

CITYAGE

EVENT SUMMARY REPORT

CITYAGE L.A.

SHAPING  
THE NEXT  
**LOS ANGELES**

MAY 25, 2023

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



**Deloitte.**

**CSUN**  
CALIFORNIA  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
NORTHRIE

# EVENT SUMMARY

**CityAge proudly returned to Los Angeles on May 25, gathering a diverse group of more than 120 visionaries and experts. Through panels, presentations, breakout discussions and Q&A, the event highlighted how LA and its region could lead the way in shaping the cities of tomorrow.**

The half-day summit focused on reimagining transit and mobility through innovative solutions and leveraging technology. Discussions revolved around revitalizing public-private partnerships, promoting environmental sustainability, exploring emerging urban innovations, fostering digital and physical connectivity, and prioritizing resiliency in infrastructure.

CityAge Los Angeles, sponsored by Deloitte, Supernal and California State University Northridge (CSUN), served as a catalyst for progress, driving the transformation of cities into vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive spaces. The collective expertise and shared vision of attendees laid the foundation for a future where cities thrive, and communities flourish.



# SPEAKERS INCLUDED



**GEOFFREY AX**  
Leader, Aviation Practice, America Populous



**JOEBEN BEVIRT**  
CEO, Joby Aviation



**MONICA BOULDIN**  
Deputy Chief, Customer Experience, LA Metro



**RICK COLE**  
Chief Deputy Controller, City of Los Angeles



**PAMELA FLETCHER**  
Senior Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer, Delta Air Lines



**NICK GRIFFIN**  
Executive Director, Downtown Center Business Improvement District



**JEANNE HOLM**  
Deputy Mayor for Budget & Innovation, City of Los Angeles



**ALEXANDER KAPUR**  
Partner, CityFi



**ADRIENNE LINDGREN**  
Head of City Activation, Supernal (Hyundai Motor Group)



**EMILIEN MARCHAND**  
Director, Ecosystem Partnerships, Wisk



**GENE OH**  
CEO, Tranzito



**CLAUDIA PRECIADO**  
Director of Growth, Replica



**JOHN ROSSANT**  
Chairman of NewCities Foundation; CEO of CoMotion



**STEPH STOPPENHAGEN**  
Sales Director - Connectivity, Commercial & Industrial, Black & Veatch



**RANDALL WINSTON**  
Deputy Mayor of Infrastructure, Office of Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass



**AMAR AZUCENA CID**  
Deputy Director Community Investments & Planning, California Strategic Growth Council



**MICHELLE BOEHM**  
Specialist Leader, California Transportation Lead, Deloitte



**STEPHEN CHEUNG**  
CEO, Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation



**JUSTIN ERBACCI**  
CEO, Los Angeles World Airports



**LEAH GOOLD-HAWS**  
President & CEO, Long Beach Economic Partnership



**STEVE HAMILTON**  
Senior Manager | West Coast Infrastructure Lead, Deloitte



**MATT HORTON**  
Director, State Policy and Initiatives, Accelerator for America



**MICHAEL KELLY**  
Executive Director, Los Angeles Coalition on Jobs and the Economy



**CONNIE LLANOS**  
Interim General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Transportation



**HILARY NORTON**  
California Transportation Commissioner, & Executive Director, FASTLinkDTLA



**MARK PESTRELLA**  
Director, Los Angeles County Public Works



**MONICA RODRIGUEZ**  
City Councilwoman, Los Angeles



**STEVEN SPINELLO**  
Partnerships Manager, Skyports



**GEOFF WARDLE**  
Executive Director, Graduate Transportation Systems and Design, ArtCenter College of Design

CityAge went beyond traditional presentations and panels by hosting engaging breakout sessions, conducted under the Chatham House Rule, to foster in-depth conversations and generate a comprehensive list of priorities specifically tailored to Los Angeles.

