

## Speakers:

- AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, Kahua
- Allan Federman, Chief Engineer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Allen Sterbinsky, Mayor, City of Staton, TN
- Andre Armstrong, Division Database Manager, Public Works / Administration, City of Memphis
- Brad Thompson, Vice President, STV
- Bryan Keller, Director, Fayette County Environmental Management Department
- Byron Amos, District 3, Atlanta City Council, City of Atlanta
- Cari Stieglitz, Co-Founder, Kaivolve
- Chandra Farley, Chief Sustainability Officer, City of Atlanta
- Chelsea Chen, R&D Staff Polymer Scientist, Chemical Sciences Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Chris Lagerbloom, City Administrator, Alpharetta, Georgia
- Craig Carrington, Deputy District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District
- Dan Johnson, Senior Director of Sales, Oracle
- Dana Braxton, Assistant Commissioner of People Operations, TN Dept of Human Services
- David Headrick, Senior Project Manager, SAM
- Diana Alarcon, Director, Nashville Department of Transportation & Multimodal Infrastructure
- Elizabeth Stienstraw, Landscape and Stormwater Infrastructure Manager, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County
- Frank Li, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Grid-interactive Controls Group, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Jason Quicksall, State Work Zone Engineer Traffic Design Division, TDOT
- Jennifer Slaiman, Director, Community Development Division, Grants & Community Development Department, **Knox County Tennessee**
- Jennifer Westerholm, Assistant Director, Division of Sustainability, Metro Nashville Department of General Services
- Jennise Reyes-Gnakadja, Business Manager II, Dept. of Public Works, City of Atlanta
- Jeremy Heidt, Director of Government Affairs, Tennessee Housing Development Agency
- Jerry Galu, Director, Facilities Management, Nashville General Hospital
- Jessica Dauphin, President & CEO, Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee
- Jim Hagaman, Mayor, City of Spring Hill, Tennessee
- Joy Styles, Councilwoman, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County
- Kasey Krouse, Urban Forester, City of Knoxville
- Kathleen Schwaber, IT Director, Project and Program Management, Nashville Electric Service
- Kelbrey Porter, Grants Department Director, City of Montgomery
- Kendrick Vaughns, Information Technology Director, Health and Social Services Business Domain,
   State of Tennessee
- Liliana Bakhtiari, Atlanta City Council, District 5
- Lori Pepper, South/Central Mobility Technology Solutions Leader, STV
- Lydia Benda, Director of Engineering, Construction, & Project Management, WeGo Public Transit
- Mark Gilliam, Account Executive, Public Sector, Procore
- Matt Marshall, President and CEO, United Way of West Tennessee
- Meghann Stacey, Executive IT Director, Health and Social Services Domain, TN Department of Finance & Administration

- Melva Black, Deputy Director, Metro Public Health Department of Nashville and Davidson County (MPHD)
- Michelle Midanier, Clean Energy Programs Associate, City of Atlanta | Mayor's Office of Sustainability & Resilience
- Nathan Buehler, Master Principal Sales Consultant, Oracle
- Nicholas Johnson, Chief Evangelist, Kahua
- Norma Click, Director Airside/Landside/Cargo, Planning & Development, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL)
- P.T. Jones, Advanced Vehicle Systems Technical Staff, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Payton Lang, Policy and Programs Advisor to the Mayor, City of Columbia Government
- Phillip Rizzo, Sr Sales Director SLED, **Oracle**
- Rebekah Hammonds, Public Private Partnership Communications Officer, Community Relations Division, TDOT
- Richard Kennedy, Executive Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
- Rob Cary, Specialist Executive, **Deloitte**
- Sarah VanWormer, Technology Director, City of Brentwood
- Scott Esposito, Master Principal Sales Consultant, Oracle
- Sharon Smith, Special Projects Manager, Zero Waste Nashville, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County
- Shovan Chowdhury, Research Fellow, Grid-Interactive Controls Group, Building Technologies Research and Integration Center, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Takiyah Thomas, Digital Equity Administrator, Department of Information Technology, Clayton County Board of Commissioners
- Tracey Hayes, Deputy Director, Planning, Urban Design, Watershed Management and Hazard Mitigation Services, **City of Birmingham**
- Tyler Carpenter, Research Manager, **Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations**
- Will Rice, Project Manager, Charlotte Water
- Zanderia Davidson, Director, Office of Business Diversity & Compliance, City of Memphis

