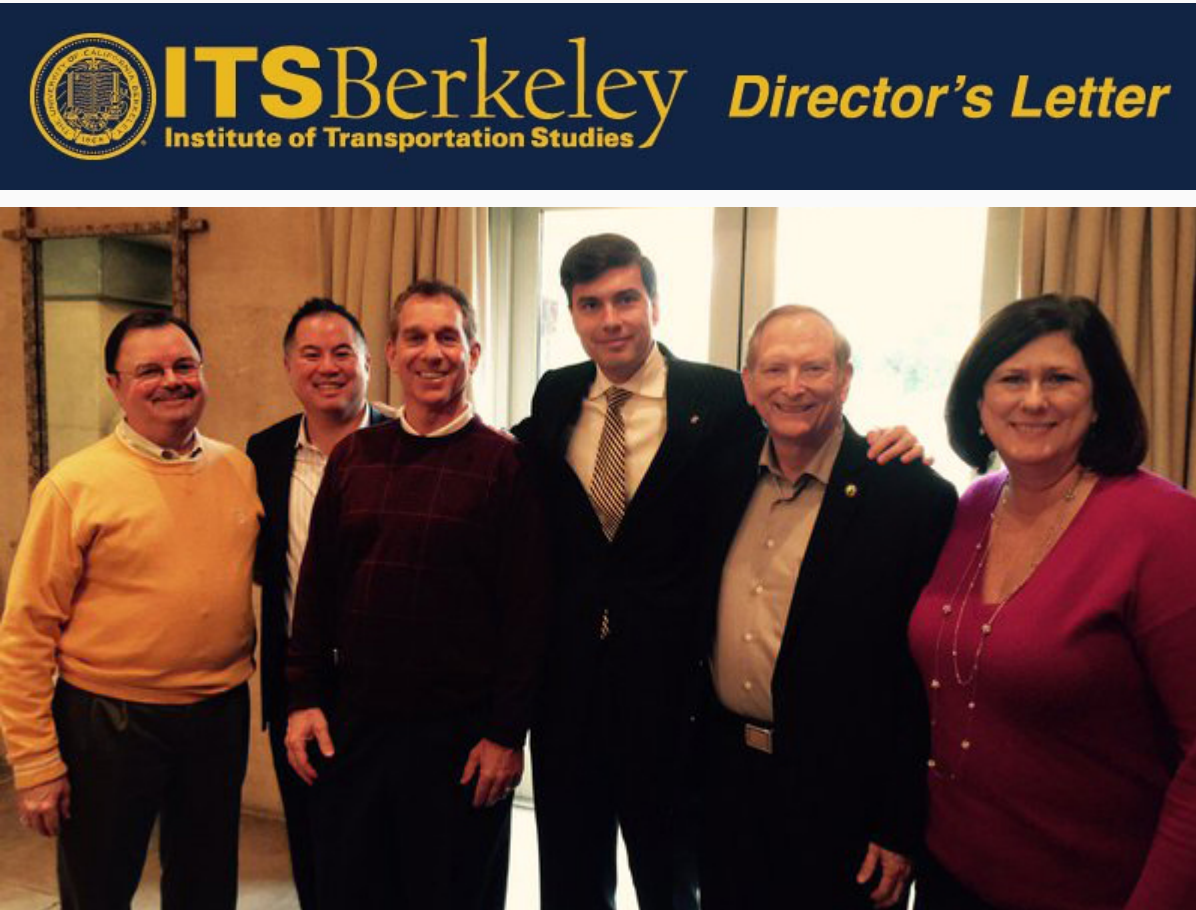


ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,



As summer heats up and the campus is quieter than usual, ITS activity in June did not skip a beat. Over the last couple of months, a phenomenal team came together under the leadership of Professor Susan Shaheen to respond to the US Department of Transportation Smart City Challenge, and June was extremely intensive in concluding the final part of this process. As many of you know, the [San Francisco/Berkeley team was one of seven finalists of the Smart City Challenge](#), from 78 competing cities across the US.

Professor Shaheen's team received input from throughout ITS and the campus, including significant participation from four ITS Centers: [Transportation Sustainability Research Center \(TSRC\)](#), [Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology \(PATH\)](#), [Safe Transportation Research and Education Center \(SafeTREC\)](#), and [Tech Transfer](#), as well as the [ITS Berkeley Library](#). We were also very excited by the participation of the [Haas School of Business](#), the [Energy and Resources Group](#), the [Goldman School of Public Policy](#), the [School of Law](#) and [Chancellor Nicholas Dirk's Office](#). Together with [San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency \(SFMTA\)](#), the [City of San Francisco](#) and several other entities, including the [Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory \(LBNL\)](#), we built a very strong proposal that we presented to a panel from the US Department of Transportation in Washington D.C. [San Francisco Mayor Edwin Lee](#) gave the final pitch to the [US Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx](#) in a public event, as did the other six mayors of the finalist cities. [See the SF Smart City Video](#).

Our proposal made it to the finals, and I am proud and very impressed with the work we put forth. I believe the effort and strategy presented truly reflected the creativity and strength of UC Berkeley, San Francisco and the region. I would like to congratulate [Professor Shaheen](#) on her leadership and thank everyone on the team for their efforts, enthusiasm and commitment that led to the construction of this herculean multi-hundred-page (75 pages just for the technical section!) proposal, which reflects a unique and extremely strong partnership. Together we are stronger, and our solutions will be more sustainable for our community. Thanks to the efforts of Professor Shaheen, this effort was unprecedented in its ability to bring together such a diverse pool of talent from UC Berkeley, and to establish such a strong working relationship with a powerhouse city like San Francisco. We should all be proud of this.

