We are looking for planners, architects, landscape architects, developers, and academics and anyone that is thinking about the secondary impacts of emerging technologies — autonomous vehicles, the sharing economy, and E-commerce — on land use, urban design, transportation, and real estate markets and the implications for equity, the environment, the economy, and governance.
THE URBANISM NEXT CONFERENCE

Advances in technology such as the advent of autonomous vehicles (AVs), the rise of E-commerce, and the proliferation of the sharing economy are having profound effects not only on how we live, move, and spend our time in cities, but also increasingly on urban form and development. While there has been a focused effort on research around the technological aspects of AVs, there has been a shortage of systematic exploration of the secondary effects on city development, form, and design, and the implications for sustainability, resiliency, equity, cost, and general livability.

The Sustainable Cities Initiative at the University of Oregon has partnered with the National and Oregon Chapters of the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the Urban Land Institute to build a national network of thought leaders from the private sector, public sector, and academia to address these topics.

With this goal in mind, we are bringing leaders from around the country to Portland, OR to partake in the first annual Urbanism Next Conference. This conference will bring together a truly interdisciplinary group of people from the private, public and academic sectors who play a critical role in the future of our cities. The conference will explore five major themes of how technology related to AVs, the sharing economy, and E-commerce will change our communities: Land Use, Urban Design, Transportation, Real Estate, and Policy and Finance.

We now need you to help create the agenda. No one has all the answers, but we do need to be asking the right questions. We are looking for session proposals from practitioners and academics that are dealing with the impacts of technology right now and planning for the impacts to come. From being a test site for AV’s, to adopting regulations related to short-term rentals, to communities that have experienced shuttered malls, we need your sessions to understand the breadth and depth of the change that technology is creating, or is likely to create in the future.

You are invited to submit one of two types of proposals: a 75-minute panel session or a half-day charrette/workshop. We encourage proposers to recruit speakers from a wide range of disciplines that address issues that planners, urban designers, architects, landscape architects, developers, and decision makers will all grapple with sooner than later.
Panel Sessions

Panel sessions will explore issues that technology will create in one of the five major themes. Sessions will be 75 minutes long. We are looking for sessions that explore the impacts on a variety of issues, including (but not limited to):

- Effects on parking
- Land use changes (AV, E-commerce, warehousing, etc.)
- Land valuation
- Municipal budgets
- Overall economic impacts (disruptions)
- Street design
- Effects on mode choice
- Effects on traffic/VMT
- Metropolitan footprint effects
- Effects on transit
- Effects of shared vs. privately owned
- Equity concerns – impacts on different populations
- Regulatory levers/advice/best practices/what we learned
- Labor concerns
- Health outcomes

Workshop/Charrettes

Workshop/charrettes will be in-depth events that will guide 40-60 participants through the issues that an agency or organization must grapple with related to at least one technology, and ideally multiple themes. For example, how should a transit district respond and adapt to ride-share and AVs to ensure it can continue to provide transit service in the future? What policies and plans related to parking must be updated? What programs will be needed to remove barriers created by emerging technologies for low income households? How will our streets need to be redesigned?

Workshop/charrette organizers can ask participants to help think through the issues that they must grapple with and brainstorm how the issues will manifest on the ground. For example, how will the technology impact placemaking, street design, or transit planning, while taking into account issues related to equity?

Note that conference organizers are looking for charrette topics from around the country as well as in the Pacific Northwest. While workshop/charrettes will undoubtedly relate to local issues, they should be framed in a way that allows a national audience to engage and bring lessons learned back to their own localities.

Registration Policies

Speakers qualify to attend the conference for free the day they are speaking. If they wish to attend the other two days, they can register for a discounted rate.

Proposal Submission Requirements

Please include the following elements in your proposal:

- Indicate whether you are submitting a session or workshop/charrette
- Theme: Land Use, Urban Design, Transportation, Real Estate, Governance
- Title
- Brief description (one sentence)
- Long Description (150 words)
- Speakers (name, title, organization, brief bio)

Deadline for Proposals

Proposals are due Monday, November 6, 2017 (11:59 pm, PST).

Questions or to Submit a Proposal

Contact Becky Steckler, AICP, Urbanism Next Program Manager, beckys@uoregon.edu or (503) 889-6536.