	July 17
6:00-8:00pm	Pre-Event Reception
	July 18
7:00am	Main Event
	Registration Opens
7:50-8:00	Opening Remarks
	Speaker: Dan Johnson, Senior Director of Sales, <b>Oracle</b>
8:00-8:25	Keynote Panel: Infrastructure Investment – State of the Market

The Southeast region is witnessing a surge in infrastructure investment, new projects, and innovation, driving economic growth and prosperity. Governments and private sector entities are channeling substantial funds into the development of transportation networks, including road and rail systems, to enhance connectivity within and beyond the region. Additionally, major urban centers are focusing on the construction of smart cities, integrating advanced technologies and sustainable practices. Innovation hubs are emerging, fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and startups, fueling breakthroughs in fields such as renewable energy, healthcare, and information technology. This infusion of capital and innovation is poised to transform the Southeast into a dynamic and resilient region, attracting both local and international investment.

#### Moderator:

Philip Rizzo, Senior Sales Director, SLED, Oracle

#### Panelists:

Jeremy Heidt, Director of Government Affairs, **Tennessee Housing Development Agency** 

Melva Black, Deputy Director, **Metro Public Health Department of Nashville and Davidson County (MPHD)** 

## 8:25-9:10 Panel: Project Delivery – Delivering Projects More Efficiently and Cost-Effectively

Efficient and cost-effective project delivery is crucial in public infrastructure projects, and stakeholders in the Southeast are actively working to improve these aspects. Firstly, there is a growing emphasis on effective project planning and feasibility studies to ensure accurate cost estimations, realistic timelines, and thorough risk assessments. This helps prevent delays and cost overruns during project implementation. Additionally, transparent and competitive procurement processes are being implemented to ensure fair selection of contractors and suppliers, fostering competition and driving cost efficiencies. Collaboration between public agencies, private partners, and local communities is encouraged throughout the project lifecycle to ensure effective communication and stakeholder engagement, minimizing conflicts and delays. Furthermore, the integration of digital technologies, such as Building Information Modeling (BIM) and data analytics, enables real-time project monitoring, resource optimization, and effective decision-making. By adopting these measures, the Southeast region aims to deliver public infrastructure projects more efficiently, within budget, and to the satisfaction of the communities they serve.

## Moderator:

Rob Cary, Specialist Executive, **Deloitte** 

#### Panelists:

Craig Carrington, Deputy District Engineer, **US Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District** 

Jerry Galu, Director, Facilities Management, **Nashville General Hospital** Jim Hagaman, Mayor, **City of Spring Hill, Tennessee** 

	Meghann Stacey, Executive IT Director, Health and Social Services Domain, TN
	Department of Finance & Administration  Norma Click, Director Airside/Landside/Cargo, Planning & Development, Hartsfield-
	Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL)
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9:10-9:50	Panel: Enhancing Efficiency and Improving Services Through Digital Transformation
	Public infrastructure projects in the Southeast are undergoing a digital
	transformation to enhance efficiency and improve services. Embracing advanced technologies such as Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and cloud
	computing, stakeholders are leveraging real-time data and analytics to optimize
	project planning, construction, and maintenance. Smart sensors and connected
	devices enable remote monitoring and predictive maintenance, reducing downtime
	and enhancing asset performance. Digital platforms facilitate seamless
	communication and collaboration among project teams, contractors, and stakeholders, promoting transparency and timely decision-making. Furthermore, the
	integration of digital tools streamlines administrative processes, enabling faster
	approvals and smoother workflows. This digital transformation is revolutionizing
	public infrastructure delivery in the Southeast, leading to more efficient project
	execution and enhanced service delivery for communities.
	Moderator:
	Mark Gilliam, Account Executive, Public Sector, <b>Procore</b>
	Panelists:
	Jennise Reyes-Gnakadja, Business Manager II, Dept. of Public Works, <b>City of Atlanta</b> Kathleen Schwaber, IT Director, Project and Program Management, <b>Nashville</b>
	Electric Service
	Kendrick Vaughns, Information Technology Director, Health and Social Services
	Business Domain, State of Tennessee
	Sarah VanWormer, Technology Director, City of Brentwood
9:50-10:10	Presentation: Context-based Urban and Grid Co-Planning – AutoBEM, Model
	America Database, and Future Weather Data for Built Environment
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	This presentation focuses on introducing a collective planning approach that can adopt both urban and grid planning principle, which include policy evaluation,
	infrastructure investment, and technological development, to organize renewable
	energy as a common-pool resource for communities. The introduced project will
	leverage the Automatic Building Energy Modeling (AutoBEM) software suite and its
	Model America dataset as well as the Future Typical Meteorological (fTMY) weather projects developed at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) for better facilitating
	renewable energy deployment in built environments.
	Presenters:
	Shovan Chowdhury, Bredesen Research Fellow, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
	Fengqi Li, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

