

Regional Symposium on Implementing Transit | October 25-26, 2012

Speaker Biographies – In order of appearance



Mayor Ken Moore, MD (Franklin, TN) | Chair

Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus

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Franklin Mayor Ken Moore practiced orthopaedic surgery for 28+ years and has been recognized on a state and national level as a leader in his field. In 2012, he was elected chair of the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus (10-county area of 1.67 million people). Prior to serving as Franklin's vice-mayor and now mayor, he was elected in 2007 to Franklin's Board of Aldermen, where he served as Finance Committee chair and led efforts to make Franklin a "top 25 sustainable city." Moore also helped to bring a new Columbia State Community College extension campus to Williamson County, and he currently chairs the Columbia State Foundation board. He maintains a passion for delivering healthcare to the underserved, acting as medical director for the Shalom Foundation, which provides free surgery to Guatemalan children. He has served as president of the Tennessee Orthopaedic Society, the Tennessee Hand Society, and the Clinical Orthopaedic Society. Moore is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University and the UT College of Medicine; received his orthopaedic training at the Campbell Clinic in Memphis; and served in the U.S. Army as a general medical officer. He's a recipient of Cumberland Region Tomorrow's *Leadership in Regional Thinking & Action* award.



John Schroer | Commissioner

Tennessee Department of Transportation

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Schroer was appointed as TDOT's Commissioner by Governor Bill Haslam in January 2011. Since taking office, Commissioner Schroer has undertaken a complete review of TDOT's organization and processes as part of a commitment to increasing the department's efficiency – encouraging greater innovation, professionalism and responsibility among staff, as well as improved internal and external communication. Commissioner Schroer is the immediate-past mayor of Franklin, Tenn., and prior to that he chaired the Franklin Special School District. His professional background is in commercial real estate development and financing.



Beth Osborne | Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy

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Osborne joined the USDOT in 2009, worked on development of the surface transportation program's reauthorization, and is currently focusing on the TIGER discretionary grant program, the Secretary's livability initiative, and safety and environmental issues. Before USDOT, Osborne worked for Sen. Tom Carper (DE) as his legislative assistant for transportation, trade and labor policy—including work on SAFETEA-LU and the Energy Independence & Security Act. Previously, she served as policy director for Smart Growth America, and legislative director for environmental policy at the Southern Governors' Association. She began her career in Washington DC in the House of Representatives, working as a legislative assistant for Rep. Ron Klink (PA-04), and as legislative director for Rep. Brian Baird (WA-03). Beth grew up in New Orleans and graduated with a B.A. and J.D. from Louisiana State University.



Geoffrey Anderson | President and CEO
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Recently named by the Partnership for Sustainable Communities as “One of the 100 Most Influential Leaders in Sustainable Community Planning & Development,” Geoff Anderson came to Smart Growth America after eight years heading the Smart Growth Program at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Anderson is a leader in the smart growth movement, and one of the authors of the foundational ten smart growth principles. With an extensive list of publications, he’s served as an expert witness in front of the U.S. Congress, has been interviewed and cited by the *New York Times*, *Newsweek*, the *Washington Post*, Fox News, NPR, and more. Anderson has provided assistance to numerous American communities, including in-depth work in Cheyenne, WY; Prince George’s County, MD; and the flagship smart-growth project, Atlantic Station in Atlanta, GA. He holds a master’s from Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment with a concentration in Resource Economics & Policy.



Art Guzzetti | Vice President – Policy
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A 32-year veteran of public transportation at local, state, and national levels, Guzzetti serves as VP–Policy for the trade group representing America’s public transportation industry. He’s responsible for APTA’s extensive policy research agenda, policy analysis and development, transportation information and statistics. He and the APTA team work with legislative and executive branches at all levels of government, and with other national associations, think tanks, and interest groups to cultivate ideas, relationships, and advocacy initiatives to advance public transportation. Prior to APTA, Guzzetti served for 16 years in management for two of the nation’s leading transit systems: New Jersey Transit, and the Port Authority of Allegheny County —plus two years at the New Jersey DOT— where he worked on transportation policy, government affairs, capital programming, grants development/management, and advocacy. His career has been focused on generating support for the benefits that public transportation provides to communities and regions.



