Organized by
PacTrans and the University of Washington Transportation Engineering Faculty

Presentation Title
Modeling Increasing Pressure on the Curbside, and Insights from Popular Music into Whether we’ve Fallen out of Love with the Car

Abstract
Dr. Le Vine’s talk will cover two distinct themes. He will first present the “Topology” research project, which is motivated by the growing demands that emerging forms of mobility (Ridehailing, parcel delivery, etc) are imposing on the curbside. This research, being undertaken in collaboration with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, aims to develop models of competition for curbside space, to ultimately provide network managers with decision support capabilities. Le Vine will discuss early-stage development of models of curbside space allocation inspired by urban geography’s Bid-Rent Theory. Second, he will present work motivated to address a major gap in research into mobility trends: whether the structural trends of stabilization (and in some instances declines) in young adults’ car access and usage in the 2000s are due primarily to traditional factors impacting personal mobility (economics, demographics, spatiality, etc.) or a cultural shift of decreasing affinity towards the automobile. He will present a unique effort to evaluate whether popular music lyrics – as a proxy for culture over the past six decades – demonstrate systematic trends in frequency of referencing the automobile or the sentiment (positive, negative, etc) towards it.

Speaker
Prof. Scott Le Vine is a transportation planner splitting his time between the Transpo Group, where he is helping launch the Seattle-headquartered firm’s East Coast practice, and the State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz, where he is a tenure-track Assistant Professor. He is a Trustee of the UK’s shared-mobility trade body “CoMoUK”, and holds visiting research affiliations with Imperial College London and China’s Southwest Jiaotong University. His recent research covers shared-mobility, trends in personal mobility, and various aspects of vehicle automation.