10:10-10:35	Presentation: Enhancing Children, Youth, and Family Outcomes through Sustainable Development: Insights from Partnerships with BlueOval City Development, City of Stanton and United Way of West Tennessee
	This presentation examines the critical intersection between development initiatives, such as the groundbreaking BlueOval City project in Stanton, Tennessee, and community-focused efforts spearheaded by the United Way of West Tennessee. The discussion centers on how these initiatives contribute to improving health outcomes for children, youth, and families through innovative approaches in the built environment.
	The built environment plays a pivotal role in shaping health outcomes, influencing physical, mental, and social well-being. Recent research underscores the impact of community design and transport infrastructure on children's health, highlighting connections with physical activity, respiratory health, and safety concerns like traffic injuries.
	BlueOval City represents a transformative investment by Ford and SK On, aiming to advance electric vehicle production while creating approximately 6,000 new jobs. This mega campus not only propels technological innovation but also sets a precedent for sustainable manufacturing practices that mitigate environmental impacts, contributing to cleaner air and safer communities for future generations.
	Complementing these efforts, the United Way of West Tennessee collaborates with local municipalities and nonprofits to enhance community infrastructure. Through initiatives like the Ford Fund Capital Grant Program, United Way facilitates improvements in public spaces and community facilities, fostering environments conducive to physical activity and social engagement among children and families.
	In conclusion, this presentation emphasizes the potential of collaborative development strategies to promote health outcomes. By integrating sustainable practices, enhancing community infrastructure, and fostering educational opportunities, stakeholders can create supportive environments that nurture the health and well-being of children, youth, and families in West Tennessee and beyond.
	Presenters: Allen Sterbinsky, Mayor, City of Staton, TN Matt Marshall, President and CEO, United Way of West Tennessee Richard Kennedy, Executive Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
10:35-10:50	Morning Networking Break
10:50-11:10	Presentation: Using Smart Technology to Improve Work Zone Safety
	Rear end collisions due to unexpected, stopped traffic is the number one cause of Work Zone related crashes, making up over 40% of Rural Interstate and 30% of urban interstate work. As such, queue protection is the most valuable tool that

DOTs have to prevent work zone related crashes along our freeways and interstates. Long duration road work along our controlled access roadways creates several scenarios that create unexpected slowed and stopped traffic. Due to the changing nature of queues, traditionally this task has been conducted by vehicles that are able to change location with traffic conditions. However, the new "Smart Technology" now allows for dynamic messaging to be displayed that reflects real time changes in traffic conditions. These systems provide numerous warnings of downstream traffic conditions which have been shown to be much more effective in reducing crashes and be done at a significant cost savings compared to traditional methods of queue protection.

## Speaker:

Jason Quicksall, State Work Zone Engineer, Traffic Design Division, TDOT

## 11:10-11:30 Panel: The Great Debate: Build vs Buy

When considering a digital transformation, one of the most important decisions you'll face is whether to build or buy the software to implement. Believe it or not, most people hold strong opinions on this question, particularly those with industry experience. In order to overcome these biases, Cari Stieglitz, Co-Founder, Kaivolve will be moderating a friendly debate on this exact topic. As AJ Waters and Ralph Barsi, two construction technology vets, walk through their side of the argument, we hope you will walk away feeling confident in how to answer this pressing question. After all, the answer can make or break your success. No pressure.

