

CAGTC

Coalition For America's
Gateways & Trade Corridors

2024 Annual Meeting Speaker Bios

Wednesday, May 15

9:00 am	<u>Congressional Staff Panel</u>
9:45 am	<u>Threats on the Horizon: How Can We Prepare for Tomorrow's Supply Chain Crisis</u>
11:00 am	<u>Caution Ahead: Impacts of "Boom and Bust" Funding Cycles</u>
12:00 pm	<u>Keynote Lunch: All About the New USDOT Freight Office</u>
1:00 pm	<u>Connecting the Dots: Digital Infrastructure</u>
1:45 PM	<u>Keynote Address: White House Perspectives on BIL Implementation</u>

Thursday, May 16

11 am	<u>Federal Freight Investment Opportunity Panel</u>
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Congressional Staff Panel

Moderator

Dr. Noel Hacegaba

Chief Operating Officer, Port of Long Beach



Dr. Noel Hacegaba is the Chief Operating Officer for the Port of Long Beach, California. He is responsible for managing the day-to-day administrative and operating functions of the Port, including Commercial Operations, Finance and Administration, Engineering Services, Planning and Environmental Affairs, Human Resources, Communications and Government Relations.

In recent years, Dr. Hacegaba has also led the Port's response to the pandemic-induced supply chain crisis, leading the Port's internal Business Recovery Taskforce and coordinating with industry, labor and government partners to identify near-term solutions. Under his leadership, the Port of Long Beach opened the first "pop-up yard" known as STOR (Short-Term Overflow Resource) for much-needed surge capacity and supported the first 24-hour terminal operation in the nation at TTI terminal.

Dr. Hacegaba is also leading the development of the Port's digital initiative known as the *Supply Chain Information Highway*, which seeks to close the gap on the lack of visibility and data sharing in goods movement by enabling end-to-end visibility and coast-to-coast connectivity. Seven other ports are collaborating with the Port of Long Beach on the development of this digital initiative.

In addition, Dr. Hacegaba has also led negotiations on behalf of the Port on major business transactions, including the sale of Long Beach Container Terminal and Total Terminals International, each multi-billion dollar assets at the time of sale.

Previously, Dr. Hacegaba served as the Port's Managing Director of Commercial Operations and Chief Commercial Officer, the Port's senior executive responsible for developing and executing business development strategies to drive cargo and revenue growth. In this role, Dr. Hacegaba successfully managed the Port's commercial activities during a period of significant industry realignment and led the swift recovery of its largest container terminal following the biggest bankruptcy in shipping line industry history, clearing the path for record cargo volumes.

In total, Dr. Hacegaba has more than 25 years of public and private sector experience spanning a variety of industries. Prior to joining the Port, he managed \$200 million in contracts for a Fortune 500 company. In earlier roles, he served as a senior administrator for an elected office, a business executive for a growing company engaged in international trade, a research analyst for a policy research group and as a management consultant.

He is a graduate of the University of Southern California, where he earned degrees in economics (B.A. and M.A.), business administration (B.S.) and urban planning (MPL). He earned his doctorate in public administration at the University of La Verne, where he continues to serve on the faculty of the school's College of Business and Public Management.

Congressional Staff Panel

Panelists

Jackie Schmitz

House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure



Jackie Schmitz serves as Democratic Staff Director for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, which has jurisdiction over highways, transit, highway safety, motor carriers, and surface transportation innovation policy. This is her second stint with the Committee. Jackie previously served as a transportation, energy, and environmental policy advisor in the U.S. Senate; and as Director of Government Relations at Van Scoyoc Associates, where she represented an array of transportation and municipal clients.

Paul Wasik

Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation



Paul Wasik is the Deputy Policy Director for the Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports under Ranking Member Red Cruz. He joined the Commerce Committee in August 2021, working for then-Ranking Member Roger Wicker. Prior to joining the Commerce Committee, he worked for 8 years in the office of Senator Deb Fischer, including 4 years as the legislative assistant for transportation policy. He holds a B.A. from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Brett Jortland

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works



Brett Jortland started work at the U.S. Senate in August 2023, joining Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito's team on the Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, as Senior Counsel handling the Highways portfolio. Immediately prior to joining the EPW team, he served for six years as Deputy Chief Counsel for the Federal Railroad Administration, overseeing all agency legal matters, providing legal counsel to agency senior leadership and program staff, and supervising a legal team of about fifty attorneys and professionals.

