



URBAN FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Introduction

Hello everyone! ..and greetings from Kendall Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where I work. I currently serve as the Vice Chair of the Committee



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Professional Background

I have worked in US Department of Transportation's Volpe National Transportation Systems Center for over 30 years, primarily in the area of organization development. Being part of fee-for-service government agency, we at Volpe work on a wide range of projects for clients at all levels of government (e.g., federal, state, MPO, local). My experience spans projects such as helping a state DOT and MPO find ways to collaborate more effectively around freight issues, serving as a neutral third-party resolving conflict among a wide range of parties near a large port, conducting a formal program evaluation of a rail trespass prevention program, and assessing the effectiveness of regional transportation security cooperation in a large metropolitan area. I particularly enjoy making sense of complex, messy systems and people issues, and bringing together stakeholders with diverse viewpoints to reach common ground. I have a master's degree in regional planning from UNC in Chapel Hill, and doctorate in applied behavioral science from MIT. In the last six years I've had increasing opportunity to apply my skills to freight-related issues. With increasing national attention to freight, I expect that to continue.

TRB Involvement

I've been coming to TRB meetings since grad school at MIT and been active in a number of committees since then, including Traveler Behavior and Values, Strategic Management, Management and Productivity, Transportation Programming and Investment Decision-Making, Large Cities, and now Urban Freight Transportation. It has been a great pleasure to work with our Chair, Ted Dahlburg, as well as many other members and friends of the Urban Freight Committee – particularly on ways to foster collaboration among researchers and practitioners, and to spur the adoption of innovative practices.

Personal Note

I'm from western Michigan originally, spent three years working in Germany (where I got into transportation) and have lived most of my adult life in New England. Free time often finds me cycling, swimming, cross-country skiing, as well as growing things in our vegetable patch. Since I enjoy learning about cultures and languages, travel is high on my list of fun things to do.