### Moderator:

Cari Stieglitz, Co-Founder, Kaivolve

## Speakers:

AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, **Kahua** Nicholas Johnson, Chief Evangelist, **Kahua** 

## 11:30-12:10 Panel: Improving Equity in Public Infrastructure

Improving equity in public infrastructure is a key focus in the Southeast, aiming to ensure equal access and benefits for all communities. Efforts in transportation equity include investing in public transit networks, bike lanes, and pedestrian infrastructure in underserved areas to reduce transportation disparities. To bridge the digital divide, initiatives are expanding broadband access to rural and low-income communities, enabling equal access to online resources and opportunities. In disadvantaged neighborhoods, constructing community centers, libraries, and recreational facilities is providing essential services and promoting social inclusion. Environmental justice measures are being implemented to reduce pollution near marginalized communities and address environmental concerns, safeguarding public health and well-being. Affordable housing developments are being integrated within mixed-use projects to ensure access to safe and affordable housing near employment opportunities. These efforts aim to create a more equitable

	infrastructure landscape in the Southeast, fostering inclusive growth and addressing historical disparities.  Moderator: Lori Pepper, South/Central Mobility Technology Solutions Leader, STV  Panelists: Diana Alarcon, Director, Nashville Department of Transportation & Multimodal Infrastructure Joy Styles, Councilwoman, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County  Kelbrey Porter, Grants Department Director, City of Montgomery Rebekah Hammonds, Public Private Partnership Communications Officer, Community Relations Division, TDOT Zanderia Davidson, Director, Office of Business Diversity & Compliance, City of Memphis
12:10-1:00	Panel: Urban Mobility: Rethinking the Future of Transportation
	Smart transportation planning is revolutionizing urban mobility in the Southeast, enabling more efficient and sustainable transportation systems. For example, cities are implementing intelligent traffic management systems that utilize real-time data and predictive analytics to optimize traffic flow, reduce congestion, and improve travel times. Advanced technologies like smart parking systems and real-time transit information apps help drivers and commuters find parking spaces and plan their journeys more effectively. Furthermore, the integration of electric vehicles, ridesharing platforms, and bike-sharing services promotes eco-friendly transportation options. Smart transportation planning in the Southeast is transforming how people move around, enhancing accessibility, reducing environmental impact, and improving overall urban mobility.
	Moderator: Brad Thompson, Vice President, <b>STV</b>
	Panelists: Byron Amos, District 3, Atlanta City Council, City of Atlanta Chris Lagerbloom, City Administrator, Alpharetta, Georgia Diana Alarcon, Director, Nashville Department of Transportation & Multimodal Infrastructure Jessica Dauphin, President & CEO, Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee Lydia Benda, Director of Engineering, Construction, & Project Management, WeGo Public Transit P.T. Jones, Advanced Vehicle Systems Technical Staff, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
1:00-2:00	<u>Lunch</u>
2:00-2:20	Presentation: Innovations in Infrastructure Program Management

Is your project information management system fit to help your organization successfully control scope, costs, budgets, documents, and schedule for all your capital projects and programs? Learn how Oracle can help you better prioritize what matters to your agency goals and community needs. Prevent surprises by knowing what, when and where work will happen and leverage past project data and utilize AI to predict and prevent issues so your project expectations are met. All from a single, secure, and configurable platform—the Oracle Smart Construction Platform.

#### Presenter:

Scott Esposito, Master Principal Sales Consultant, Oracle

## 2:20-2:50 Panel: Energy Infrastructure – A Sustainable Energy Future

The Southeast region is striving for a sustainable energy future through the development of advanced energy infrastructure. Renewable energy projects, such as solar farms and wind turbines, are being established to diversify the energy mix and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Additionally, smart grid technologies are being deployed to optimize energy distribution, integrate renewable sources, and enable demand-response programs. Energy-efficient buildings are being constructed, utilizing technologies like smart meters and automated energy management systems. Moreover, electric vehicle charging infrastructure is being expanded to support the adoption of electric transportation. These efforts in the Southeast are driving the transition towards a greener and more sustainable energy sector, contributing to reduced carbon emissions and a cleaner environment.

