Greetings!

The past few months have been a challenging time for our country as we deal with the ongoing health and economic impacts of a global pandemic and a new tipping point in our long battle against racism and discrimination.

In response to the latter, ACT has fast tracked the launch of a Diversity & Inclusion Task Force that will be holding a kick-off meeting on June 30th. The group will be tasked with developing an action plan of for the Board of Directors to ensure that diversity and equity are core to the organization’s ongoing efforts to advance Transportation Demand Management. I look forward to providing regular updates to the membership as the group advances its efforts.

Our International Conference is quickly approaching and it promises to be a fabulous event filled with live keynotes, themed discussion rooms, live panels, exhibit hall, national awards ceremony, and over 60 on-demand presentations. At just $195, the event provides a significant amount of value and professional development. To encourage large groups, we are providing discounts for groups of 5 or 10+. Please contact Amanda Brangwynne for a discount code.

Earlier this month, the House T&I Committee introduced the INVEST in America Act, its proposal for transportation authorization. The bill is a bold piece of legislation that aims to provide nearly $500 billion in funding for infrastructure and mobility. For the first time, transportation demand management strategies appears in several places throughout the bill, providing access to billions of dollars of funding for TDM programs and initiatives. While this alone represents the most significant recognition from Congress on the importance of TDM, we achieved another great victory last week with the inclusion of an amendment from Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL), sponsor of our MORE Through TDM Act, that includes a definition of TDM and TDM strategies in the INVEST Act. This is a major achievement for ACT and much thanks goes out to our members that have continued to voice support for TDM with their Members of Congress and our government affairs team at Smith Dawson who have provided ACT with a strong voice on Capitol Hill.

We understand that some of our members may be dealing with their own challenges during this time. In response, ACT has created a new free membership for individuals that have lost their positions due to COVID-19. If you or someone you know may benefit from this membership opportunity, please let us know.

Best regards,

David Straus
Executive Director
We have two incredible keynote speakers joining us for the 2020 Virtual International Conference. One of the major draws to ACT’s International Conference each year is the live keynote address where we hear from prominent figures in the industry, and this year is no different. These will be **LIVE** sessions on the first two days of the event and you do not want to miss Tamika Butler and Joseph Kopser.

**Tamika Butler**
Monday, August 3, 2020 at 12pm EST

**This Must End: How a pandemic and civil unrest should forever change transportation**

What happens next? Join us to hear Tamika Butler talk about the two viruses currently killing people of color, specifically black people, and how the industry must be forever altered. In this talk she’ll discuss how attendees must change the way they envision and implement their work as we look towards a future where inequity and racism must be addressed in all we do. As we strive to create an efficient multimodal transportation system by empowering the people, places, and organizations in a quest to improve the quality of life for all, centering those most impacted is a critical first step. ACT’s vision is “a better journey for everyone.” This talk will help you reflect deeply on how you must start your personal journey of being anti-racist to truly ensure a multimodal transportation system that serves all users.

**Joseph Kopser**
Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 12pm EST

**Better Upward Mobility Through Better Ground Mobility**

In the new normal, it’s more important than ever we understand the interconnected nature of our communities. The role mobility leaders and planners play going forward will have an outsized impact on the future of work, education, and healthcare. Through a better understanding of how change works, Joseph will lead a discussion of how to frame the challenges and opportunities we have in mobility to improve our local communities.

**REGISTER**

**A New Visual Resource During COVID-19**

Eric Burdette and John Larson-Friend are both graduate students at the University of Oregon in the School of Planning, Public Policy, and Management. In April of 2020, both Eric and John applied for project-based scholarships with the Transportation Research Group, a group of professors and students at the University of Oregon. Contact EricBurkette@gmail.com. Map updated 6/9/2020. Some data sourced from Transit app.
hosted within the university program focused on transportation issues. Their proposals were accepted and quickly tasked with creating a resource for planners and policymakers at the state and local levels on how transit agencies were adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic across the United States.

As graduate students, they were both tired of writing memos and wanted to challenge themselves. John chose to create a...
for months, staying as safe as possible in quarantine. Now that businesses are reopening and we’re venturing back to our places of work, we’re all at far greater risk of exposure - but not only to COVID in indoor air scenarios. We’re also at greater risk of a return to poorer outdoor air quality as we see traffic and congestion return to pre-COVID levels. In the context of mobility strategy, we should absorb, adapt to and also leverage the pandemic driven policy and behavior changes that benefit society, while planning how best to measure and motivate additional changes in our mobile future.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that dramatic behavior change, at unprecedented scale, is not only possible, it offers us real time evidence of how critical it is to nudge and to invest in behavior change solutions for the health and environmental challenges we must solve. With COVID-19, employees are justifiably demanding a safer workplace. Now is also the time to address their demand for a safer commute to the workplace. A safe workspace depends on timely data, and a verified commute to that location using a personal mobility log helps to make contact tracing more efficient.

This program will explore systems, strategies and a vision for leadership to embrace the beneficial changes that we’ve experienced, while addressing the privacy, participation and scale issues that concern us all.

Sponsored by:

Executive Spotlight: Elham Shirazi, e-planning

e-planning has been providing consulting services to regions and employers on all resources related to teleworking and alternative work schedules. The “e” in e-planning refers to electronic collaborations between employers and, employers that can substitute the time and the location of work to reduce trips. Our expertise is based on real life implementation of successful programs.

What are you and your organization seeking to achieve?
Being an urban and transportation planner, my organization’s mission is to improve the quality of life for employees and employers that have to balance work life situations and the never-ending stress of time, expenses, and stress associated with commuting. Obviously, part of my mission statement is to...

