

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



Hon. Elaine Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation

Secretary Elaine Chao is currently the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. This is her second cabinet position. She served as U.S. Secretary of Labor from 2001 to January 2009 and is the first Asian American woman to be appointed to the President's cabinet in American history.

Secretary Chao comes to the U.S. Department of Transportation with extensive experience in the transportation sector. Early in her career, she specialized in transportation financing in the private sector. She began her executive career in public service working on transportation issues at the White House. She then served as Deputy Maritime Administrator, U. S. Department of Transportation, Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, and Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. As U.S. Secretary of Transportation, she is a strong advocate for safety, and the importance of infrastructure and innovation in our nation's economic competitiveness and growth.

Secretary Chao has a distinguished career in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. An immigrant who arrived in America at the age of eight speaking no English, she received her citizenship at the age of 19. Her experience transitioning to a new country has motivated her to devote most of her professional life to ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to build better lives for themselves and their families. As U.S. Secretary of Labor, she focused on increasing the competitiveness of America's workforce in a global economy, promoted job training, and set new records in workplace safety and health.

Prior to the Department of Labor, Secretary Chao was President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of America, where she restored public trust and confidence in one of America's premier institutions of private charitable giving, after it had been tarnished by financial mismanagement and abuse. Secretary Chao also served as Director of the Peace Corps, where she established the first programs in the Baltic nations and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Secretary Chao earned her MBA from the Harvard Business School and an economics degree from Mount Holyoke College. Honored for her extensive record of accomplishments and public service, she is the recipient of 37 honorary doctorate degrees.

Secretary Chao is a resident of Jefferson County, Kentucky. Prior to her appointment as Secretary of Transportation, she was a Distinguished Fellow at Hudson Institute. She is the eldest of six daughters born to Dr. James S.C. Chao and the late Mrs. Ruth Mulan Chu Chao.

WELCOME REMARKS



Phillip A. Washington

CEO, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Board Member, Mobility 21

As Metro's CEO, Phil manages a balanced budget in excess of \$7 billion, is responsible for overseeing between \$18- \$20 billion in capital projects, and provides oversight of an agency with 11,000 employees that transports 1.2 million boarding passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean-air buses and six rail lines. Metro is the lead transportation planning, programming and financing agency for LA County. As such, it is a major construction agency that oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related infrastructure projects – together representing the largest modern public works program in North America. Phil is also engaged and partnering in all facets of transportation and infrastructure in LA County, including aviation, goods movement, freight/railroads, water, public works, housing and transit-oriented communities (TOCs).

Phil was a key leader in the 2016 successful effort to pass Measure M, a half-cent sales tax in LA County (the most populated county in the United States), which garnered 71.15% voter approval. Measure M will allow Metro to build 40 major highway and transit projects over the next 40 years, create 778,000 jobs and provide \$133.3 billion in economic impact for the region. Measure M has no sunset and will only end if voters vote to end it. Phil came to Los Angeles from Denver, where he served as the CEO of Denver Regional Transportation District between 2009 and 2015. He was previously the assistant general manager of RTD for nearly 10 years before being named CEO.

In Denver, Phil led and implemented the FasTracks program, one of the largest voter approved transportation expansion programs in the country. Under his leadership, Denver's West Corridor Rail Line project was completed under budget and eight months earlier than scheduled, and the award-winning Denver Union Station project was completed five months early and is now realizing tremendous revenue and value capture from the surrounding development. Also in Denver, Phil implemented the nation's first and only \$2.2 billion transit public-private partnership (P3), which opened in 2016 and is in operation and exceeding ridership estimates. His emphasis on measuring and managing agency performance led to 90%+ on-time bus and rail service and 96% ADA on-time performance.

Phil has received numerous prestigious assignments and honors. In 2019, he testified before the full U.S. Congressional Transportation and Infrastructure committee, was honored with the Eddy Award for Outstanding Leadership in Economic development and was awarded the prestigious CORO Crystal Eagle Award for a "Legacy of Leadership." In 2018, he was awarded the Honorable Ray LaHood Award (former U.S. Secretary of Transportation) by the national Women in Transportation Seminar (WTS) for his outstanding contribution in promoting opportunities to advance and advocate for women in the transportation industry. In 2017, he was presented with the Judge Harry Pregerson Public Service Award for his service to U.S. military veterans and was honored with the Norman Mineta Award for exceptional leadership in the transportation industry.

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In 2016, he was chosen by the National Safety Council as one of the CEOs Who “Get It” – an honor bestowed on CEOs who demonstrate leadership in safety at the highest levels. In 2014, he was selected by the editors of Engineering News-Record as one of the Top 25 Newsmakers of 2013. Phil was also named 2013-2014 Outstanding Public Transportation CEO of the Year in North America by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). In 2012, President Obama named him a White House Transportation Innovators Champion of Change.

