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2025 NYSAMPO CONFERENCE
SYRACUSE, NY

| Poster Author | Bio |
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| Talha Azfar | Talha Azfar is a Ph.D. student in Transportation Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) since August 2023. He began his Ph.D. in the University of Texas at El Paso in 2022. His research focus lies in the intersection of computer vision, digital twins, edge computing, and intelligent transportation infrastructure. Talha holds a Masters degree in Systems Engineering from PIEAS, Islamabad (2016), and a Bachelors in Electrical Engineering from NUST, Islamabad (2014). |
| Thomas Bardenett | Thomas Bardenett is a Senior Transportation Planner with the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC). Thomas is a native of Syracuse with a BFA in Film and Animation from the Rochester Institute of Technology and a MA in Urban Planning from CUNY Hunter College. His work at the SMTC has focused on the expansion of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, improved mobility options, and expanding public engagement opportunities. |
| Stacy Butler | Deputy Commissioner, Orange County Department of Planning & Development |
| Alan Catherall | Alan Catherall has over 20 years of leadership in the technology and telecommunications sectors. As Co-President at AirSage, where he has worked since 2013, he draws on deep experience in the mobile location space as well as tech-focused finance and operations. He previously served as CFO of Numerex Corp., a leading IoT solutions provider, and CFO of AirGate PCS, a wireless services company. Alan also held senior roles at MCI, including CFO of Syncordia Services, a joint venture with British Telecom. He holds an MBA from Loyola College and a B.Sc. from the University of Wales. |
| Amanda Caughey | Amanda Caughey is the Communications Specialist for the New York State LTAP Center – Cornell Local Roads Program. She collaborates with New York State municipalities and NYSDOT employees to develop effective marketing campaigns that promote safety, increase public understanding of highway department functions, and strengthen communication between local highway departments and their communities. |

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| James Cotter | James Cotter serves as a Command Center Administrator with the New York State Bridge Authority, where he plays a critical role in managing daily operations and ensuring the smooth coordination of activities. Known as the team's data guru, James leads all data collection and analysis efforts within the Command Center. His work enables the team to make informed, data-driven operational decisions, supporting everything from real-time incident response to long-term planning and performance tracking. |
| Joshua Dahlin | Joshua is a Planner for the Oneida County Department of Planning and the HOCTC region, focusing on human services, transportation, and land use planning. |
| Bre Dahn | Bre Dahn, EIT, ENV SP, is an MLA Candidate at SUNY ESF with a background in Civil, Environmental, and Water Resources Engineering. Their work integrates sustainable design and technical analysis, focusing on green infrastructure (GI) and urban stormwater management. Bre's research explores replicable GIS-based suitability modeling to aid MPOs, municipalities, and planners in identifying optimal GI locations. Their capstone project, Stormwater Resources and Green Efficiency (SuRGE), applies spatial analysis to enhance stormwater planning in Buffalo, NY, with implications for broader urban contexts. |
| Fernando de Aragon | Fernando de Aragon has served as director of the ITCTC since 1998. Has an interest in preserving current infrastructure investments, while providing support for expanded services that provide alternatives to SOV use, including car sharing, ride sharing, multi-use trails, bike/ped facilities and expanded transit. Previously he was a senior planner for the MPO and the county planning department in Palm Beach County, Florida. Fernando holds a bachelors degree in natural resources management and a masters in city and regional planning from Rutgers University, and a Ph.D. in energy management and policy from the University of Pennsylvania. |
| Mark Debald | Mark Debald serves as the Transportation Program Administrator for the Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC), based in Poughkeepsie, NY. With 25 years of planning experience working for a midsize MPO, Mark has participated in every aspect of the metropolitan transportation planning process. Mark holds a Masters in Regional Planning from the University at Albany, and also served as a transportation officer in the U.S. Army. |