Mitchell Silver | President
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An award-winning planner with 27+ years’ experience in the public & private sectors, Silver is Chief Planning & Development Officer and Planning Director for Raleigh, North Carolina. He’s nationally recognized for his leadership and contributions to contemporary planning, having been at the center of cutting-edge trends, innovative solutions, and visionary plans. As Raleigh’s planning director, he led a major update to the city’s comprehensive plan for a vibrant, 21st Century city with a modern transit system; great streets, places, and neighborhoods. He’s now overseeing a rewrite of the city’s development code. Silver is a contributing editor and author of ICMA’s *Local Planning: Contemporary Principles & Practice*. His expertise and work have also been featured in *TIME*, the *New York Times*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Huffington Post*, *Atlantic Cities*, *Planning*, the *News & Observer*, the *Charlotte Observer*, the *Triangle Business Journal*, *Crain’s Business Journal*, BBC World News, and NPR.



Ken Rose | Associate Director of Policy
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Ken Rose has coordinated CDC's environmental public health policy ranging from legislative affairs to leading policy initiatives. He is an expert on active transportation and health, and has co-chaired the CDC Transportation Policy Group that released CDC's official recommendations for improving health through transportation policy. Rose is a founding member and former co-chair of CDC's Built Environment Working Group, which identifies, supports, and collaborates on built environment and health matters throughout CDC. Before joining environmental health, he worked on HIV policy and served as CDC's Deputy Chief of Staff. He holds a Master's of Public Administration focused on policy analysis from the University of Alabama–Birmingham, and a Bachelor's in International Trade from Auburn University.



Ralph J. Schulz, Jr. | President & CEO
Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce
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During Schulz's time at the Chamber, he has advanced its purpose of facilitating community leadership to create economic prosperity. In 2009, the Chamber was awarded the American Chamber of Commerce Executives' *Chamber of the Year* award, which recognizes the nation's top chambers for organizational excellence – including financial, member services and connections, engagement of volunteers, and leading communities by impacting key priorities. Prior to joining the Chamber, Schulz served as president & CEO of Adventure Science Center, where he built a team credited with transforming the organization into one of the nation's most successful youth-focused science centers based on attendance, exhibits, capital contributions, and community support. Schulz's foray into non-profit management began in Nashville with Junior Achievement Inc., where he held leadership roles in Jackson MS, Dallas TX, and New York City, later serving as a national executive V.P. Upon his 1996 return to Nashville, he joined the National Federation of Independent Business Education Foundation. Schulz is a graduate of the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.



Bill Purcell | Attorney at Law
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Purcell has spent 30+ years in law, public service, and higher education. During his tenure as Mayor of Metropolitan-Nashville (1999-2007), the city saw unprecedented economic expansion, an increase in school funding of more than 50%, and the development & preservation of 26,000+ affordable housing units. Also under Purcell, Nashville was ranked as the #1 city for corporate headquarters and twice ranked as the "hottest city in America" for business expansion & relocation. Following his mayoral service, he was a 2007 fellow at the Harvard University Institute of Politics, and then served as Founding & Interim Dean of the College of Public Service & Urban Affairs at Tennessee State University, before returning to the Institute of Politics as director (2008– 10), and a lecturer in public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. In 2009, Purcell was appointed co-chair of the Work Team for Allston / Special Advisor on Allston, where he recommended strategies to achieve a cohesive academic and learning campus environment situated in the Allston neighborhood of Boston. A decade earlier, he was founder/director of the Child & Family Policy Center at Vanderbilt University (1996-99), a nationally-recognized center building a bridge between academic research, politics, and best practices to benefit children and

families. He earned his Bachelor's degree at Hamilton College and his law degree at Vanderbilt University, where he was honored as Distinguished Alumnus. Purcell's accomplishments as a civic leader earned him *Governing* magazine's 2006 "Public Official of the Year."



Karl Dean | Mayor
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During Karl Dean's time in office, he's led Nashville through two big challenges—a deep national recession and a 1,000-year flood—and has still made progress on education, public safety, and economic development. He also works diligently on efforts to sustain and improve Nashville's quality-of-life. Mayor Dean recognizes the important role that transit will play in future economic development for Middle Tennessee. He has helped set the course for regional mass transit system development with the creation of the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus and the Transit Alliance. He also advocated for legislation to enable a dedicated funding source for transit, and has helped make significant strides in improving Nashville's transit services. The downtown transit station, Music City Central, opened in 2008; bus rapid transit (BRT) is being implemented in phases along Gallatin Rd with plans to expand to other major corridors; and Nashville has a free, downtown circulator operating on three routes. Dean's Green Ribbon Committee on Environmental Sustainability also produced a report with 16 goals and 71 recommendations to help make Nashville the "greenest city in the southeast." Efforts from that report already underway include the first comprehensive open space plan for Davidson County; a Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee; and a clean water infrastructure program. Dean first held public office when he was elected as Nashville's Public Defender in 1990. He served as Metro Law Director from 1999 to 2007, and has completed a program for Senior Executives in State & Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.



