange County Convention Center

2:00 PM - 3:15 PM EDT

General Session: Quick Takes: Future-Proofing a Diverse Transit Workforce



Speaker(s):

Moderator: [Sara Stickler, Executive Director, Women's Transportation Seminar \(WTS\)](#) Panelist: [Jannet Walker-Ford, Senior Vice President & National Transit & Rail Business Line Leader, WSP USA](#) Panelist: [Tatia Harris, Chief Culture Officer, METRO Regional Transit Authority](#) Panelist: [Nadine Lee, President & CEO, Dallas Area Rapid Transit](#) Panelist: [Veronica Vanterpool, Deputy Administrator, Federal Transit Administration](#) Introduction: [MJ Maynard, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada](#)

Location: Chapin Theater, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

WSP

3:45 PM - 4:45 PM EDT

FTA’s Transit Worker Assaults Directive: Agency Updates and Progress



Speaker(s):

Moderator: Kevin Jones, Principal, Eastern Region, ADS System Safety Consulting, LLC Panelist: Stewart Mader, Program Analyst (Policy), Federal Transit Administration Panelist: Andrew Brody, Director, Rail and Bus Safety, Metro Transit Panelist: Ronald Keele, Chief Safety Officer, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) Panelist: Marla Blagg, Chief Safety Officer, AC Transit (Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District)

Location: 304 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Tools for the Trade: Five Proven Strategies to Address the Transit Workforce Shortage



Speaker(s):

Facilitator: Reinaldo Germano dos Santos, Senior Transportation Planner, Foursquare Integrated Transportation Planning

Location: 312, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

The Best of Innovation in 7 Minutes or Less



Location: 414 A-B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Driving the Future of Transit: Collaborating for Success



Speaker(s):

Moderator: Sherry Little, Partner, Cardinal Infrastructure Panelist: Laura Hendricks, CEO, Transdev U.S., Transdev North America Panelist: David Scorey, CEO Keolis North America, Keolis North America Panelist: Michael Schneider, Managing Partner, InfraStrategies LLC Panelist: Luis Ventura, Tren Urbano Panelist: Robert Puentes, President and CEO, Eno Center for Transportation

Location: 414 C-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

BYD/RIDE

ZEB Transitions: An Enterprise Endeavor



Speaker(s):

Moderator: Cliff Henke, Managing Director, Transit and Rail ZE Fleets, WSP USA Panelist: Huoi Trieu, Special Projects Manager, King County Metro Panelist: Salvador Llamas, Chief Operating Officer, AC Transit (Alameda Contra-Costa Transit District) Panelist: Carrie Butler, Executive Director, Transit Authority of River City (TARC) Sponsor Remarks: Maggie Clancy, EVP, Business Development, Zenobe Americas, Inc.

Location: 311 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Zenobe America

Painting a Mosaic: How Women Executives Are Advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Speaker(s):

Moderator: Joanna Rustin, VP Marketing, National Express North America Panelist: Mary Ellen DeFrias, Massachusetts Association of Regional Transit Authorities (MARTA) Panelist: Carolyn Flowers, Managing Partner, InfraStrategies LLC Panelist: Stephanie Maher, Regional VP, Operations, National Express Transit

Location: 311 E-H, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Wednesday, Oct 11, 2023

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM EDT

Coffee Service



Location: Chapin Theater Foyer, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

8:30 AM - 9:45 AM EDT

Closing General Session: Building Understanding: Why DEI Matters in the Workplace featuring Keynote Piers Kowalski



Speaker(s):

[Keynote Speaker: Piers Kowalski, Human Performance Coach & Consultant](#) [Closing Remarks: Paul P. Skoutelas, President and CEO, American Public Transportation Association](#) [Remarks: Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Orange County Transportation Authority](#)

Location: Chapin Theater, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

UZURV

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM EDT

Registration



Location: Registration Concourse B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM EDT

EXPO FLOOR



Location: West Hall A-D1, Orange County Convention Center

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM EDT

Equity and E-Payments: Navigating the Transition to Cashless



Speaker(s):

[Moderator: Kate Mattice, Executive Director, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission](#) [Panelist: Bruce Payne, Industry Solutions Manager, Trapeze Mobility on Demand](#) [Panelist: Emily Gates, Head of Service Delivery, Transit app](#) [Panelist: Lawrence Sutton, Principal Consultant North America, Consult Hyperion](#) [Panelist: Jerome Mayaud, Director of Data Science, Spare](#)

Location: 414 A-B, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

On a Roll: High-Speed Rail Success Stories



Location: 414 C-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Atkins

Zero Emission Commuter Rail: Strategies and Solutions



Speaker(s):

[Moderator: Jackson Xue, Rail Vehicles Engineer, WSP USA](#) [Panelist: Ian Hodkinson, Director, Business Development - Technical, Alstom Transport USA Inc.](#) [Panelist: Martin Ritter, President & CEO, Stadler US Inc.](#)

Location: 311 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Rethinking Paratransit: Can We Do Better?



Speaker(s):

[Moderator: Christian Kent, Principal, Transit Management Consulting, LLC](#) [Panelist: Ron Brooks, Senior Director, Policy & Stakeholder Engagement, UZURV](#) [Panelist: Marc Klein, SVP, Strategic Accounts and Smart Cities, Beep](#) [Panelist: Inez Evans, President and CEO, Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation \(IndyGo\)](#) [Panelist: Christopher Pangilinan, Vice President, Paratransit, MTA New York City Transit](#)

Location: 311 E-H, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

Safety Culture & Risk Management: Insights from the Industry



Speaker(s):

[Sponsor Remarks: Anthony Incorvati, Business Development, Transportation - North America, Axis Communications, Inc.](#)

Location: 304 A-D, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center

SPONSORED BY:

Axis Communications

🕒 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM EDT

[FTA Capital Investment Grant Program Workshop](#)

Location: 312, West Bldg, Orange County Convention Center



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