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| Maya DeFazio | Maya is a Planner for the Oneida County Department of Planning and the HOCTC region, focusing on human services, transportation, and land use planning. |
| Cody Doane | Cody Doane is a GIS technician with experience in spatial data analysis and geospatial technology. Cody is a new member of the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council and Planning team. He holds dual bachelor's degrees: one in Geographic Information Systems from SUNY Cortland and another in Natural Resource Management and Policy from Paul Smith's College. Prior to joining HOCTC, Cody used his technical skills in the utilities industry as an engineering technician. |
| Emily Dozier | Emily Dozier is a Senior Planner with the Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC), the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Dutchess County. Emily leads DCTC's bicycle and pedestrian program, Complete Streets efforts, and safety work. Emily is the current chair of the New York State Association of MPOs' Bicycle-Pedestrian Working Group and co-chair of the Safety Working Group. Emily is currently managing the Safety Action Plan development for Dutchess County. She holds dual Masters degrees in City and Regional Planning and Transportation Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. |
| Vivek Dsouza | Vivek Dsouza is a 2nd year urban planning student, specializing in transportation and environmental policy, with broad interests in land use, transit-oriented development, emissions, and public health. As part of the 9/11 Memorial Program for Regional Transportation Planning, he works with the NY State Department of Transportation, exploring the economic impact of Complete Streets improvements. Previously, he interned with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), analyzing crash data for the city's Vision Zero project. Vivek has four years of policy-implementation experience and a background in Economics and Political Science from Mumbai, India. |

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| Sevgi Erdogan | Sevgi Erdogan is an Associate Professor at Syracuse University's School of Information Studies and Civil and Environmental Engineering Department (by courtesy). She directs the Smart Cities & Civic Technologies Research Center and is an affiliate of the National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland, where she previously led the Transportation Policy Research Group. Her research focuses on developing methods, models and tools to inform policy and decision-making on the interactions across built, social, and natural systems. Her recent interests include data science for transportation, smart and connected communities, and integrated modeling of transportation. She is a member of the TRB committees on Network Modeling; and Travel Forecasting. She received her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at the University of Maryland, M.S. in Operations Research from the University of Delaware and in Civil Engineering from Istanbul Technical University. |
| Aaron Frankenfeld Niloofer Ghahramani | Transportation Planning Director, A/GFTC Niloofer Ghahramani is a travel demand modeler with extensive experience in activity based models and data analysis. She has provided technical and analytical support to NYMTC's NYBPM travel demand development and analyzing outputs for NYMTC's planning group use. She has worked extensively with ArcGIS, Rstudio and Python coding program in her PHD research and with TransCAD and SQL coding during the past seven years, as an on-site consultant at NYMTC. |
| Jhan Kevin Gil-Marin | Jhan Kevin Gil-Marin is a transportation engineering Ph.D. student at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute focusing on freight transportation. He got his master's degree from The University of Maine, where he contributed to the transportation research group. Jhan's research interests include freight transportation and transportation safety. |
| Angelica Gonzalez | Angelica Gonzalez is the Marketing and Outreach Coordinator at the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC), where she develops marketing strategies and promotes regional transportation initiatives. She holds an M.S. in Public Relations from Buffalo State University and a B.S. in Digital Cinematography from Full Sail University. Angelica has worked at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo and Gelia. She is Vice Chair of the Hispanic Women's League, a member of PRSA Buffalo Niagara, a mentor for the Latina Mentoring Initiative, and the Founder of Relato Media. A proud mother of two, she advocates for youth and her community. |

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| Elias S. Goodrich | A PhD student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, Elias (Eli) primarily focuses on research surrounding the movement of blind and visually impaired individuals in urban environments. He is also interested in freight and urban logistics as well as public transportation and intercity rail. Eli originally grew up in the Midcoast Maine region and earned his B.S. in civil engineering from Tufts University in 2022. |
| Michael Grant | Michael Grant is a Vice President at ICF who has served as the consultant project manager for the New York State Transportation Master Plan. With over 25 years of experience at ICF, he leads statewide and regional transportation planning and policy work for MPOs and State DOTs and provides technical support to agencies throughout the country on performance-based planning and other aspects of planning under contract to the Federal Highway Administration. He currently chairs the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Standing Committee on Transportation Performance Management. |
| Eva Hsu | Ms. Eva Hsu is a Director in Sustainable Mobility at ICF. With nearly 18 years of expertise in transportation planning and policy, she excels in enhancing planning processes and pioneering innovative sustainable mobility and TDM strategies. Ms. Eva is dedicated to integrating contemporary TDM into regional planning processes through impactful workshops, technical assistance, and webinars. She recently led the ICF team that supported GTC's efforts to complete a TMA Feasibility Study for the greater Rochester region. |
| Kaicong Huang | Kaicong Huang is a Ph.D. student in Transportation Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) since August 2024. He holds a M.S. in Robotics from National University of Singapore (2024), and a B.E. in Electronic Engineering from Sun Yat-sen University (2023). His research interests include computer vision, autonomous vehicles, and intelligent transportation systems. |
| Afia Ibnat Subah | |