Matt Sibul | Chief Planning Officer
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In terms of building track miles and adding busways, the city on the fastest pace in the west could very well be Salt Lake City, having quietly put together one of the most comprehensive light rail systems in the country over the last decade – with plans also in the works for: a heightened focus on transit-oriented development, increased bus frequency, and a supporting network of streetcar and bus rapid transit lines. The region of 1.2 million residents now has as much light rail (35mi) as much larger metro areas such as Denver, CO. Sibul oversees a talented and energetic staff that's responsible for all of the UTA's long-range transit planning, strategic business planning, financial planning, funds programming, transit-oriented development planning, project development, and system optimization. He has 18 years' experience in transportation planning and engineering – ranging from feasibility and environmental studies, to design and construction management. He holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota.



Ed Cole | Executive Director
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Before his appointment to the Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee in 2010, Cole was the first Chief of Environment & Planning at the Tennessee Dept. of Transportation (2003-10). Prior to TDOT, Cole was the first E.D. of Cumberland Region Tomorrow, a 10-county regional visioning and smart growth advocacy organization for Middle Tennessee. He also served nearly 20 years in local and state government, including stints as deputy commissioner and acting commissioner of the Tennessee Dept. of Environment & Conservation. Prior to TDEC, Cole was special assistant to the executive director of the Metropolitan-Nashville Development & Housing Agency. He currently serves as the Governor's appointee for Nashville-Davidson County to the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). He's taught government and planning at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, George Peabody College, and the University of Sydney in Australia. He is a graduate of both Leadership Middle Tennessee and Leadership Nashville. Cole holds a B.A. from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon; an M.A. from the University of Florida; and an M.S. in Planning from the University of Tennessee.



Nick Donohue | Policy Director
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Nick Donohue is the policy director of Transportation for America – a broad and growing coalition of 500+ business, environmental, public health, social equity groups, and elected leaders committed to creating a new national transportation program. Previously, he served as the Assistant Secretary of Transportation for the Commonwealth of Virginia, where he oversaw the legislative and regulatory affairs of Virginia's seven transportation agencies and boards. He also led the Governor's initiative to improve the coordination between transportation and land use.



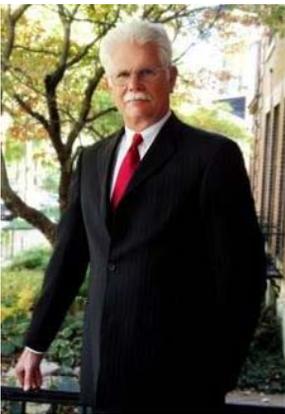
Allison Leach | Program Manager
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CFTE is a non-partisan policy center that provides research, strategies, and other forms of support to communities nationwide on the benefits of public transportation. CFTE hosts the biennial *Transit Initiatives and Communities* conference – the only national conference devoted to understanding the role of ballot measures in improving transportation choices and investment, along with advice on achieving success at the ballot box. Since 2007, Leach has been with CFTE and its management firm, Advocacy Associates, coordinating CFTE's election monitoring, outreach (newsletter, social media, etc), as well as the development of workshops, Webinars, and other technical assistance for communities nationwide. She holds a B.A. in political science and economics from The George Washington University.



Dave Williams | Vice President of Transportation
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Williams is responsible for facilitating the development and implementation of MAC's transportation agenda, and was heavily involved in working with regional leaders on a July 2012 transportation ballot referendum. He has an admirable track record of civic leadership, having served as a member of Atlanta's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and on the board of the Atlanta Regional Commission (2002-07). He is a former mayor (2007-11), and City Councilman (1998-2001) for the City of Suwanee, Ga., and in 2009 served as president of the Gwinnett Municipal Association. Prior to joining MAC, Williams was CEO of Southtrac, a branded merchandise and marketing company he founded in 2002. He began his career with MAC's Atlanta Sports Council and AOC, the committee that won the site selection bid for the 1996 Olympic Summer Games. He graduated from Georgia Tech in 1989.