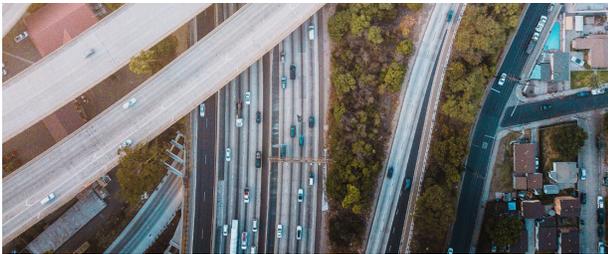
By encouraging group participation and networking, the breakout session ensured that all attendees had their voice heard and contributed to a collaborative discussion.

## These are the questions that attendees deliberated upon during the four CityAge Los Angeles Breakout Sessions



### CHANGING HOW WE FLY

Advocates for “flying taxis” and other Electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing aircrafts (eVTOLs) predict they’ll change life and transportation in LA. How might their development specifically impact your daily life? Where do you see the uses and who will use them? Do you think LA will be a world leader? Why, or why not?



### RE-THINKING LA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Los Angeles has an opportunity to use the upcoming World Cup and Olympic Games to reinvigorate its infrastructure. Give us a list of what new infrastructure LA should prioritize with these opportunities. For example: Highways, Bike/Scooter lanes, EVTOL stations, Improved water systems.



### GOING FOR THE GOLD IN TRANSPORTATION

Los Angeles is committing \$120 billion to transportation funding. It’s also been a leader in new transportation models. How can we use that injection of capital to improve public transportation? Which new technologies should we invest in? Where is the greatest need?



### DATA-SHARING

For years now we’ve been told how powerful data can be. But data loses much of its value if it’s not shared (in a secure way, of course). What are the limitations to data-sharing in general, and specifically in Los Angeles? What can be done to encourage it? And what will be the top 2-3 benefits of using data to build a more livable city?

## These are the ideas and calls to action CityAge Los Angeles attendees who participated in the breakout sessions shared with us:

### CHANGING HOW WE FLY

Emerging technologies are transforming the way we travel, particularly in the aviation sector. However, the potential impact on daily life and the existing infrastructure pose a significant challenge. The advent of electric flying taxis promises potential benefits like decreased traffic congestion and faster commutes, but also raises concerns such as noise pollution, disruption of natural ecosystems, and the feasibility of integrating these vehicles into the current power grid.

Los Angeles, as a dense population center, might emerge as a potential market for these flying taxis, especially for commuting. However, the city's ability to become a world leader in this technology is questionable due to current infrastructure limitations and energy demands.

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*“LA’s potential to become a world leader in commuting is uncertain. The current infrastructure is ill-equipped to handle the surging energy demands of the growing EV industry.”*

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#### CALLS TO ACTION:

- Address urban infrastructure challenges: Given the existing struggles with charging electric vehicles, immediate attention should be given to assessing and upgrading power systems to support the widespread adoption of electric flying taxis. Investment in infrastructure upgrades and smart grid technologies is essential to ensure seamless integration of these new modes of transportation.
- Promote equitable access to electric flying taxis: To prevent the potential exacerbation of social stratification, it is crucial to prioritize accessibility and affordability of electric flying taxis. Policymakers, industry leaders, and transportation advocates must work together to develop inclusive strategies that ensure a diverse range of individuals can benefit from this transformative technology.
- Optimize space allocation through collaboration: The establishment of heliports for electric flying taxis presents an opportunity for productive public-private partnerships. However, careful consideration of land use and urban planning is vital to strike a balance between efficient utilization of limited space and maintaining the integrity of city cores. Collaborative efforts between government entities, private sector stakeholders, and urban planners can help identify suitable locations and design sustainable infrastructure solutions.

# GOING FOR THE GOLD IN TRANSPORTATION

Utilizing capital investments to improve public transportation is essential. Our focus should be on aspects like safety, cleanliness, accessibility, reliability, and the elimination of barriers between communities. The goal should be to provide a service that is cheaper, faster, and more convenient than alternatives.

The greatest need for improvements is in accessibility and comfort of the stations, mobile access, and solutions for the “last mile” problem.