I have read our proposal many times and I am amazed by the quality of work and the \$153 million pledged by industry partners (which greatly surpasses any of the other finalist proposals). After the City of Columbus was chosen, the US DOT has been working with all the finalist cities to see how to leverage the considerable effort put into the proposals. There will be many follow up steps with the City of San Francisco and UC Berkeley. It is very important that ITS continues to participate in these kinds of efforts — what makes us strong and competitive, with respect to peer institutions, is our ability to participate in very large, multi-disciplinary teams capable of bidding together on multiple million dollar grants, more than \$200 million in this case including the match we would have brought. Our Institute's strengths include the number of disciplines it spans, the variety of experts it encompasses, and its reputation and ability to deliver extremely novel projects. The Smart City Challenge was a first step towards the creation of multi-disciplinary projects that will revolutionize transportation over the years to come and what I hope to foster.


Among the finalist cities, it is clear San Francisco is by far the closest to a Smart City, and we are excited to work with the US DOT and several other agencies to realize that vision. San Francisco was also one of the only cities whose vision came from the city, not from consultants or other partners in the proposal writing process, and we look forward to working together to make it a reality. As Mayor Ed Lee said many times during the pitch and the process that led to the completion of the proposal, San Francisco is the innovation capital of the world. It is hard to imagine any other city in the US where innovation, in particular in the field of transportation, would have the potential for such disruptive breakthroughs.


So with UC Berkeley and our partners, we will pursue this over many years to come, to make San Francisco the flagship Smart City in California, in the US, and the world. I look forward to engaging with all of you in this very exciting challenge. I would like to again thank everyone involved in putting this proposal together, we have accomplished a great foundation for the future. We have an extremely effective team that spans researchers and administrative services on campus that encompasses the Office of the Chancellor, Office of the Vice Chancellor of Research, the Industry Alliances Office, Government and Community Relations office, Communications and Public Affairs, and many others. We look forward to working together with all of these offices in the future.


I wish everyone a happy summer, and more than ever, Go Bears!


Alexandre Bayen
ITS Director


HEADLINES


 ITS research featured in [UC Institute For Transportation Studies Vies For Increased State Funding](#) at Streetsblog California.


 Partner's for Advanced Transportation Technology's Steven Shladover weighs in on [The Future Of Self-Driving Cars](#) at KERA.


 Transportations Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen talks about [What Makes Bikesharing So Safe?](#) in Move Forward.


 ITS's Alexandre Bayen, Laura Melendy on [UC Berkeley experts: San Francisco petition for smart city funding from Department of Transportation](#) at The Daily Californian.


 Transportation Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen has been [one of the top women in autonomous vehicles](#) by Little Bird.


 UCCONNECT's Karen Trapenberg Frick talks about the [new San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge span's turbulent background](#) to Dateline NBC.


 TSRC, Energy Department Announces Climate Action Champion, [City of San Francisco](#). [Embracing Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies](#) in the Imperial Valley News.


 PATH's Steven Shladover talks about [The Truth about "Self-Driving" Cars](#) to Scientific American.

 TSRC's Susan Shaheen talks [Uber Wants Us to Think It's Environmentally Friendly. But Is It?](#) at Motherboard.

 TSRC Co-director Tim Lipman comments [Third Annual AltCar Expo in Oakland showcases alternative-fuel vehicles](#) for the East Bay Times.

 PATH's Steven Shladover talks about [Traffic woes expected to get worse as self-driving cars take over the roads](#) to the Examiner.

 LBNL's Jeff Greenblatt comments on [Self-Driving Taxis May Hit the Road within a Year](#) with Scientific American.

 TSRC's Susan Shaheen comments on [Austin ride-sharing vote could ripple through USA](#) with USA Today.

NEWS



[Fewer Cars Improved Emissions in TSRC's Car2go One-Way Carsharing Study](#)



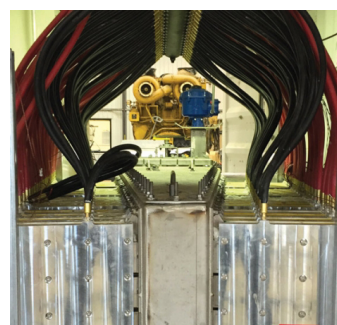
[San Francisco Opens Superpublic Innovation Lab](#)



[Smart Infrastructure means monitoring for a lifetime](#)



[Travel Behavior](#)



[Turning car exhaust into electricity](#)



[Using Games to Further Research](#)



[Kenichi Soga to Edit new Smart Infrastructure Journal](#)

EVENTS

Sept. 2-4: The Transportation Sustainability Research Center and the ITS Library will be hosting a hackathon Sept. 2-4 in the ITS Library. Stay tuned for further details.

Friday, Sept. 9: The ITS Transportation Seminar will resume Friday, Sept. 9 in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building at 4 p.m., with beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m. with Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Saurabh Amin, who will present "Resilient transportation networks: strategic routing and proactive control." The full schedule will be available soon.

