



## Speaker Biographies

### The Art and Science of Community Planning – Linking Transportation and Land Use

#### **Stephen Benson, City of Tampa**

Stephen Benson, AICP, CNU-A, serves as Transportation Planner for the City of Tampa. He joined the City last year to coordinate the implementation of Mayor Castor's Transforming Tampa's Tomorrow (T3) strategic plan for transit and mobility. Previously he served as the Metropolitan Planning Administrator for FDOT District 7, where he led multi-modal planning programs, complete streets, intergovernmental programs and public involvement. Prior to this, he worked in the District Traffic Operations office and in the consulting field. Stephen has held local leadership positions with the American Planning Association and the Congress for the New Urbanism and served on the board for the Hillsborough County Planning Commission. He is a proud Tampa native and a graduate of the University of South Florida's Urban & Regional Planning Program.

#### **Ben Chandler, Apalachee Regional Planning Council**

Ben Chandler is the Disaster Resilience Coordinator for the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) serving a nine (9) county region in the Florida's predominantly rural Panhandle. The ARPC's Disaster Resilience program is directed toward identifying and vetting viable projects for economic recovery in the wake of Hurricane Michael and the current COVID-19 pandemic. Before joining the ARPC, Mr. Chandler served in private sector planning for over 20 years holding the position of Executive Director for Chattahoochee Main Street from 2014-2017 and serving as a senior transportation planner, for 17 years, supporting both the public sector in transportation corridor planning and the private sector conducting traffic analyses for land development projects. In addition to his role with the ARPC, Mr. Chandler currently serves on the board of directors for both Explore Northwest Florida and the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Chandler holds both a B.S. in Geography (1993) and a M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning (1996) from Florida State University.

#### **Gerald Goosby, Florida Department of Transportation**

Mr. Goosby possess over 10 years of experience in the field of transportation planning. Gerald is currently the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) Planning Manager in the Systems Implementation Office (SIO). The SIS represents a high

priority network of transportation facilities important to the state's economy and overall mobility. Prior to his position with FDOT, he worked as an in-house consultant in support of the SIS, with on long-range planning initiatives such as the SIS Cost Feasible Plan and Multimodal Unfunded Needs Plan. In association with these plans, Gerald developed manuals that outlined their update processes from beginning to end. Prior to his stints at FDOT, Mr. Goosby worked as a planner with the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for 11 years. During his tenure with DCA, he gained an understanding of the relationship between transportation and land use planning as it relates growth management.

#### **Jennifer Carver, Florida Department of Transportation, Moderator**

Jennifer Carver, AICP, serves as the Statewide Community Planning Coordinator for the Florida Department of Transportation Office of Policy Planning. Jennifer coordinates FDOT's community/comprehensive planning and resilience planning efforts. She has over 20 years of experience in planning and public engagement, including land use/transportation planning, bicycle and pedestrian planning, hazard mitigation, coastal/environmental management, and parks and recreation.

#### **Sabrina Aubery, Florida Department of Transportation**

Sabrina Aubery is a professional engineer at FDOT District 4 as the Program Administration Engineer in Program Management. Sabrina has over 15 years' experience in Design and Program Management with FDOT. As the Program Administration Engineer, Sabrina works with local agencies on providing guidance and oversight on Local Program federal and state grant projects.

#### **Christine Fasiska, Florida Department of Transportation**

Christine Fasiska is the Transportation Planning Manager at FDOT District Four. She previously expanded her collaboration skills working with internal and external partners within the District as the Local Agency Program Administrator. Christine is licensed as a professional engineer in Florida, Texas, and Pennsylvania and has over 30 years of experience in Transportation Engineering and Planning including bridge and roadway design and analysis.