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*“Removing barriers and enabling smoother transfers between communities is vital. To truly improve public transportation, it must be cheaper, faster, and more convenient than other alternatives.”*

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## CALLS TO ACTION:

- Prioritize faster and more convenient transportation options: Invest in technologies like information sharing systems and Wi-Fi connectivity in metro links to enhance speed and convenience for commuters. Improved connectivity can boost productivity and enhance travel experiences.
- Improve multimodal infrastructure: Enhance connectivity and integration between different modes of transportation by developing e-bike infrastructure, dedicated bus lanes, and coordinated signal timing. These initiatives will facilitate smoother traffic flow and offer more convenient travel options.
- Foster collaboration in planning and implementation: Collaborate among government agencies, transportation authorities, and urban planners to effectively implement technologies and infrastructure upgrades. Prioritize investments, align policies, and ensure seamless integration of various transportation solutions. This collaborative approach will lead to an efficient and interconnected transportation system, enhancing the speed and convenience of travel for all commuters.



# RE-THINKING LA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

A reimagined infrastructure could incorporate data integration into roadways, improved mobility services, bike/scooter lanes, EVTOL stations, and enhanced EV charging plans.

Furthermore, improvements in water systems such as drip systems, AI-driven innovations, and other initiatives that address water supply and power infrastructure can ensure a sustainable future. Using solar power for bus stops and reconsidering power infrastructure are other considerations.

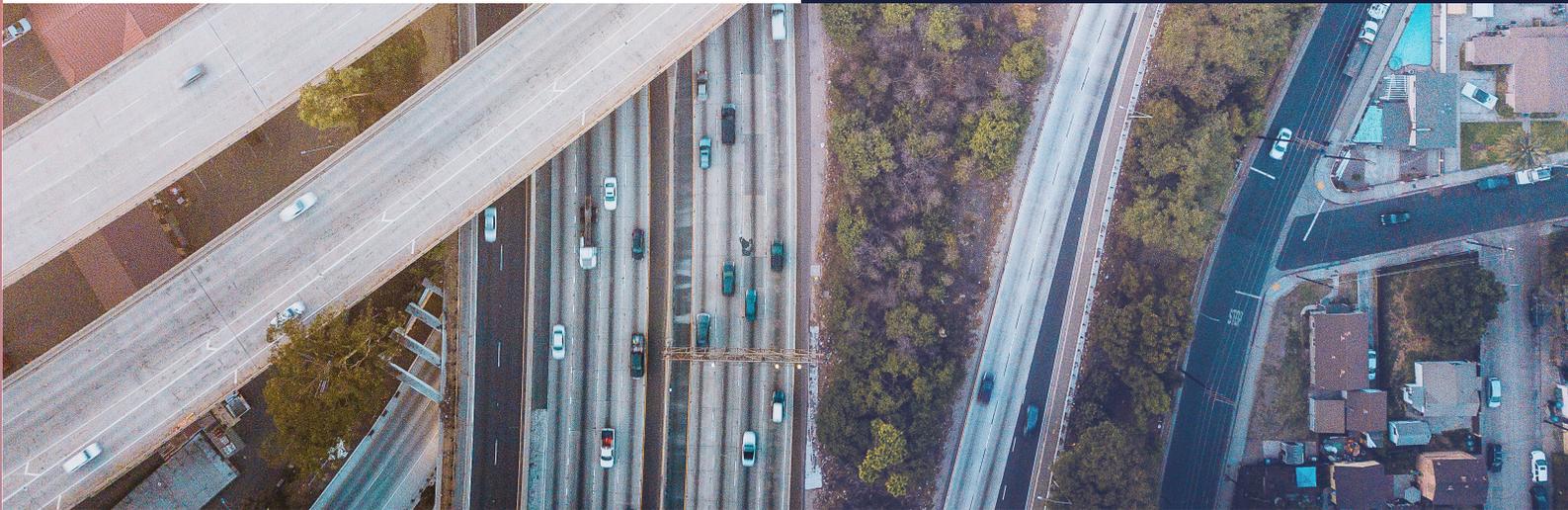
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*“Integration of data into roadways, improved mobility services, dedicated bike/scooter lanes, EVTOL stations, and robust EV charging plans; all of it shapes a more connected and sustainable future.”*

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## CALLS TO ACTION:

- Enhance highways through data integration for optimized traffic flow and prioritize sustainable transportation alternatives, particularly in the context of a car-free Olympics.
- Allocate funding for infrastructure development, including bike/scooter lanes, and leverage data to improve safety measures. Encourage private sector investments in these areas to drive progress.
- Focus on power infrastructure readiness to support the increasing demand for electric vehicles (EVs). Invest in EV charging stations and diversify fuel access options to promote widespread adoption and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Collaborate with government bodies, utilities, and private stakeholders to ensure successful implementation.



