



TRANSIT + COMMUNITY

Philadelphia, October 20-23, 2024

Call for Speakers Information Packet



The M: PACT Transit + Community conference focuses on the potential for transit, connected mobility options, supportive land use and development — taken together — to create better lives and brighter futures.

We connect and support a network of leaders, practitioners and advocates dedicated to engaging with communities to define what's possible and share practical, proven ways to get there.

We foster “equitable transit-oriented communities” as the best way to address the climate crisis and create resilient and just places to live – for everyone.

Our values are: Impact and Results, Inclusivity, Collaboration and Partnership, Innovation, and Quality.

**The Call for Speakers is your chance to
influence the program and add your voice.**

Conference speakers are thinkers and doers, able to share the challenges they are facing and real-world experience with approaches that yield better outcomes for communities.

For more information and the link to submit your individual or group proposal, visit mpactmobility.org/speakers. The deadline to submit is Friday, March 29, midnight Hawaii time.

The M: PACT Transit + Community Conference (formerly Rail~Volution) is in Philadelphia, PA, October 20-23, 2024.



What solution can you provide?

At the 2024 Mpact Transit + Community Conference, we're looking for solutions to the big questions facing our network. We want to hear how you're solving for the following questions in your community. You will choose which question your proposal most addresses.

How are you solving funding gaps?

How are you building a knowledge and action base?

How are you solving for quality of life issues?

How are you building complete communities?

How are you solving for access and mobility?

Do you have a burning issue or industry critique for the Mpact PK Slam (powered by PechaKucha™)?

Hot Topics for 2024

- 15-Minute Cities
- Access for all & designing for an aging population
- Aesthetics of place
- Bus stops
- Climate in every decision
- Commuter & regional rail
- Coordination challenges
- Culturally-relevant approaches
- Dignity in design
- Downtowns
- Election dynamics
- Electric vehicles, alternative fuels & zero emissions
- Equity in decision making
- Evolution of new mobility
- Evolution of the National Environmental Policy Act
- Financing the missing middle
- Live/work/play in suburbs and edge cities
- Making the case for transit
- Microtransit metrics
- New travel patterns
- Pre-development TOD
- Reimagining arterials
- Ridership
- Safety
- Streamlining & prioritization
- The new normal for transit
- TOD in bus and BRT corridors
- Transit funding & fiscal cliff
- Urban growth boundary expansion
- Venture capital & transit-oriented communities
- Workforce
- Zoning

Preparing Your Proposal

Prepare your individual or group proposal using worksheets available at www.mpactmobility.org/speakers.

- Choose the question that your proposal most closely answers (questions on previous page).
- Prepare your narrative to answer the listed questions.
- Indicate the session format that best fits your content.

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Overview

What story would you like to tell? Why does it matter in 2024? To whom?

Process/Approach

What was your process or approach? How was it unique or different? How did you ensure your process or approach was inclusive and cross-sector?

History and Context

How have you worked to understand local history and cultural context? How did that affect your approach?

Outcomes

How did you measure success? What outcomes did you achieve? Why were these important for the community?

Lessons

What lessons did you learn? What did not go so well, or you would do differently? What is applicable to other communities?

FORMATS

Small Group Breakout

Short presentations with attendee breakout discussions

Idea Exchange

Short or no presentation followed by peer-to-peer facilitated discussion

Toolbox

Focus on tools or specific stories

Panel

3-4 speakers with a moderator and Q&A

We are open to formats that are not listed – if described clearly. Be creative!

EVALUATION CRITERIA

We will look for proposals that reflect or advance:

- Cross-sector viewpoints: from different industries, geographies and professional backgrounds.
- Approaches that achieve equitable outcomes.
- Intentionality toward achieving climate outcomes.
- Speakers representing different gender and cultural identities as well as people with disabilities.
- Perspectives from historically underrepresented communities, such as communities of color, and those addressing structural racism.
- Innovative partnerships and collaborative solutions.
- Real-world, community-derived, practical applications to solving problems.

Submitting Your Proposal

Complete the online proposal form by March 29, midnight Honolulu time.

Find the submission link at www.mpactmobility.org/speakers.

TIMELINE

March

The Call for Speakers closes March 29.

April

Proposals will be read, sorted and ranked by members of our National Steering Committee (NSC).

May

The NSC will meet to discuss proposals and curate topics and sessions. Individual NSC members will choose specific sessions to coordinate. NSC coordinators may reach out to you about your proposal.

June

The NSC will meet again to review and vet proposed sessions. This is a back and forth process, involving critique of individual sessions and the program as a whole. Speakers and topics may be adjusted.

July

NSC members will reach out to confirm speakers for sessions and the content to be covered.

August

All proposers will receive notification of whether they will be speakers or not.

TIPS

- Use the worksheets to gather your thoughts (available at mpactmobility.org/speakers).
- When you submit, fill out the entire online form. Incomplete proposals will not be considered.
- Make sure you can be in Philadelphia October 20-23, 2024. If your proposal is accepted, you will be expected to be there. Speakers have the option to attend for free the day they speak or to register and pay for the full conference (\$595-\$795).
- Group proposals: Before you include a speaker in your proposal, contact them to make sure they are interested and able to attend. Group proposals must include diverse perspectives. Note: we may accept your group proposal as is or we may mix and match with other proposals.



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About the 2024 Conference

Join us in Philadelphia

Nestled between the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers, Center City Philadelphia boasts a vibrant tapestry of transportation modes and cultural destinations, from the historic streets (and 8-foot alleys) near Independence Hall to landmarks of the Underground Railroad and African-American history to the diverse neighborhoods of today. This heritage is intertwined with a diverse transportation network, with transit-oriented neighborhoods across the city and region and into New Jersey.

The 2024 M: PACT Transit + Community conference will be an opportunity to experience firsthand an array of transit modes – from one of the nation's largest trolley systems to regional rail, buses, Amtrak, and a lot of great bicycling options.

The Local Host committee is chaired by Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) and Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC).



Planning M: PACT Transit + Community

The M: PACT National Steering Committee guides content for the conference. Steering Committee members work in communities across the United States and Canada. They helped develop the Call for Speakers and will review proposals as part of curating sessions for the conference.

The M: PACT Innovators, a national networking group, organizes the M: PACT PK Slam (powered by PechaKucha™) and other conference activities. View past PK Slam presentations [here](#) on M: PACT's YouTube channel.