For the decade prior, Brett worked in the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of the General Counsel, serving in increasingly senior roles in the Office of Regulation, providing expert legal and policy advice to senior Department officials on high-profile rulemaking, regulatory, and administrative law issues. During this time, he developed broad transportation expertise through his work on reviewing the legal, policy, and economic rationale supporting rulemakings involving railroads, motor carriers, pipelines, hazardous materials, and maritime matters.

Before joining DOT, Brett was a Presidential Management Fellow at the Department of Health and Human Services, focusing mainly on issues related to procurement law and policy. Prior to his legal

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career, he served as a Field Artillery Officer in the United States Army. Brett received his law degree from The Ohio State University, his M.B.A. from the University of Baltimore, and his undergraduate degree in Finance from James Madison University.

Threats on the Horizon: How Can we Prepare for Tomorrow's Supply Chain Crisis

Moderator

Rob Cannizzaro

Chief Operating Officer, Intermodal Association of North America



Rob Cannizzaro is the Chief Operating Officer at the Intermodal Association of North America. In this role, Rob is the key leader for the IANA's operations and business development activities, including industry technology products and services providing the leadership, vision, and management necessary to effectively grow the organization, ensure financial strength, and operating efficiencies, while ensuring a high level of service and value to IANA's members and customers. Rob came to this position from the organization's Board of Directors.

Prior to this, Rob spent over 25 years in Port, Terminal, and Ocean Carrier operations, holding roles such as Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Logistics, as well as positions in Procurement, Vessel Planning, Equipment Control and Risk Management.

In February 2024, Rob was appointed by the US Secretary of Commerce to serve on the Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness. Additionally, Rob serves on the boards of the University of Denver Transportation and Supply Chain Institute as well as the Containerization and Intermodal Institute.

Rob holds B.S. in Marine Business and Commerce and an M.S. in International Transportation Management from the State University of New York Maritime College at Fort Schuyler. Later, he taught graduate courses there for almost 10 years in an adjunct position. He also holds an M.B.A. from Centenary University of New Jersey.

Panelists

Erin Aleman

Executive Director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)



Erin Aleman is a planning and public policy expert, accomplished leader, and a positive change agent. She leads the award-winning Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) — the regional planning agency for 7 counties, 284 municipalities, and 8.6 million residents in northeastern Illinois. She is the first woman to serve in this role and the first professional planner to lead the agency.

The CMAP team is comprised of transportation experts, data analysts, thought leaders, planners, policy influencers, collaborators, and consensus builders. CMAP has earned a revered reputation for advancing sound policy, driving innovative solutions, and leading transformational change.

From helping to create a first-of-its-kind regional economic partnership, developing solutions to transform the region's transit system, and building consensus among the region's leaders on the

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highest-priority transportation projects, Erin and CMAP have left their mark on this region since Erin became CMAP's executive director in July 2019.

The region consistently relies on Erin and her team to share their expertise and knowledge on national, regional, and local conference panels and media interviews.

Aleman's career journey brought her full circle. Fresh out of graduate school in 2007, she joined CMAP as the agency's Phillip D. Peters Regional Planning fellow. Over the next eight years, she rose through the ranks to become principal planner in 2011 and played key roles in creating the highly successful Technical Assistance program, leading regional outreach for GO TO 2040 — the agency's first long-term comprehensive plan — and completing more than 20 local planning projects.

She also held leadership positions at the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT), first as a bureau chief and then as director of the Office of Planning and Programming. During her IDOT tenure, she provided strategic guidance, implemented performance-based tools, developed the state's first asset management plan, and was responsible for developing multimodal policy initiatives.