#### Moderator:

Nathan Buehler, Master Principal Sales Consultant, Oracle

#### Panelists:

Allan Federman, Chief Engineer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Chelsea Chen, R&D Staff - Polymer Scientist, Chemical Sciences Division, Oak Ridge
National Laboratory

Jennifer Westerholm, Assistant Director, Division of Sustainability, **Metro Nashville Department of General Services** 

Michelle Midanier, Clean Energy Programs Associate, City of Atlanta | Mayor's Office of Sustainability & Resilience

# 2:50-3:10 Presentation: City of Memphis/Public Works Division – Leveraging Al/ML for Public Services

The COM Public Works Division in partnership with Google Cloud, Spring ML, and Egen has been developing new AI/ML detection models to supplement and provide proactive services to the public. These detections models include pothole, blight, litter, and stormwater infrastructure. Using cameras mounted on MPW fleet vehicles we can detect and identify defects or issues that require MPW actions. This program which started 3 years ago has made huge progress since the conception of the pothole detection model, with the main goal of achieving a true proactive service engagement.

	Presenter: Andre Armstrong, Division Database Manager, Public Works / Administration, City of Memphis
3:10-3:30	Afternoon Networking Break
3:30-4:00	Panel: Stormwater Infrastructure
	Stormwater infrastructure in the Southeast is crucial for managing heavy rainfall and minimizing the risk of flooding. The region is investing in various stormwater infrastructure projects to enhance resilience. For example, the construction of stormwater detention basins and retention ponds helps control and store excess water during storms. Low-impact development techniques, such as permeable pavement and green roofs, are being implemented to reduce runoff and promote natural infiltration. Furthermore, the installation of stormwater management systems, including catch basins and underground storage, improves drainage and prevents localized flooding. These stormwater infrastructure initiatives in the Southeast aim to protect communities, preserve water resources, and mitigate the impact of extreme weather events.  Moderator:
	Nathan Buehler, Master Principal Sales Consultant, <b>Oracle</b>
	Panelists: Bryan Keller, Director, Fayette County Environmental Management Department Elizabeth Stienstraw, Landscape and Stormwater Infrastructure Manager, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County Tyler Carpenter, Research Manager, Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
4:00-4:20	Presentation: Little Hope Creek Sanitary Sewer Improvements: Building for Rapid Public Growth in Private Backyards
	The City of Charlotte is experiencing rapid growth, partly due to growth in its light rail corridors. In order to keep up with developer needs for capacity, the Little Hope Creek Project (Phase 3) will increase pipe size. Many of the easements for this project are located on private parcels in a quiet residential neighborhood. This has posed many challenges both before, during, and after construction.
	Presenter: Will Rice, Project Manager, <b>Charlotte Water</b>
4:20-4:50	Panel: Climate-Resilient Infrastructure
	In the Southeast, climate resilient infrastructure is a priority as the region prepares for the challenges posed by a changing climate. Infrastructure projects are incorporating resilience measures to mitigate risks associated with increased

flooding, extreme weather events, and rising sea levels. This includes the construction of resilient bridges, stormwater management systems, and flood protection infrastructure. Additionally, the integration of green infrastructure, such as permeable pavements and green roofs, helps manage stormwater runoff and reduce urban heat island effects. By adopting climate resilient infrastructure strategies, the Southeast region is proactively safeguarding its communities, minimizing damage, and ensuring the long-term sustainability and functionality of vital infrastructure systems.

#### Moderator:

David Headrick, Senior Project Manager, SAM

#### Panelists:

Kasey Krouse, Urban Forester, City of Knoxville Liliana Bakhtiari, Atlanta City Council, District 5

Tracey Hayes, Deputy Director, Planning, Urban Design, Watershed Management and Hazard Mitigation Services, **City of Birmingham** 

### 4:20-4:40

# <u>Presentation: Bridging the Digital Divide: Promoting Digital Equity in Clayton</u> <u>County, GA</u>

Clayton County is the 3rd smallest county by area and the 5th most populous county in the state. With a population of almost 300k residents, addressing digital inequities is inevitable. According to FCC data, Clayton County is nearly fully served by high-speed internet. However, almost 20% of residents do not subscribe to high-speed internet, likely because of affordability. The goal of the Office of Digital Equity is to ensure that residents not only have access to affordable and reliable internet, but that they have access to the digital devices and skills needed to survive and compete in the digital world.

#### Presenter:

Takiyah Thomas, Digital Equity Administrator, Department of Information Technology, **Clayton County Board of Commissioners** 

4:50

## **Event Close and Closing Reception**