



INNOVATION INVITATIONAL

July 29-31 | San Antonio, TX

JULY 29

TECH SHOWCASE

Location: Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center | 900 E Market St.

10:00 AM | Tech Showcase Opens to All Attendees

Interactive demonstrations open to all Texas Innovation Invitational attendees and the public.

Policymakers, media, and TxDOT leadership may request a personalized tour of interactive demonstrations.

STEM Day

TxDOT and greater: SATX are hosting middle school and high school organizations associated with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) to generate excitement and awareness around Texas transportation and the future workforce. Join us for an interactive, hands-on learning experience!

3:45 PM | Tech Showcase Closes

Location: Grand Hyatt Riverwalk | 600 E Market St.

4:00 PM | Welcome Reception

Network with attendees.

4:30 PM | Welcoming Remarks

Brandye Hendrickson, TxDOT
Cat Hernandez, City of San Antonio
Brian Dillard, VIA Metropolitan Transit

5:00 PM | Welcome Reception Continues

6:30 PM | Adjourn

Confirmed Participating Organizations

Zone 1: Autonomous Vehicle Drive

1. Mozee
2. Avride
3. Cruise
4. Torc

Zone 2: San Antonio Innovation District

5. San Antonio Fire Department
6. San Antonio Aviation Department
7. PortSA
8. San Antonio Police Department
10. Southwest Research Institute

Zone 3: ITS Central

11. AECOM
34. TxDOT/ACC
13. Blyncsy
14. Flow Labs
15. Geotech Engineering & Testing
16. Go Motive
17. Headlight
18. Pi-Lit
19. Dell
20. Rekor
21. Site 20/20
22. StreetLight
23. Streetline
24. Texas Highway Products
25. TopoDOT
26. Viva

Zone 4: Drone Zone & Statewide Innovation

12. AllTerra
27. TxDPS
28. ESP Associates
29. TxDOT
30. LithTec
31. Stripe-a-Zone

Zone 5: Micromobility

32. MOD Bikes
33. UTSA Scooter Lab



JULY 30

CONFERENCE

7:30 AM | Breakfast & Registration – Lone Star DEF

8:30 AM | Welcome – Lone Star Ballroom

Shelley Row, Blue Fjord Leaders

8:35 AM | Opening Remarks

Erika Kemp and Charles Benavides, TxDOT
Councilwoman Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, City of San Antonio

9:00 AM | TECH FORECAST: Transportation Innovations

David Zipper, MIT Mobility Initiative

9:15 AM | FIRESIDE CHAT: Linking Transportation & Economic Development

Moderator: David Zipper, MIT Mobility Initiative
Justine Johnson, MEDC
Jim Perschbach, PortSA

9:45 AM | PANEL: Growth, Affordability, & Innovation

Moderator: Trish DeBerry, Centro
Henry Cisneros, American Triple I, former HUD Secretary
Emily Royall, City of San Antonio
Beto Altamirano, Irys

10:30 AM | Break

10:50 AM | Innovating Together: A Collaborative Approach to Digital Infrastructure

Beth Kigel, HNTB

11:00 AM | PANEL: Connected & Automated Future

Moderator: Adrian Pearmine, STV
Senator Robert Nichols, Texas Senate
Senator Kelly Hancock, Texas Senate
Jennifer Harris, US Department of Commerce
Jamila Gomez, Houston METRO
Anita Kim, Torc Robotics

12:00 PM | Lunch – Lone Star DEF

1:00 PM | Kickoff – Lone Star Ballroom

Ileana Gonzalez, San Antonio Tech Bloc

1:15 PM | Industry Lightning Round

Facilitator: Ileana Gonzalez, San Antonio Tech Bloc

CAV	MaaS	Data
Mozeer	MOD Bikes	StreetLight
Avride	Metropia	Ouster
Spoke	eCab	Viva

2:00 PM | WORLD CUP 2026: Texas Goes Big

Moderator: Carlo Capua, City of Fort Worth
Ann Foss, City of Arlington
Monica Paul, Dallas Sports Commission
Gaston Kelly, Uber Transit

3:00 PM | Transitional Remarks

3:15 PM | Break

3:30 PM | Breakout Sessions

Participants meet in working groups to tackle key issues.

Breakout 1: Automated Systems – Lone Star D

Dive into new developments in automated systems, including surface and aerial transportation.

Facilitator: Josh Johnson, SwRI

Part 1: Surface

Chief Andre Jordan,
Austin Fire Department
VW
Scott Campbell, Waymo
Greg Ramsey, City of
Peachtree Corners

Part 2: Air

Greg Whiting, Texas Military
Department
Sgt. Miles McPeak, SAPD
Evan Panfil, Fotokite

Breakout 2: Data & Traffic Operations – Lone Star E

Learn about the latest trends in big data and artificial intelligence from public and industry perspectives.

Facilitator: Bobby McCurdy, ITS America

Part 1: Public

Michael Pack, CATT Lab
Jorge Riveros, City of
Phoenix
Steve Novosad,
HNTB/THEA

Part 2: Industry

Brock Aun, HAAS Alert
Erin Johnson, Replica
Brenda Columbus, Drivewyze
Nathan Wade, Flow Labs

Breakout 3: Energy – Lone Star F

Discover how electrification and hydrogen are driving energy transitions in light- and heavy-duty markets.

Facilitator: Michael Chamberlain, TxDOT

Part 1: Light Duty

Lori Clark, NCTCOG
Joseph Barletta,
SmartCharge America

Part 2: Heavy Duty

Faye Farahmand, STV
Momoko Tamaoki, San Joaquin
Regional Rail Commission
Niklas Reinedahl, Einride

Breakout 4: Grant Readiness – Bowie

Gain tips and tricks for applying to federal grants from past awardees and drop by open office hours to have your questions answered by technical experts.