In 2019, Erin was named as one of Crain's distinguished 40 under 40 designees and the Women in Transportation (WTS) Chicago Chapter's Woman of the Year in 2020.

Erin holds a master's degree in urban planning and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in printmaking. She holds advisory roles for UIC's Stuart Handler Real Estate program, the Southland Development Authority, and the Chicago Chapter of WTS. Erin also had the honor of being a strategist for the Obama Foundation Scholars Program in 2018.

She has served on the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) Board since 2019, elected secretary in 2021, and currently serves as vice chair. Erin is a passionate planner and champion for collaboration with a love for serving people and making a difference.

The Honorable Chris Carney

Senior Policy Advisor, Nossaman LLP



Chris Carney has found success through public service. He represented Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District for two terms and was a tenured professor of political science specializing in international relations at Penn State University. Prior to running for Congress, Chris worked at the Pentagon for four years on strategic analysis of the global terrorist threat. He ran the Department of Defense's Policy Counterterrorism Evaluation Group (PCTEG) and was the "Special Projects" intelligence officer for two tours during Operation Southern Watch.

A Blue Dog Democrat while in Congress, where he served from 2007-2011, Chris was assigned to the Transportation & Infrastructure and Homeland Security Committees. With his significant experience on both issues, he was appointed Chairman of the Management, Investigations, and Oversight Subcommittee as a freshman member. As a member of the Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment, Chris had the opportunity to work with the Department of

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Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) to develop policies pertaining to international as well as domestic terrorism.

Chris leverages his deep experience in national defense, homeland security, intelligence, cybersecurity, transportation, and veterans' affairs to help clients achieve optimal results. Drawing upon his time as a Naval Officer, and as a former Presidentially-appointed Commissioner on the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCRMC), Chris credits his fluency in "military" speak as one of the reasons he has been able to represent security-focused clients. At MCRMC, he worked for a bipartisan body whose sole goal was to improve the personnel and budgetary issues for U.S. military and veterans.

Commissioned as an Ensign in 1995, Chris has served as an intelligence officer for more than 15 years. As a former Commander, he is a combat Mission Operation Commander (MOC) for the MQ-1 Predator, the MQ-9 Reaper, and RQ-4 Global Hawk ISR platforms. Chris has earned many personal awards including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Tom Saunders

Head of Government Affairs, Ports America



Thomas Saunders is Director of Government Affairs for Ports America. Ports America is the largest independent marine terminal operator and stevedore company in the North America, providing terminal management services in more than 42 ports and 80 locations. Thomas develops and executes a government affairs strategy for major Ports America sites such as Port Newark Container Terminal (PNCT).

Prior to joining Ports America in 2017, Thomas most recently worked for Congressman Donald Payne Jr, a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and has over 7 years Capitol Hill experience. In his various roles on Capitol Hill, Thomas achieved favorable policy outcomes through strategic partnerships, relationship building and stakeholder outreach. He possesses immense institutional knowledge and an intimate understanding of the federal legislative process. His past issue portfolio includes transportation and port infrastructure, homeland security, labor and workforce development, appropriations, military and defense.

Thomas is a graduate from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a New Jersey native. Thomas is an active member on the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey's Council on Port Performance Workforce Development Implementation Team, National Association of Waterfront Employers (NAWE) as well as the New Jersey State Society. He currently resides in Washington, DC.

Caution Ahead: Impacts of “Boom and Bust” Funding Cycles

Moderator

Andrew Neely

Senior Vice President, Federal Government Affairs, WSP USA



Andrew Neely is Senior Vice President for Federal Government Affairs at WSP USA, a leading engineering and professional services consultancy. In his role at WSP, Andrew is responsible for supporting and advancing the firm’s bipartisan federal government relations, political/civic engagement activities, strategy, and industry outreach. He plays a key role in establishing and maintaining relationships with the U.S. Congress, the Administration, and federal agencies to support WSP and their clients. Additionally, Andrew assists WSP in navigating and positioning for the federal opportunities available under relevant infrastructure laws and programs.