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| Abolfazl Karimpour | Abolfazl Karimpour, Ph.D: Dr. Abolfazl Karimpour is an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York Polytechnic Institute. He is also the founder and director of the Transportation Research and AI Lab. Previously, he held positions as Manager and Assistant Research Professor at the University of Arizona's Center for Applied Transportation Science. Dr. Karimpour's research interests include Traffic Operation and Safety, Traffic Signal Optimization, Data Analytics, Public Transportation, and Smart Cities Transportation. He has published over 20 peer-reviewed research articles and presented his findings at more than 30 national and international conferences. As a PI and CO-PI, he has led numerous national, regional, and local transportation projects. He is an active member of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Dr. Karimpour serves on the TRB standing committee on Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Computing Applications (AED50) research coordinator, and is a young member of the Street and Highway Operations committee and an Associate member of the Transportation Safety committee of ASCE. He is also a panelist on NCHRP 17-100: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Big Data to Enhance Safety Analysis. Dr. Karimpour has received several prestigious awards, including the 2023 Dean's Excellence Award in Research Excellence, the ITE Western District Outstanding Graduate Student Award, the Jenny L. Grote Student Leadership Award, and the Southern Arizona ITE Hank Warner Scholarship. |
| Jay Lambrix | Jay Lambrix is a transportation analyst with six years of experience working with the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council. He graduated from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in 2018 with a Masters of Environmental and Community Land Planning with a focus in sustainable transportation. |
| Scott Le Vine | Le Vine is a Senior Planner at Transpo Group and an Associate Professor at SUNY, with 20 years of experience. He has served on the ITS Committee of the Transportation Research Board. |
| Henry Litsky | Henry Litsky is the Policy and Advocacy Coordinator with Reconnect Rochester where he advocates for complete streets and improved public transportation in Monroe County. He attended NYSAMPO in 2023 as a student and presented a poster on the UR's bus system. |

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| Arin Gregory Melikian | I am a GIS Specialist for the consulting firm Cambridge Systematics at our client office of NYMTC. I have been in the GIS Space for 6 years professionally and am an expert in Online GIS Mapping as well as geospatial analysis for air quality, public transportation, and utilities. |
| Sandy Misiewicz | Sandy Misiewicz is the Executive Director of the Capital Region Transportation Council, the MPO for New York's Capital Region. She has over 26 years of transportation planning and project programming experience and leads the Transportation Council's planning work program. She holds a Bachelor's degree from the University at Binghamton and a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from the University at Albany. Sandy is a member of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners. |
| Frank Mongioi, Jr. | Frank Mongioi is Vice President at ICF with over 28 years of experience in Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and sustainable mobility programs. As ICF's Sustainable Mobility Practice Lead, he manages NYSDOT's Statewide Mobility Services and has led major TDM initiatives nationwide, supporting agencies with strategy, operations, and policy development. |
| John Morrow Latif Patwary | Planner, Orange County Department of Planning & Development Dr. Latif Patwary is a transportation researcher and a postdoctoral research associate in the Transportation Analytics and Decision Sciences group at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering with a concentration on Transportation Engineering from the University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) in December 2023. He also holds two master's degrees: one in Transportation Economics and another in Statistics & Data Science from UTK. Dr. Patwary's main areas of research interests include transportation data and planning, travel behavior analysis, emerging mobility technologies, sustainability, transportation economics, and road safety. |
| Steven Perez | Steven Perez is a junior student at Syracuse University College of Engineering and Computer Science's Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. He worked as a Structural Engineering intern for RAND Engineering & Architecture, in NYC. He serves as the Communication Chair of Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers at the college. As an aspiring civil engineer, he hopes to serve the society applying his skills. |

