2022 Rail~Volution
Call for Speakers
February 9 - March 16
For information and to submit:
railvolution.org/callforspeakers
Making an Impact with Transit, Mobility & Development
Redefining the basics. Reinvigorating the vision for transit-oriented communities.

Are you involved with transit, mobility and development projects or investments? Are you dedicated to their potential to shape better places to live for everyone — to build more equitable and sustainable communities? Do you have new approaches or innovations to share?

Submit your proposal to be part of the in-person 2022 Rail-Volution conference in Miami, Florida, next October. The Call for Speakers is open from February 9 to March 16. Make sure your experience is in the mix! For full information and the link to submit, visit www.railvolution.org/callforspeakers.

As we look forward to coming together in Miami, we’re focusing both on the ways mobility and development are being transformed and on solidifying the basics. We want the 2022 conference to be a place to reinvigorate the vision for transit-oriented communities and to share nitty-gritty know-how across all aspects of the work, from community engagement to planning, policies to technology, engineering to design, financing to implementation, operations to metrics and evaluation.

No doubt this is a pivotal time. While a lot is unsettled, there’s new clarity about the need to be frank and open about how projects affect communities. We know too that transportation is now the biggest contributor to climate change. In the United States, the new infrastructure bill will roll out over the next five years, with a lot depending on how funds are leveraged and flexed locally.

Are we bringing the best tools and innovations to the challenges and opportunities we face? Rail-Volution 2022 will be a place to share new ways to get work done and plot the best paths forward, together. The Call for Speakers is your chance to shape this vital discussion.

For more information and to submit, visit railvolution.org/callforspeakers

Questions? Contact Andrea Ostergaard at andreao@railvolution.org

The Rail-Volution National Steering Committee (NSC), made up of 40+ professionals from across the United States and Canada, will review proposals to create high-quality, content rich learning opportunities in Miami.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
RAIL-VOLUTION 2022
MIAMI, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 2
The Call for Speakers Tracks (see details on following pages) grew out of discussions with our National Steering Committee about core topics and challenges in the field. Please browse the tracks and choose the one that best fits with your proposal. We welcome new models or approaches.

All Call for Speakers proposals must be submitted via our online form. Proposals can be submitted by individuals or for a group. Please see www.railvolution.org/callforspeakers for the link to submit. You can submit more than one proposal. Your proposal is a signal that you’re able to be in-person in Miami next October 30 - November 2. We will have a limited number of scholarship opportunities. Please join our mailing list if you’d like to be alerted when scholarship applications open.

The Rail-Volution National Steering Committee (NSC) will make the ultimate decision about whether and how to use proposals and speakers as they shape the 2022 conference. The NSC will meet in late spring to discuss proposals. Final decisions about speakers and conference content will be made in July. Please note: we may reach out to you separately about being involved in other Rail-Volution programs.

**PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Our goal is to create high-quality, content-rich learning opportunities. In creating sessions, we will look for proposals that reflect or advance:

- Cross-sector viewpoints: from different industries, geographies and professional backgrounds, including lived experience.
- Approaches that achieve equitable 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.

**THE RAIL-VOLUTION APPROACH**

No matter what topic you propose to cover or track you choose, make sure to indicate how you incorporate or advance these Rail-Volution priorities:

- Equity & addressing systemic inequities
- Community participation
- Making the case for transit-oriented communities
- Innovation or new technology
- Leadership at different levels
- Partnerships and collaboration

**MIAMI & SOUTH FLORIDA**

We’re just beginning to learn from the Miami Local Host Committee and our National Steering Committee about the many changes underway in South Florida, from the recently approved Better Bus Network in Miami-Dade County to the opening of the first segment of The Underline linear park, from new bicycle connections to plans for BRT and rail.

We want to hear about how mobility options are changing in South Florida. How is the community being involved? How are leaders, practitioners and advocates taking on challenges related to affordability and access, safety and climate change?
Track 1: Policy Change

How are policies changing or “resetting” to reflect new thinking around transit, transit-oriented development and community impacts? This track focuses on policy innovation within transit agencies and at the federal, state, and local level, as well as partnerships with the advocacy community. This track includes policy changes to prepare for the roll out of the US Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – IIJA. Proposals should focus on specific policies and the players involved. Note: this track is not focused on implementation or operations.

Specific topics could include:

- **Transit**: changing policies for capital projects and operations; policies addressing affordable housing & unhoused populations; codifying partnerships related to equity or climate change.
- **Transit and development**: policy innovations related to housing and affordable housing; community benefits agreements; value capture; tax increment financing; policies to support TOD and affordable housing; state/provincial or regional transportation departments or planning organizations as levers of change.
- **Community impacts**: housing, parking, zoning; climate resiliency; anti-displacement policies; renters; international ownership of housing; street design and safety.

**HOT TOPICS**

- Renewed focus on bus service & impact on policies around operations and capital projects
- Combatting anti-transit policies arising from COVID
- Policies aimed at undoing the harm caused by historic and current systemic racism
- Policies to align with and leverage IIJA funding

**Don’t see your idea? No problem!**

*Fresh thinking and new models welcome! Please choose the track that is the closest fit.*
Track 2: Development around Transit

What are the tried-and-true models for transit-oriented development (TOD)? And where are we seeing the most innovative use of TOD tools? Recognizing that the development conversation varies from place to place, this track takes a broad view of the players and kinds of development while also going deep on specifics, so practitioners at every level can tackle challenges and learn new approaches. Note: this track focuses on implementation and practical application.