Chapter & Council Updates

It’s shaped up to be a busy summer, and it’s only the end of June! Chapters and councils have pivoted from trying to put together in-person events to virtual members meetings, with great success. Reaching everyone through Zoom, Teams, GoTo Meeting, or a similar platform, allows members who have not been able to attend local events in the past an opportunity to connect from their work-from-home offices. In addition, Chapter and Council leaders have come together on virtual meetings, which has prompted more engagement and idea sharing. The next meetings will take place during the International Conference, and are being scheduled and planned now.

Chapters
- **Mid-Atlantic Chapter** hosted a virtual Happy Hour, complete with a (pre-recorded) bartender demonstrating how to make a mojito. Email President [Heather Reiners](#) for details on their successful event.
Northern California Chapter hosted a member meeting featuring Executive Director David Straus, talking about ACT’s recent “Supporting Commuters” document.

SEACT Chapter has hosted several member events, including a virtual Happy Hour (tonight!), and brainstorming 2021 International Conference host committee ideas.

Councils

- Telework/AWA Council hosted a member meeting, which included several first-time attendees. All are eager to embrace “their time” and work to ensure that telework remains a cornerstone work strategy in the long term.

- Vanpool Council Communications Subcommittee meets Friday, June 26. Email Felicia Woodruff for information on joining in.

ImpACT! Leadership

- The ImpACT! Leadership class met with Paul Comfort, Esq., Vice President of Business Development for Trapeze Group and former CEO of Maryland Transit Authority (MTA). He spoke to them about leadership as well as the future of transportation. View the meeting recording here.

- One of the ImpACT! Leadership group projects is now live with National and Chapter themed swag available on Café Press. Many thanks to the Take ACTion! Group members: Jane Davaransky, Edward Howard, Megan Gribble! Rep your chapter pride at the Virtual International Conference!

ACT National Board of Directors Nominations

Nominations are now open for ACT’s National Board of Directors and Officers positions. Serving on the National Board is an opportunity to provide leadership for not just ACT but the TDM industry. As a board member, you will participate in leading the implementation of ACT’s strategic plan, that aims to grow the association’s membership, enhance the value of membership, and increase our impact on public policy. There will be six (6) seats open on the Board of Directors.

In addition to the six Board seats, nominations will also be open for ACT’s four officer positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

All members with an interest in actively engaging in the advancement of ACT are encouraged to submit a nomination. Ideal candidates will have previous experience in board leadership, active involvement in ACT, and a desire to help move us forward.

Nominations are due by Wednesday, July 10, 2020.

Getting To Know: Joseph Yawn,
Atlanta Regional Commission

Provide a brief background about you and your organization.
I started my transportation planning career in Hattiesburg, Mississippi with a small MPO housed under the City of Hattiesburg. I later had an opportunity to transition to Atlanta with a software consulting firm to implement technology for public transit. Both software consulting and local government provided opportunities to work in transportation planning and technology, but I have had few opportunities to work at the intersection of both. Or at least, that was true until I found the Atlanta Regional Commission’s Mobility Service’s Team. Now, I have an opportunity to do both and shape it through the lens of TDM.

What brought you to TDM/how did you get involved in the field?
I started TDM while working in local government in Mississippi. Hattiesburg is a college town that is home to The University of Southern Mississippi along with some other
Members On The Move

Welcome to On the Move, where we recognize ACT members earning promotions, entering new positions, and other new employment opportunities. Submit announcements to Amanda Brangwynne at abrangwynne@actweb.org.

Shawn Kelly has started a new position as Managing Director of Customer Success at WeDriveU, Inc. Read the full press release here.

Melodi Yanik has taken a new position as Transportation Resources Coordinator at CBRE/Amazon.

Jonathan Hopkins started a new position as Director of Strategic Development - Canada & NW US at Lime.

Christine Maley-Grubl started new position as Executive Director at Truckee North Taho TMA.

Welcome New Members!

Zachary Agush
Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

Stephen Alianiello
TranSystems

Cathy Bird
Denver Regional Council of Governments

Megan Bradley
Scoop Technologies

Michael Briggs
Vanderbilt University

Faunya Coleman
Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County Texas

Sarah Cushman
Cushman Transportation Consulting, LLC

Mark Jerome De Gula

Carlos Escobar
AS-SJSU Transportation Solutions

Patricia Feeney
Cherriots Trip Choice

Kevin Foreman
Optibus

Josh Galasso
LSU Parking & Transportation Services

Claire Grasty
Ventura County Transportation Commission

Carolyn Hernandez
Google

Mike Loefler
Optibus

Sydney Lund
Commuting Solutions

Scott Mullen
A Better City TMA

Terri O'Connor
Barbara Polichetti
Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

Amanda Schomaker
RideFinders

Dustin Sifford
Orange County Transportation Authority

Camila Terceros
Swedish Medical

Pamela Vasudeva
Washington State Department of Transportation

Meegan Watts
CBRE
ACT is a community of professionals working to advance transportation options for commuters and improve the economic competitiveness of the cities, regions, and businesses they serve. Encourage your colleagues to join; the larger our community the greater our impact!

We Want to Hear From You

Is there an effective TDM program in your community? Are you passionate about micromobility or the role of AVs? Do you have a unique viewpoint on the role of TDM that you would like to share with others? No matter the topic, we want to hear from you! Share your stories and ideas about TDM and we will feature it in a Connections Newsletter and on the ACT website news page.

Contributions can be sent to Amanda Brangwynne (abrangwynne@actweb.org) and scheduled for the next available publication.

Upcoming Events & Programs