Tom Shrout, Jr. | Executive Director
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For 22 years, Shrout headed Citizens for Modern Transit, a group dedicated to improving transit through light rail. During his tenure, St. Louis built 44 rail-miles and ridership nearly doubled. He founded the Loop Trolley company, a separate 501(C)(3) currently in final engineering for a 2.2mi streetcar line, and has also worked with Enterprise Rent-A-Car to found the company's first nationwide car-share program, WeCAR. In 2008, St. Louis County voters defeated a tax measure to fund light rail expansion. Cuts in transit service ensued, and Citizens for Modern Transit affirmed that voters should have another opportunity to consider the measure. The business community was unconvinced, so CMT raised \$450,000 toward public education and outreach on the issue. Shrout also helped to create the Greater St. Louis Transit Alliance, a coalition crucial to the campaign's success. With eventual support from the business community, the measure passed with 63% of the vote. Shrout is currently a partner with Avantt Partners, a consulting company that –along with other clients– works with Kansas City area advocates, local governments, and non-profits on a transit education campaign, as the region has been to the ballot box unsuccessfully eight times since the mid-90s.



Jim McAteer | Director of Planning & Grants
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McAteer has served as Director of Planning & Grants at MTA since 2006. His role expanded to include planning for the Regional Transportation Authority, which includes vanpools, regional bus service, and the Music City Star commuter train. He is responsible for all transit planning products, including system analysis and service development for both MTA & RTA. He previously spent four years at the Nashville Area MPO as project manager on a wide range of transport projects, with a focus on transit and bicycle & pedestrian issues. He managed the Southeast Corridor Alternatives Analysis Study, which looked at high-capacity transit options from Nashville to LaVergne, Smyrna, and Murfreesboro. To build corridor ridership, the Study recommended the addition of express routes and expanding service –which RTA has just implemented– going from 16 to 31 trips daily. He's also served as the transit representative for an American Institute of Architects' sustainable design assessment team. He holds an M.A. in Geography & Environmental Planning (with a specialization in transportation planning) from Towson University in Baltimore.



Joseph Calabrese | General Manager
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Calabrese is a 35-year veteran of the transit industry and has served as G.M. of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority since 2000. His many successes in Cleveland include the agency having been named as the “Best Large Transit System in North America,” with himself donned “Outstanding Transit Manager of the Year.” A key ingredient to that success story has been the funding, design, and operation of the HealthLine—widely considered as one of the premier bus rapid transit (BRT) projects in the world. Calabrese holds an economics degree from Syracuse University, an MBA from the University of Buffalo, and has completed post-graduate fellowships at Northeastern University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business.



Jimmy Granbery | CEO
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A Nashville native, Hill joined the H.G. Hill Stores as a management trainee before transferring to H.G. Hill Realty in 1981. He was named V.P. of Development in 1993, and then CEO in 2002 (fourth in the company’s history). He is a member of ICSC, ULI and NAOIP and currently serves on the board of directors for “Time to Rise,” Martin Methodist College, the YMCA of Middle Tennessee and the YMCA Foundation, and is also a founding director of the ACE mentoring program. He is the current vice chair for development on the MDHA Board of Commissioners. Granberry graduated from Nashville’s Hillwood High School in 1975, and from the University of Mississippi in 1979 where he earned a B.B.A. in Marketing.



Brian Leary | Founder
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Leary serves as President & CEO of Atlanta BeltLine, Inc., which handles the planning and implementation of one of the largest, most wide-ranging urban redevelopment projects in America. A \$3+ billion project to help reshape the way Atlanta grows over the next 25 years, the BeltLine will provide a network of parks, multi-use trails, transit, public art, and thousands of affordable housing units along an historic 22mi rail corridor circling downtown that connects 45 neighborhoods. Previously, Brian oversaw design for Atlantic Station –the largest brownfield urban redevelopment project in America at the time– as well as its 13.5M sq.ft. master plan. In 1998, he helped steward that master plan into becoming a national model for smart growth / New Urbanism, and negotiated with the U.S. EPA on behalf of Atlantic Station and a multi-modal 17th Street bridge (also the first project of its kind in the U.S.). Prior to Atlantic Station, he worked for Central Atlanta Progress on downtown redevelopment. With CAP and the non-profit development arm for the Centennial Olympic Park area, Leary helped implement Georgia’s first tax increment financing (TIF) district. A graduate of Georgia Tech’s College of Architecture, he also holds a Master’s in City Planning from Georgia Tech. Galileo Development focuses on mixed-use and retail development projects nationwide.