Prior to WSP, Andrew served as Deputy Policy Director and Professional Staff Member on the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation from 2017 to 2022 under the leadership of Senators Thune and Wicker. During that time, his responsibilities included serving as a lead drafter and negotiator for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – now known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law – on multimodal infrastructure, intercity passenger rail, freight, maritime, safety, and innovation and research policies and programs. Earlier in his career, Andrew served on the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, where he worked on the committee’s transportation and infrastructure team to help develop and pass the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act of 2015 under the leadership of Chairman Inhofe.

Andrew is a graduate of Kenyon College with a bachelor’s degree in U.S. history and a concentration in political science. Additionally, he is earning a Master of Business Administration from Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business. Andrew is originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Panelists

Michael Cano

Executive Officer, Countywide Planning & Development, LA Metro



Michael Cano serves as the Executive Officer for Multimodal Integrated Planning for Los Angeles County Metro’s Countywide Planning Department. He leads Metro’s policy and planning efforts for goods movement, regional rail, and sustainable freight equity; develops its comprehensive multimodal highway corridor plans; and oversees the Long-Range Transportation Planning team.

He developed and authored Metro’s 2021 LA County Goods Movement Strategic Plan centered on equity and supports the region’s economic vitality and environmental sustainability goals. Michael also developed and authored Metro’s Multimodal Highway

Investment Objectives policy and I-405 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan, which sets forth a vision for investment in the nation’s most notoriously congested freeway corridor. Most recently, he led

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Metro’s Long Beach-East LA (I-710) Corridor Task Force and Zero-Emission Truck Working Group, working with a wide range of stakeholders and communities to develop Metro’s groundbreaking, comprehensive, multimodal, and community-centered Corridor Mobility Investment Plan for the nation’s most important freight corridor, which the Board approved in April 2024.

Before joining the Multimodal Integrated Planning team, Michael led Metro’s Federal and State Policy and Programming team, where he and his team secured over \$2.5 billion in regional, state, and federal grants to support Metro’s multimodal array of projects, including INFRA grants for Metro’s I-5 North HOV and Truck Lanes and SR-57/60 Confluence projects. Michael also serves as Metro’s appointee to the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, the California Freight Advisory Committee, and the USDOT / Maritime Administration’s Port Congestion and Supply Chain working group. He also leads Metro’s Freight Working Group, which brings together key stakeholders from state, local, and private entities directly involved with the movement of goods in Los Angeles County.

A native Angeleno, Michael earned his Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, and his Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California’s Sol Price School of Public Policy.

Bill Hanson

Senior Vice President, Market Development



William H. Hanson is the Senior Vice President – Market Development. A 44-year veteran of the dredging and maritime construction industry, Bill Hanson has been with GLDD for 34 years and a Vice President since 2004. In 2013, he opened GLDD’s first office in Washington DC. Mr. Hanson began his career with the US Army Corps of Engineers in Galveston and Los Angeles, and then worked for Connolly Pacific of Long Beach, California before joining GLDD in 1988.

At GLDD, he served in management roles in the North Atlantic and Southern Divisions as well as managing Latin America for 12 years. Mr. Hanson serves on several Federal Advisory committees as well as on boards of groups with national and regional interest to GLDD, and several academic advisory boards related to ocean and coastal engineering. Mr. Hanson is a 1979 Ocean Engineering graduate of Texas A&M, where he was named a distinguished alumni in 2013.

Caution Ahead: Impacts of “Boom and Bust” Funding Cycles

Preston Elliott

Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Transportation



Preston Elliott in April of 2020 was named Deputy Commissioner and the Chief of Planning Bureau with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). Having worked with TDOT early in his career, Preston has over 25 years of community and transportation planning experience within Tennessee and the Southeast. Prior to rejoining TDOT, Preston spent 16 years in the private sector providing professional planning services to communities large and small. In addition to his DOT and private consulting experience, Preston has also worked with three metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and as a community volunteer, serving 12 years on a local transit authority board. Preston is a certified planner and he has worked in every mode of transportation, from walking, biking, transit, and vehicular planning, to truck, freight, rail, and

shared mobility.