# DATA-SHARING

Data-sharing is a powerful tool, but it comes with significant challenges. Issues include lack of trust, non-standardized data coding, lack of incentives, and difficulties integrating with legacy systems.

The benefits of data-sharing can be significant, such as more efficient transportation, informed decision-making, targeted investment, real-time issue response, and better city planning. Data can be an instrumental tool in making Los Angeles a more liveable city.

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*“One thing’s for sure: harnessing data in city planning fosters a more livable and sustainable urban environment.”*

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## CALLS TO ACTION:

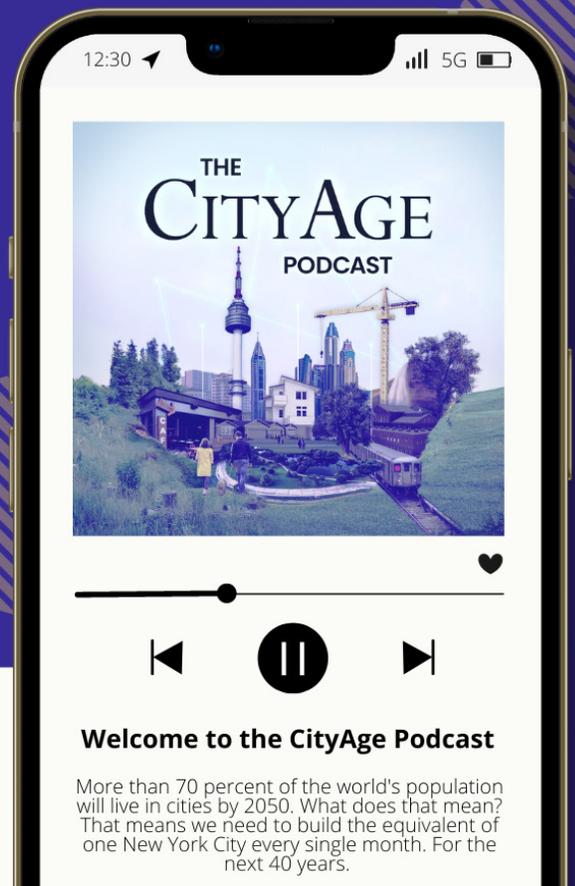
- Enable compensation and monetization of personal data: Develop strategies that allow individuals to benefit from sharing their personal data by providing compensation or enabling them to monetize it. This approach can incentivize data sharing and encourage individuals to actively participate in data-sharing initiatives.
- Foster cross-platform collaboration and streamline data sharing: Promote collaboration between different platforms and stakeholders to facilitate seamless data sharing. Establish a simple and standardized process for sharing data, making it easier for organizations to exchange information. By reducing barriers and complexity, more comprehensive and valuable datasets can be generated, leading to improved insights and solutions.
- Build public trust and involve the community in solution development: Emphasize transparency and accountability in data-sharing practices to build trust among the public. Engage the community by involving them in the development of solutions that utilize shared data. This participatory approach ensures that the interests and concerns of individuals are considered, fostering a sense of ownership and cooperation.



# THE CITYAGE PODCAST



ON ALL MAJOR PLATFORMS



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CityAge Media brings together a community of private- and public-sector leaders who are building the future of our cities and our planet. Through in-person and digital events, along with original content, research, videos, eBooks and the [CityAge Podcast](#), CityAge highlights the ideas, people and technologies solving some of society's biggest challenges and creating new opportunities at the intersection of technology, infrastructure and design.

In 2023, CityAge will host in-person events in Toronto, Los Angeles, Vancouver, Washington, DC, Ottawa, Atlanta, Houston and New York City. Established in Vancouver in 2012, CityAge has hosted more than 100 events with the [world's leading brands](#) and urban leaders, curating networks of people to create public interest and drive stakeholder engagement. For more information about our upcoming events and to see our original content, visit [cityage.com](#).

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