In 2009, he was appointed by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter to serve on the State of Colorado’s Workforce Development Council to help the state create a 21st century workforce. And, in 2007, he was appointed by the mayor of Denver to head the Host Transportation Committee for the 2008 Democratic National Convention. Originally from the South Side of Chicago – the Chicago housing projects of Altgeld Gardens – Phil is a 24-year veteran of the United States Army, where he held the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer rank an enlisted soldier can achieve. He retired from active duty, is a disabled veteran and was awarded the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal for exceptional service to his country. He holds a B.A. in Business from Columbia College, an M.A. in Management from Webster University and is a graduate of the Harvard University Kennedy School for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. He is also a past chair of APTA and a former member of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board and the Eno Center for Transportation.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



Hon. Eric Garcetti

Chairman, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Mayor, City of Los Angeles

Mayor Eric Garcetti is a fourth-generation Angeleno and the 42nd Mayor of Los Angeles. Born and raised in the San Fernando Valley — the son of public servants and the grandson and great-grandson of immigrants from Mexico and Eastern Europe — Mayor Garcetti’s life has been shaped by a deep commitment to the core values of justice, dignity, and equality for all people.

These ideals have fueled the Mayor’s relentless drive to fulfill our common obligation: to give children and families of every race, faith, background, and income the chance to get a good education, live on safe streets, earn a decent wage, breathe clean air, drink clean water, receive affordable medical and child care, and build a future of their own choosing.

Angelenos are experiencing the remarkable results of his vision and leadership: Mayor Garcetti led and won a campaign to pass the boldest local infrastructure initiative in American history, funding a once-in-a-generation expansion of public transportation. He launched the L.A. College Promise, one of the most ambitious higher education access programs in the nation — serving more than 15,000 students, many of whom are overcoming poverty and are the first in their families to pursue the dream of higher education. He is confronting a homelessness crisis by leading an unprecedented regional alliance committed to getting people off the streets and ending chronic homelessness. He put more money in workers’ pockets by raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and cut business taxes to help drive a historic economic recovery that has

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created a record number of jobs in legacy industries like entertainment and aerospace. And in 2018, he formed a historic partnership with the philanthropic sector to refurbish nearly 350 athletic courts across the city — to support his plan for universal sports and fitness programs that are both free and local for all children in Los Angeles.

The Mayor's leadership is making an extraordinary impact on the national and international stages: he rallied more than 400 mayors in cities across America to adopt the Paris Climate agreement after the Trump Administration pulled out of the pact. He led the first National Day of Action on Immigration and has put unprecedented local resources toward providing Dreamers and others with legal aid to fight deportation. He signed America's strongest earthquake retrofit law to protect thousands of people's lives from natural disaster. And he successfully led the bid to bring the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games to the United States for the first time in more than 30 years. He has lived and worked in Europe, Asia, and Africa and appointed Los Angeles' first Deputy Mayor for International Affairs to expand L.A.'s global ties and bring more jobs, economic opportunity, culture, education, and visitors to the city.

While Mayor Garcetti has taken on these enormous challenges, he has also reimagined how city government delivers the most basic services. Since July 2013, L.A. has paved 14,750 lane miles of road; cut the average pothole repair time by half; implemented a \$1.4 billion plan to repair every sidewalk in every community, and greatly expanded the number of trees in neighborhoods across the city. He created Clean Streets L.A. — a block-by-block assessment of 9,100 miles of streets that identifies neighborhoods with the most needs and prioritizes delivery of resources. Under his leadership, L.A. has been rated the nation's best-run city by the Bloomberg What Works Cities initiative and become the number-one solar energy city in America.

The Mayor's government service began on the L.A. City Council, where he spent four terms as Council President before being elected Mayor in 2013 and winning re-election in 2017 by the widest margin in the history of Los Angeles.

Beyond his time at City Hall, Mayor Garcetti has served his country as an intelligence officer in the United States Navy Reserve and taught at the University of Southern California and Occidental College.

The Mayor received his B.A. and M.A. from Columbia University, and studied as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, and later at the London School of Economics. He is also a jazz pianist and photographer.

He and his wife, First Lady Amy Elaine Wakeland, are the proud parents of a daughter, Maya, and have been foster parents for more than a decade.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS



Scott Zimmer

Keynote Speaker & Consultant, BridgeWorks

A proud Xer, Scott is one of BridgeWorks' speakers and generational experts. He crafts presentations to clearly illustrate the stress points between generations, and seeks to provide straightforward solutions to help relieve tension and encourage better understanding and collaboration across generational divides.

With 15 years of public speaking experience, Scott has developed a uniquely personable style using insight, humor, and data to foster an environment where every generation feels valued and understood.

A child of the 80s and 90s, Scott has insider knowledge into what makes his generation tick. Along with the other Xers at BridgeWorks, Scott's love of nostalgia, surrounding characters like Atari and He-Man, knows no bounds. He's put his knowledge of pop culture and expertise on generational theory to good use by developing BridgeWorks' generational trivia show. When he's not on the road, Scott is the office jokester who brings contagious optimism and hilarious childhood stories to BW HQ.

Scott grew up on a dairy farm in central Minnesota where he mastered the art of milking cows. He graduated from St. John's University in 2000 with a BA in communications. When he's not researching or presenting, he enjoys his other role as a self-proclaimed movie-buff and always knows the latest happenings in the Twin Cities.