Freddie C. Fuller II

Vice President & Executive Director of Sales, Jacobs



A proven leader and a true public servant, Freddie Fuller has utilized his education, expertise and relationships to engage and connect organizations and individuals within the public transportation and infrastructure industry for more than 27 years. Freddie is the Executive Director of Sales for the East Central Geography (DC, DE, IA, IL, IN, MD, MI, MN, MO, OH, PA, VA, WI, WV). He’s responsible for ensuring the sales team achieves their financial goals for sales (bookings, backlog growth, and sales investment) within transportation, water and the built environment. Tasked with providing overall sales management by driving organic growth for both near and long-term perspectives.

Freddie serves as Immediate Past National Chair of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) and is a former Secretary/Treasurer of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). He also serves on the Transit Advisory Board for The Routing Company and on the advisory board of Polihire, a boutique executive search firm.

Freddie earned an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University, two Masters degrees from Georgia Tech in City Planning and Civil Engineering. He also completed coursework towards a doctorate degree at Virginia Tech in Planning, Governance and Globalization. He and his wife, Tasha reside in Woodbridge, Virginia and are the proud parents of four children. Freddie loves to work out regularly.

Keynote Lunch: All About the New USDOT Freight Office

Allison Dane Camden

Deputy Asst. Sec for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy



Allison Dane Camden serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy. She was previously at the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), where she served in several roles, including overseeing the agency's communications, media relations and government relations work as the Senior Director of External Relations.

Prior to that role, Dane Camden served as WSDOT's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Development and Delivery, where she helped lead a team of 800 professionals in eleven divisions that worked daily to drive sustainable, integrated, equitable, multimodal transportation solutions across Washington.

She also spent nearly a decade on Capitol Hill, where she worked as a policy advisor to three members of Congress, including four years as Professional Staff for the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Connecting the Dots: Digital Infrastructure

Moderator

Craig Toth

Program Consultant and Vice President, HNTB Corporation



Craig Toth serves as a practice consultant, freight and goods mobility solutions and vice president. He is based in HNTB's Tallahassee office.

Toth is a thought-leader in freight mobility ecosystems and is responsible for assisting transportation agencies, ports and regions in developing connected infrastructure solutions that enhance communities and the economy.

Throughout Toth's career he has served the public sector, enabling collaboration across agencies to drive innovation and leverage emerging technology solutions. In his role, he has led the development of statewide applications to increase safety and mobility of goods movements through applied technology infrastructure deployment. Coupling public investment with input from private sector stakeholders, he has led the expansion of stand-alone systems into regional platforms that enable informed decision making.

Previously, Craig served as HNTB's North Florida Group Director from 2018-2022, driving staff and revenue growth in areas of transportation planning, TSM&O and technology. Under his leadership, the office grew new service lines focusing on emerging mobility solutions and has established strategic initiatives and programs for clients across the US. Prior to this role, Toth served in various private sector leadership positions, in areas such as operations, business development, program advisory, and client relations.

He has supported multiple agency awards, including the recent National Operations Center of Excellent Digital Infrastructure award for the Freight Mobility eXchange platform.

Panelists

Dr. Andrea Hoff

Senior Project Manager, San Diego Association of Governments



As Senior Project Manager for SANDAG, Dr. Hoff plays an integral role in the coordination and delivery of several complex interrelated projects related to the innovative mega project, Otay Mesa East Port of Entry. She has spearheaded cutting edge research initiatives focused on the economic value of cross border trade, innovative financing and project delivery, supply chain resilience, zero emission freight, and cross border mobility. Prior to SANDAG Dr. Hoff worked as a contract planner supporting land development code updates and discretionary review of large scale development projects for Southern California jurisdictions, including Encinitas, San Marcos, Jurupa Valley, and the Southern California Association of Governments, County of San

Connecting the Dots: Digital Infrastructure

Diego County, and City of San Diego. Her in-depth knowledge of the California-Baja California border region has driven contributions to her field, including

planning solutions for culturally diverse communities and peer reviewed publications on zoning reform, urban policy in Mexico, and sustainability. Andrea earned her BA in Urban Studies & Planning from University of California San Diego, Master of City Planning from San Diego State University, and Doctor of Philosophy in Planning, Policy, and Design from the University of California, Irvine.