Specific topics could include:

- **Aspects of the deal**: integrating equity and sustainability into the deal, different capital delivery models; delivering affordable housing & combating displacement; land banking, creative financing, real estate structures; regulatory environment; joint development; ground leases; station integration; federal approvals; navigating different approval timelines.

- **The State of TOD**: different scales of TOD programs; large and small communities implementing equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD); linking TOD and operations planning; bus-related TOD; converting park & rides.

- **Creative partnerships & new models**: Affordable home ownership models; achieving equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD); balancing private and public sector goals; Community Development Corporations, Community Land Trusts, Community Development Financial Institutions; small business and retail.

HOT TOPICS

- "Ground up," community-driven TOD
- Partnerships between transit and other agencies and bureaus (e.g., housing, economic development, environmental)
- Equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD) metrics

Don’t see your idea? No problem!

Fresh thinking and new models welcome!
Please choose the track that is the closest fit.
Track 3: Transforming Transit Service and Operations

How are transit agencies evolving in light of changing travel patterns, ridership and revenue challenges, workforce shortages, and goals for equity and climate resilience? In what ways are transit agencies becoming mobility managers? Tell us how the current situation is redefining the basics, shifting priorities or changing the role of transit agencies.

Specific topics could include:

- **Projects and programs**: rethinking capital projects and service delivery; right-sizing projects and speeding them up; priorities for transit system redesign; funding models; implementing diversity or equity programs with service delivery; the best routes to zero emissions.

- **Metrics and goals**: new measures of transit impact and contribution (e.g., equity, economic development); redefining & engaging with riders; fare/loyalty programs and enforcement.

- **Changing culture**: safety for workers and riders; customer experience; workforce happiness; data and trends; international experience with ridership recovery; public funding for private transit providers; labor relations/workforce development; conversion to electric fleets; fare policies and ridership.

**HOT TOPICS**
- New models for service delivery
- Changing relations with labor; workforce recruitment & retention
- Reassessing capital plans & funding in light of COVID

Don’t see your idea? No problem!

*Fresh thinking and new models welcome! Please choose the track that is the closest fit.*
Track 4: Engaging with Health, Climate, Jobs, Community

Transit and TOD can have significant effects on health outcomes, job creation, climate change, and equity. This track digs into intersectional models and innovative approaches that change outcomes. The emphasis is on partnerships, engagement and telling the whole story. Who or what needs to be involved to develop transit-oriented communities that achieve equity, health, climate, and safety goals? What measurements show that transit is not only about getting from place to place.

Specific topics could include:

- **Cross-sector linkages**: tackling equity and climate together; community engagement models; new tools and story-making; metrics that bridge equity, health, climate, safety.

- **Changing practice for new outcomes**: campaigns to shift funding streams toward transit and other community goals; subsidies and incentives; making pilots into practice; embedding equity systematically; inclusive mobility systems; community ownership models; making open streets permanent; building capacity for community organizations, electrification of vehicles.

- **Making it reality**: environmental justice as more than a buzz phrase; placemaking and arts; neighborhood preservation; recentering climate around walking and TOD; diverse perspectives on transit & mobility.

**HOT TOPICS**

- Trauma-informed community engagement & design
- Universal basic mobility
- Electrification as a means (or not) to climate goals

Don’t see your idea? No problem!

Fresh thinking and new models welcome!
Please choose the track that is the closest fit.
**Track 5: Making Connections Convenient**

Integration across modes is fundamental to a high-functioning transit system. This track brings together modes and technology, design and implementation. The goal is connected communities with access for the most vulnerable first. How do you deliver, now and in the future?

**Specific topics could include:**

- **Multimodal corridors:** BRT/LRT/streetcar/rail/bus best practices; micromobility and safe walking; mobility hubs; adapting right of way and signals; curb management; capital projects for a post-pandemic world; data about corridors; green and complete corridors.
- **Travel tools & technology:** Mobility as a Service; integrated payment systems; travel demand management; first & last mile; incentives and pricing; e-bikes and transit systems; wayfinding; on-demand models for paratransit; lessons from FTA Innovative Mobility Integration program; technology for better customer experience; regulating AVs.
- **Low carbon high equity lifestyles:** models for car-light/car-free communities; communicating the benefits of integrated mobility; rethinking parking, first and last mile.

**HOT TOPICS**

- New models of connected mobility
- Integrating private mobility with public providers
- Pro-active accessibility

*Don’t see your idea? No problem!*

_Fresh thinking and new models welcome! Please choose the track that is the closest fit._
**Track 6: Rail~Volution PK Slam, powered by PechaKucha™**

The Rail~Volution PK Slam, powered by PechaKucha™, is a highlight of the annual Rail~Volution conference. It’s one of the most pointed and funny evenings you’ll ever enjoy at a conference.

Each speaker gets 20 slides and 20 seconds for each, for a total of just under 7 minutes. Propose your cutting edge take on how work gets done, the industry, or topics we’re not focusing on enough. Produced by the New Rail~Volutionaries, the PK Slam takes place in the evening as a social event and draws a crowd of 400+. For more information and examples check out www.youtube.com/railvolutionofficial and look for the Rail~volution PK Slam playlist. Or visit the New Rail~Volutionaries page on www.railvolution.org.

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