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| Paul Piwowarczyk | With 10+ years of experience in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), Paul has worked on planning, designing, and implementing advanced traffic management solutions. Paul's expertise includes data analytics and various ITS applications, all aimed at enhancing transportation safety and efficiency. |
| Andres Regal | Andres Regal is a Ph.D. student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in the Transportation Engineering Program. His main research interests include freight transportation planning, transportation equity, machine learning, and reinforcement learning. He earned his undergraduate degree in Data Science from Universidad del Pacifico in Lima, Peru. His recent work is centered on applications of machine learning algorithms to freight demand management, focusing the location of delivery bays to reduce congestion and vehicle emissions. |
| David Rettig | David is an accomplished public-sector transportation leader with 35 years at NYSDOT, where he oversaw a \$3.2 billion capital program. He created traffic safety programs and managed strategic planning, funding, engineering, and policy. Since retiring, David has served the Port Authority of NYNJ, earning a 2023 National Roadway Safety Award for his work leading the Transportation Safety Improvement Program. He also led studies for Ann Arbor, HOCTC, and Safety Action Plans for Syracuse and Dutchess County. |
| Isabela Argentina Rodriguez | Isabela Argentina Rodriguez is a senior student at Syracuse University College of Engineering and Computer Science's Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. She worked as a transportation intern at the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and Mary Ann Shaw Center in Syracuse, and as a research assistant for SOURCE LaCasita team. She plans a career in transportation and contribute in sustainable solutions to real world problems. |
| Matthew Roe | Matthew Roe is a Transportation expert currently working at the Senior Associate of Mobility Planning & Design at Stantec. Previously he served as NACTO's technical lead to edit design guidance. He also previously worked as a Senior Planner and Research Manager at the NYCDOT. |
| Matthew Rycraft | Matthew Rycraft is a student at SUNY Polytechnic Institute majoring in Civil Engineering. Matthew is graduating in May of 2025. He has transportation research experience at SUNY Polytechnic Institute, construction inspection experience, and some design experience within the New York State Department of Transportation. |

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| Baris Salman | Baris Salman is an Assistant Professor in Syracuse University's Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. His research interests lie in the broad area of infrastructure asset management and execution of sustainable repair, rehabilitation, and replacement practices. He has been involved in research projects that focus on various aspects of management of water (drinking water, wastewater, stormwater) pipe networks and transportation systems (e.g., pavement, bridges, rail, airports). Some of his current projects focus on contractual provisions of accelerated bridge construction projects, geolocation of as-built record plans for transportation projects and improving water utility asset management practices in terms of social sustainability. His research is funded by various agencies including the Transportation Research Board, Water Research Foundation, and the New York State Department of Transportation. |
| Jared Sayles | Jared Sayles is a Senior Sustainable Mobility Specialist at ICF with more than 5 years of experience in TDM. He is currently serving the NYSDOT's Statewide Mobility Services Program and collaborates with employers, MPOs, and transit agencies throughout the State to develop innovative transportation solutions. |
| EunJin (E.J.) Shin | E.J. Shin navigates the intersection of qualitative and quantitative methodologies in both practice and theory, striving to bridge disciplines through logic-building and human-centered design. E.J. holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University at Buffalo and recently earned her Master of Architecture at GSAPP. She is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Civil Engineering at Columbia's Fu Foundation SEAS. Her work has been recognized through prestigious fellowships, including the Percival & Naomi Goodman Fellowship, the 2024 CRIT Scholar Award (in partnership with the American Institute of Architects), and the NYMTC/DOT 9/11 Memorial Fellowship. |
| Charles Christopher Sirey | Charles Christopher Sirey is a recent Syracuse University iSchool graduate with a degree in data analytics, originally from the San Francisco Bay Area. He has worked on several sustainability projects, both through school and with local municipalities. His professional interests lie in transportation, particularly public transit. Charles hopes to contribute to research that supports transit agencies across the country, aiming to improve systems through data-driven solutions. |

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| Colleen Smith-Lemmon | Colleen Smith-Lemmon has served as the Project Manager leading the development of the New York State Transportation Master Plan 2050. For over 17 years, she has served in the New York State Department of Transportation's Policy and Planning Division, where she supports efforts to related to Complete Streets, Active Transportation, climate change, and resiliency. |
| Alan Sorensen | Commissioner, Orange County Department of Planning & Development |
| Meghan Vitale | Meghan Vitale joined the SMTC in 2007 and is currently the agency's principal transportation planner. Meghan earned her undergraduate degree in civil engineering and also holds a Master's degree in urban planning and policy. Her work at SMTC has included land use-transportation studies, corridor studies, the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and numerous public involvement and outreach activities. Prior to joining the SMTC, Meghan worked in the private sector as a transportation planner and traffic engineer. |
| Elliot Wareham | Elliot Wareham is a NYMTC September 11th Memorial Fellow at the New York City Department of City Planning. He holds a bachelor's degree in geography from Macalester College will graduate from New York University's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service with a Master's of Urban Planning in May 2025. His principal interests lie at the intersection of sustainable mobility and the public realm. |
| Amy Weymouth | Weymouth is a Transportation Programs Manager at the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council, the metropolitan planning organization for Erie and Niagara Counties, with over 20 years of experience. |