Kim Holland, PE

Assistant Secretary of Strategic Development, Florida Department of Transportation



Kim Holland has more than 28 years of diverse infrastructure engineering experience. She joined the OneFDOT Team in 2023 as the Assistant Secretary of Strategic Development. She is responsible for strategic investments into Florida's Transportation System including the Strategic Intermodal System. Her responsibilities include ensuring that Florida remains the leader in supply chain logistics in the country; maximizing strategic funding through competitive grant opportunities for Florida's communities; creating strong partnerships with businesses and ports to maintain one of the nation's strongest economies, as Florida remains a destination for many; and developing and implementing strategies to make sure Florida remains resilient to extreme weather while protecting our infrastructure investments.

Kim received her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida, graduating as valedictorian of her civil engineering class. She is a registered professional engineer in Florida and Georgia. She is a Certified LEED Accredited Professional which is a globally recognized green building rating system that ensures sustainable design and construction. She is a Certified Floodplain Manager which a recognized national certification program that mitigates the challenges of flooding disasters on the country's human, financial, and natural resources.

Her professional and community involvement has included leadership positions with the Florida Design-Build Institute of America, Florida Chamber, Leadership Jacksonville, Jacksonville Women's Network, and the University of North Florida. Most recently, she is a recipient of the Girl Scouts Woman of Distinction Award.

Kim is a proud wife to her husband, and mother of 5 daughters and stepdaughters, Haley (20), Leah (19), Sasha (18), Emily (15), and Selena (15).

Connecting the Dots: Digital Infrastructure

David Libatique

Deputy Executive Director of Stakeholder Engagement, Port of Los Angeles



David Libatique is the Deputy Executive Director of Stakeholder Engagement for the Port of Los Angeles, a position that oversees and manages all communications on behalf of America's Port® via the Community Relations, Media Relations, Government Affairs, Trade Development, and Labor Relations and Workforce Development Divisions.

Libatique works with diverse stakeholders, including local communities, organized labor, beneficial cargo owners, terminal operators, international customers, shipping and cruise lines, railroads, trucking industry, media, and regulatory agencies to advance the Port's goals and initiatives. He interacts on a broader scale with an array of local, regional, statewide, and national elected officials and stakeholders.

Libatique first joined the Port in January 2011 as Senior Director of Government Affairs, where he led the Port's intergovernmental advocacy at a critical time of increasing engagement with local, regional, state, federal, and even transnational and international levels of government.

Prior to joining the Port, Libatique served as Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's Director of Energy Policy, where he was responsible for advancing the Mayor's environmental policies at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Before assuming that role, he served as the Mayor's Senior Policy Analyst and acted as a liaison with the Port of Los Angeles, where he advanced priority initiatives, including the Clean Air Action Plan and Clean Truck Program.

Libatique holds a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of California, Berkeley and a Master of Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Keynote Address: White House Perspectives on BIL Implementation

Samantha Silverberg

Deputy Assistant to the President, Infrastructure Implementation, The White House



Sam has been the Deputy Assistant to the President for the Infrastructure Implementation team since January 2024. Prior to this, Sam was the Deputy Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator from November 2021 to January 2024 and the Special Assistant to the President for Transportation and Infrastructure Policy from February 2021 to January 2024.

Sam earned her Bachelor of Arts in Politics from the University of Virginia and a Masters in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School.

Federal Freight Investment Opportunity Panel

Moderator

Jason Smeak

Assistant Vice President, Global Supply Chain & Logistics, AECOM



Mr. Smeak is a strategic and operationally savvy supply chain, transportation, and infrastructure leader with more than 20-years of broad, global cross-industry and cross-functional management experience, and a passion for defining and executing large, complex supply chain, transportation, and infrastructure projects. He brings an experience set covering the Plan, Source, Make, Deliver, Return and Enable processes of supply chain management. A systems-thinker, he identifies and understands the interrelated requirements and tradeoffs present in supply chain management and logistics/transportation decision-making in both public and private sectors.