Kate S. Little | Chair
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The Atlanta City Council created the BAHAB to work with Atlanta BeltLine, Inc.—the agency charged with connecting Atlanta by creating green space, trails, transit, and new development along 22 miles of historic rail segments encircling the city's urban core. BAHAB (which includes local affordable housing experts) recommends policies and goals for the BeltLine Affordable Housing Trust Fund in order to best leverage resources to ensure the creation of accessible, high-quality, affordable housing. Little works for the Georgia State Trade Association of Nonprofit Developers, which supports nonprofit housing developers by providing technical assistance and training opportunities, and advocating at the state level for policies that further affordable housing development. Previously, she served on the staff of the Georgia Housing Finance Authority (now the Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs), and for eight years was Atlanta Director at The Enterprise Foundation, working with community development corporations to improve housing conditions and revitalize neighborhoods. She's also directed a reinvestment program in Atlanta's Westview neighborhood after working for the Atlanta Housing Authority. Little received a B. A. from North Carolina Central University, and a Master's in Urban Studies from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas.



Richard Yost Pace, A.I.A. | Founder
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Cumberland Development is a real estate development company focused on adding value to underperforming properties through the use of creative and sustainable design. The LLC currently owns/manages the Cleveland Clinic Foundation Business Operation Center—a 306,000 sq. ft. building on 47 acres by the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. It was originally constructed in 1957 by Republic Steel as *the* “state of the art” research & development facility for steel in the world. Cumberland Development purchased the property from the International Steel Group, renovated it for multi-tenant use, and it's now 100% occupied with researchers and two divisions of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. In 2006, Cumberland and its partners purchased and repositioned the Baker Electric Building in Cleveland. Built in 1910 for Baker Electric Motor Vehicle Co. as a showroom & service center, the building (on the National Register of Historic Places) received historic and new-market tax credits for renovation, and now serves research & technology companies. Cumberland has also master-leased Colonial and Euclid Arcades – unique, historic architectural landmarks adjacent to the nationally-recognized East 4th Street development. The Arcades will be repositioned as a retail incubator for downtown Cleveland – with fashion designers, artists, gift shops, and local food purveyors as prospective tenants. Pace holds an architectural degree from the University of Michigan.



Russell Lamb | Principal
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Lamb has worked for corporate, public sector, and not-for-profit entities in strategic planning, portfolio management, and development consulting. He employs financial analysis/modeling, transaction management, and strategic planning to provide counsel on real-estate processes. He also provides government relations support to secure land use approvals and navigate other regulatory controls. Prior to joining Allegro, he worked as a senior manager in the real estate solutions practice of Deloitte & Touche LLP, and was also active in Deloitte's practice areas for public sector, higher education, and not-for-profit. His prior work spearheading real estate management initiatives for the County of Charleston, SC was subsequently recognized as "best practice" by the National Association of Counties. He's also a former commissioned naval officer—having served in the surface fleet and Civil Engineer Corps—with his last assignment involving the closure, disposition, and reuse of the 1400-acre Charleston Naval Base. He's been a lecturer at the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs, and has been published in and interviewed for industry periodicals, including *Urban Land*, *Corporate Real Estate Executive*, and *Site Selection* magazine. He holds a Master's of Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, and a B.S. in Ocean Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy.



Michael Lander | Founder and President
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Lander Group is a real estate development firm specializing in urban infill projects. With 30+ years' experience in real estate planning, design, and development, the company has completed commercial, residential, and mixed-use real estate projects in California and the Midwest. As head of Lander Group, Michael Lander has developed and sold successful infill residential projects and completed substantial renovations of mixed-use commercial buildings. A licensed real estate broker and general contractor in Minnesota, he holds the CCIM designation from the National Association of Realtors, and is past-president of the Minnesota/South Dakota CCIM chapter. He's a member of the Urban Land Institute, the Congress of New Urbanism, the Minnesota Multi-Housing Association, and the Minnesota chapter of the AIA; and serves on the public policy committee of the Builders' Association of the Twin Cities.



