

2014 PM 4 Breakout Session Recap

PM 4: Complete Streets: Pros, Cons and Realities Tied to Limited Transportation Funding

Moderator:

Madeline Brozen, Program Manager, Complete Streets Initiative, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

Panelists:

- Coleen Clementson, Principal regional Planner, San Diego Association of Governments
- Charlie Gandy, Livable Communities, Inc.
- Tom Kirk, Executive Director, Coachella Valley Association of Governments
- Seleta Reynolds, General Manager, Los Angeles Department of Transportation

Summary

In this session, panelists reviewed the importance that streets in our cities and towns play in the livability of our communities. Streets need to be for everyone, whether young or old, motorist or bicyclist, walk or wheelchair user, bus rider or shopkeeper. Panelists discussed how SB 375 and the newly created statewide Active Transportation Program play into their collective approach, while pointing out the pros and cons and how to balance the need for complete streets against limited funding.

Takeaway

Each organization had a different approach with the same end goals. Each of them struggle with the same road blocks and issues at the ground level. However each of them has different solutions to attack the same issues, since they have different cities, demographics and needs for their particular population.

Funding is the biggest and most difficult obstacle for everyone. Each of them has found ways to tackle and get appropriate funding in different more effective ways for them. No two were alike, yet with the same ideals, they all had similar outcomes with creative funding. Working together to create the same goals and sharing funding ideas while pairing the project and goals with the correct initiative can help create complete streets and drive economic development.