Jason has led carrier operations and managed freight shipments in both rail and trucking goods movement. He has also worked in private industry as an advisor and employee for some of the world's largest corporate users of transportation and shipping and understands the science, the practical operations, business case, and public benefits and externalities presented by goods movement in the United States and abroad.

His project management and advisory experience centers around providing clients with solutions to supply chain problems, especially those related to multi-modal transportation, transloading, warehousing and distribution, and infrastructure. He has delivered projects in freight planning, industrial development, warehouse and transload facility design and construction, inland port and industrial park master planning, railroad capital and operations improvements, port logistics infrastructure, manufacturing, and supply chain risk reduction and sustainability/resiliency programs. He has experience with applying for and executing federal, state, and local transportation and development grants.

Jason previously worked as a Management Consultant at Deloitte and Capgemini Consulting leading international supply chain and manufacturing operations strategy, process improvement and transformation projects within automotive, heavy machinery, high-tech, industrial products, life sciences, logistics and mining industries. He most recently directed corporate strategic growth initiatives and rail freight operations and corporate improvement projects for North American shortline railroad holding company OmniTRAX, Inc.

He currently provides supply chain advisory services for clients across AECOM's Transportation, Buildings + Places, Energy and Environment business lines. Jason drives AECOM's Global Goods Movement team's efforts related to supply chain sustainability and freight decarbonization/electrification, as well as freight automation and future logistics infrastructure and new goods movement technology applications (drone freight delivery, eVTOL, connected vehicles). He leads as AECOM's Americas Hydrogen Transportation Market Leader. He also supports clients with grant strategy development, grant applications, and associated grant management and project execution.

Jason holds a Masters of Supply Chain Management from Michigan State University, Bachelors in Transportation and Logistics and International Business from The Ohio State University, is Certified in

Federal Freight Investment Opportunity Panel

Logistics, Transportation and Distribution (CLTD), and is an Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP).

Panelists

Paul Baumer

Deputy Director for Infrastructure Development, Office of Multimodal Freight and Infrastructure Policy, Office of the Secretary

Paul Baumer serves as the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program Manager in the Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation in the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy. He is responsible for overseeing the delivery of the INFRA discretionary grant program, Mega discretionary grant program, and the Rural discretionary grant program which have collectively awarded more than \$7.8 billion in federal discretionary funding to 165 projects across the country.

Prior to 2016, he served as an analyst and policy advisor within the Office of the Under Secretary with focuses on freight and goods movement, infrastructure finance, and project delivery. In 2014, he helped establish the Build America Transportation Investment Center at U.S. DOT, which would later merge into the Build America Bureau.

Caitlin Hughes

Director, Office of Freight Management and Operations



Caitlin Hughes serves as the Director of the Office of Freight Management and Operations for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) at the U.S. Department of Transportation. In this role, she directs FHWA's work on federal freight programs and input to freight policy, including the implementation of certain freight initiatives from the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. These activities include management of the formula-based National Highway Freight Program and FHWA administration of discretionary grant programs including the Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects program (also known as "INFRA") and the BUILD program.

Ms. Hughes also directs the mapping of highway components of freight networks; input to the National Freight Strategic Plan; leadership on national truck parking initiatives; oversight of truck size and weight regulatory compliance; development and application of freight data and tools; and continued delivery of training, outreach, and technical assistance on state freight planning, state freight advisory committees, and performance measurement.

Previously, she served as the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and Freight at the Maryland Department of Transportation and as the Federal Legislative Programs Coordinator for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Her freight focus included work with the Port of Baltimore and North Carolina State Ports Authority; with Amtrak, Class I and short line railroads; and with the trucking industry on infrastructure and operational improvements; as well as on freight planning and the pursuit of state and federal funding.

Federal Freight Investment Opportunity Panel

Ms. Hughes is a graduate of the University of Vermont and received her Master of Public Administration degree from The George Washington University.