Tim Roach, AICP | Deputy Executive Director
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Roach has 25+ years' experience in municipal, county & regional planning, and community development. His work consists of advising planning commissions, steering committees, and other oversight groups through workshops, as well as presentations to local, regional, state, and federal government representatives. He and his GNRC staff consult on regional land use and transportation planning; direct local planning and historic preservation assistance; tourism promotion and project development; demographic/Census research; grants and small business loans. Prior to GNRC, Roach was in project management with global engineering & planning firm Parsons Brinckerhoff, as planning manager for the Nashville area, where he assisted on countywide comprehensive planning, NEPA, long-range transportation plans for Tennessee's MPOs, and zoning/regulatory controls. For the first 20 years of his career, he worked as a community planner, regional director, and then finally as state director for the Local Planning Assistance Office of the Tennessee Dept. of Economic & Community Development.



Arthur M. Wendel, MD, MPH | Healthy Community Design Initiative
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Dr. Wendel is a board-certified physician in family and preventive medicine, and is a graduate of CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service. His interests include building healthy communities and transportation systems. The mission of CDC's Healthy Community Design initiative is to understand and improve the relationship between the built environment and public health by deploying traditional public health tools and practices, with a focus on essential public health services. Current projects include: an evaluation of the relationship between walking and transit (how much people walk to transit, how many minutes of physical activity is accomplished through the typical transit trip); how quiet hybrid vehicle engines may impact crashes involving pedestrians; Safe Routes to School programs as an essential component of community design; and capacity-building / methodologies for Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) across the U.S.



Robin Hutcheson, AICP | Transportation Division Director
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Prior to her appointment as transportation division director for Salt Lake City in 2012, Hutcheson spent 15 years consulting on transportation planning with a focus on transit, complete streets, and livable communities. She's worked in communities around the western U.S. to plan and implement comprehensive transportation solutions. Hutcheson gained experience working in the transit industry in Germany and France, and has completed projects for the European Union Commission on Sustainability. In her current role, she's responsible for integrating all modes of transportation into the Salt Lake City system—with a particular emphasis on alternative modes. She is co-founder and immediate past-president of the Women's Transportation Seminar—Northern Utah Chapter. She is active in the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association, and is credentialed with the American Institute of Certified Planners.



Jennifer Hillhouse | Project Manager – Policy & Planning
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Hillhouse has spent eight years in the transportation planning profession, and joined the City and County of Denver's Department of Public Works Policy & Planning in 2008. She is passionate about planning, programming, and constructing multimodal transportation systems in Denver and beyond. Hillhouse is largely responsible for coordinating the city's efforts on its Regional Transportation District (RTD) FasTracks Program, in order to help ensure that the Denver region's collective vision for growth, transportation, land use, and infrastructure development is ultimately realized. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Design from CU-Boulder, and a Master's Degree in Urban & Regional Planning from CU-Denver.



Sean Vroom | Strategic Initiatives Project Manager
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Vroom has 19 years' experience as an environmental planner in the public and private sectors, with nine of those years spent with New Jersey's northern Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), managing local programs and initiatives. He has extensive experience in transit and land use planning research, as well as surface transportation projects—particularly in the areas of project concept development, site assessments, environmental planning and permitting, federal/state environmental laws and regulations, federal/state funding, and community outreach. His programmatic experience includes federal brownfields, and port security. Vroom holds a B.S. in Environmental Planning & Design.



Bridget Jones Ed.D. | Executive Director
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Dr. Jones leads regional and community initiatives focused on applying collaborative visioning and project management strategies toward complex solutions to community & economic development challenges. Prior to joining CRT in 2003, Jones worked with the South Central Tennessee Development District, Columbia Main Street Corporation, and Columbia State Community College in executive and project-lead positions — including downtown revitalization, JTPA/workforce development programs, and rural community development / community college site creation in South Central Middle Tennessee. She received the first-ever William McCulley Award for Excellence in Research from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for her dissertation, *The Role of Tennessee Community Colleges in Economic Development*. Dr. Jones is past-chair of Columbia Main Street Corporation, a graduate of Leadership Maury and Leadership Middle Tennessee, and past-member of the Southern Growth Policy Board–Global Strategies Council. She's also a visiting lecturer with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and Lipscomb University's Institute of Sustainable Practice; and currently serves on the boards of the Natchez Trace Parkway Association and Smart Growth America. She holds degrees from the University of Memphis, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Louisville.