Facilitator: Kate Burns, Metrolab

Part 1: Overview & Case Studies

Linda Alvarado-Vela,
Cambridge Systematics
Jolene Hayes, Fehr & Peers
Megan McNamara, StreetLight
David Bemporad, RS&H

Part 2: Office Hours

Grant experts are available to answer specific questions.

5:00 PM | Adjourn



JULY 31

PITCH PRESENTATIONS

8:00 AM | Breakfast – Lone Star DEF

9:00 AM | Opening Remarks – Lone Star Ballroom

Shelley Row, Blue Fjord Leaders
Henry Cisneros, American Triple I, former HUD Secretary

9:15 AM | Meet the Experts

The panel of experts introduce themselves:

Darran Anderson, TxDOT
Caroline Mays, TxDOT
Kirk Steudle, Steudle Executive Group
David Zipper, MIT Mobility Initiative
Lora Byala, Foursquare ITP

9:30 AM | TEAM SHOWCASE: Part 1

Teams deliver presentations and receive feedback:

Team Arlington
Team Austin
Team Bryan-College Station
Team El Paso
Team Fort Worth

10:30 AM | Break

10:45 AM | TEAM SHOWCASE: Part 2

Teams deliver presentations and receive feedback:

Team Permian Basin
Team San Antonio
Team San Marcos
Team Tyler

11:45 AM | Networking Activity

Shelley Row, Blue Fjord Leaders

12:15 PM | S.T.A.R. Award Ceremony

Pitch competition winners are announced.

Shelley Row, Blue Fjord Leaders
Erika Kemp, TxDOT

12:30 PM | Adjourn

S.T.A.R. Pitch Competition Criteria Smart Transportation & Advanced Roadway

Challenge Definition – Is the community challenge clearly identified, articulated, and appropriately?

Goal Alignment – Does the proposed solution support TxDOT and [Technology and Innovation Deployment Program \(TIDP\) goals](#)?

Effective Collaboration – Are the necessary public and private partners actively engaged?

Innovation, Data Management, and Technical Merit – Is the solution innovative? Is there a data management strategy in place? Does the team have the required expertise?

Broader Impacts and Performance Measurement – How does the proposed solution benefit the local community? Is the solution scalable and replicable to other communities?

S.T.A.R. Awards

TxDOT is pleased to announce **up to three winners** at the 2024 Texas Innovation Invitational. Winners will receive the prestigious STAR award and recognition.

STIC Incentive Program Eligibility

Requirements for eligibility of a project or activity:

- Must have a statewide impact in fostering a culture for innovation or in making an innovation a standard practice.
- Align with TIDP goals.
- Be eligible for Federal-aid assistance and adhere to applicable federal requirements.
- Start as soon as practical (within 12 months) after notification of approval and the funds must be expended within two years.

Eligible projects will be submitted to TxDOT for consideration for the State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) incentive annual program and an opportunity to receive up to \$125,000 in grant funds. Twenty percent matching funds will be provided by a state-designated passthrough entity (e.g., TxDOT).

FHWA will announce **one recipient** of the STIC incentive program funds in Fall 2024. The recipient shall work with TxDOT to execute an agreement in compliance with FHWA requirements.

For more information about the STIC incentive program requirements, click here:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/stic/guidance.cfm>



MEET THE EXPERTS



DARRAN ANDERSON | Director of Strategy & Innovation, TxDOT

Darran Anderson oversees the Strategic Initiatives and Innovation as well as Research and Technology Implementation Divisions of TxDOT. He is also responsible for coordinating TxDOT's strategies and performance analytics. His experience extends across the areas of leadership, strategic planning, operations, portfolio and project management, technology programs, training, tests, experimentation, and modeling and simulation.



CAROLINE MAYS | Director of Planning and Modal Programs, TxDOT

Caroline Mays is responsible for the management of the Aviation, Maritime, Public Transportation, Rail, and Transportation Planning and Programming Divisions. Mays is a nationally recognized leader experienced in multimodal transportation planning and programming, policy, and project development. She was instrumental in developing TxDOT's statewide multimodal freight, international trade, corridor planning programs, first multimodal Freight Mobility Plan, and the Texas-Mexico Border Transportation Master Plan.



KIRK STEUDLE | President, Steudle Executive Group

Kirk Steudle served as director of Michigan DOT from 2006 until 2018, spanning two administrations, an unprecedented tenure in the department's modern era. As a nationally recognized thought leader in the deployment of connected and automated vehicles, Steudle helped open the 32-acre Mcity at the University of Michigan, dedicated to researching the technology. Steudle served as president and on the AASHTO Board of Directors, chair of the ITS America Board of Directors, and as a member of the TRB executive committee.



DAVID ZIPPER | Senior Fellow, MIT Mobility Initiative

David Zipper examines the interplay between transportation policy, technology, and society. Zipper's perspectives are rooted in his experience working within city hall as well as being a venture capitalist and startup advisor. He has consulted with numerous startups and public officials about regulatory strategy. Zipper previously served as the Director of Business Development and Strategy under two mayors in Washington, DC, where he led support to Washington's first startup incubators and guided the city's response to the emergence of ride hail.



LORA BYALA | President & CEO, Foursquare ITP

Lora Byala, AICP founded Foursquare ITP in 2006. As President & CEO, she emphasizes the value of data, innovation, and meaningful input from a variety of stakeholders. She is developing TxDOT's statewide active transportation plan, works with several Texas transit agencies, has led several Transit Cooperative Research Program studies, and is an active member of the TRB committee on Bus Transit Systems. With more than 25 years of experience in the transportation field, Byala is a recognized expert in transit planning and transportation strategic planning.