## **Broad Uses, Broad Needs, Broadband: Planning for Florida's Transportation Infrastructure**

### **Charlie Dudley, Floridian Partners LLC and General Counsel, Florida Internet & TV**

Charles F. Dudley is the managing partner of Floridian Partners LLC, a corporate and public affairs consulting firm with offices in Tallahassee and Miami. Charlie and the firm represent a variety of clients before the Florida Legislature, Cabinet and other governmental bodies, including matters related to business and professional regulation, higher education, gaming, taxation, health care, financial services, insurance, employment, environment, elections, communications and utilities, and information technology. Charlie's combination of legal and legislative experience provides clients with the in-depth understanding of the law and the regulatory and legislative processes necessary to advance and protect their proprietary interests. Charlie is also an attorney specializing in all aspects of communications and administrative law in Tallahassee, Florida. Charlie serves as the general counsel and chief lobbyist to the Florida Internet and Television Association (FIT). In 1996, Charlie was appointed by Governor Lawton Chiles to the Florida Telecommunications Tax Task Force, where he successfully advocated for the development of a unified or flat taxing scheme for communications services in the state of Florida, which was subsequently adopted by the Florida Legislature resulting in the Communications Services Tax Simplification Act. Charlie has been actively involved in all legislative reforms related to the regulation and taxation of communications services in Florida since 1990. In addition to FIT, Charlie's clients include, among others, the St. Joe Company, Florida Hospital Association, Florida Insurance Council, Alico, Florida Family Insurance Company, FCCI Insurance Group, Florida Gulf Coast University and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Charlie is an honors graduate of Florida State College of Law, where he earned distinction as a member of the law school's Moot Court team.

### **Hiep Nguyen, City of Winter Haven**

Hiep Nguyen serves the City of Winter Haven as its Smart City Officer as it endeavors to become a smart, progressive, thriving municipality as part of larger vibrant community in Polk County, Florida. He has been with the City for over 17 years, and has been putting fiber conduit in the ground at every chance through "dig once," installing fiber conduit as part of other utility, recreation, and transportation projects. His proudest achievement with the City is his department's award-winning internship program, using it to successfully recruit, attract, train and develop talent from the local community. Prior to working at the City, he was

a partner in a technology solutions company in California. He holds Bachelors of Science degrees in Biochemistry and Sociology at the University of California, Riverside.

### **Katie Smith, Office of Community Partnerships, Division of Community Development, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity**

Katie Smith has worked for the State of Florida for 10 years in the fields of healthcare and community, economic and business development. She worked for the Florida Department of Health creating the Counterfeit-Proof Prescription Pad Program for medical practitioners and facilities. While at the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), she established the DEO Office of Partnership Engagement, the DEO Office of Community Partnerships and the Florida Office of Broadband. Ms. Smith has overseen economic and business development incentive projects, community development projects and partnership programs such as the Competitive Florida Partnership, the Regional Rural Development Grant and the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI).

### **Brad Swanson, Florida Internet & TV**

Brad Swanson is president and CEO of Florida Internet & Television, the advocacy association which leads industry efforts before Florida's legislature and regulatory bodies. Florida Internet & Television represents providers across Florida, such as Atlantic Broadband, Charter Communications, Cox Communications, Comcast and Mediacom. Brad rebranded the association from its former identity as Florida Cable Telecommunications Association to reflect the high-tech and content-rich industry of today. Influence Magazine named Brad one of Florida's "Great Communicators" in 2017. Brad joined Florida Internet & Television in July of 2016. With the mission to promote today's industry and issues to key influencers and elected leaders, Brad has refocused the industry's communications from a single web-based platform to a communication model which includes social media, web, television and modernizing existing studio productions. Additionally, the association now leverages large audience partners and in-person participation with Florida's leading economic development groups to promote the industry's economic impact and innovations. He is big believer that if you are not at the table, then you are on the menu. Previously, Brad served in Governor Scott's administration as the Executive Director of the Florida



Transportation Commission, which oversees the Florida Department of Transportation's \$10 billion budget. Prior to that, Brad was tapped to lead industry partners, as well as promote and oversee FDOT's \$1 billion investment in Florida's seaports, airports, spaceports, freight infrastructure, freight autonomous vehicles, high-speed rail and public transportation programs.

#### **Patricia Steed, Central Florida Regional Planning Council**

Patricia M Steed is the Executive Director of the Central Florida Regional Planning Council serving 30 local governments and is Staff Services Director of the six-county Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization. She leads the Heartland 2060 Vision: Building a Resilient Region. During her Florida planning career, she has also served as a County and City Planning Director, an MPO Director and as a Project Director for a national consulting firm. Her expertise is in transportation, community and strategic planning, visioning, and economic development. Pat currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Florida Transportation Plan (FTP) and SIS Steering Committee, on the Board of Directors

of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), the Council of Peers of the Southeastern Executive Directors Institute, and is currently a member of the Southwest to Central Florida M-CORES Task Force. She is a frequent national presenter including at the White House Forum on Regional Innovation.

#### **Jennifer Stults, Florida Department of Transportation, Moderator**

Jennifer Stults, AICP CTP, CPM, FCCM, is the Planning and Environmental Management Administrator for Florida's Turnpike Enterprise. Planning and Environmental Management includes Project Development & Environment (PD&E), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), growth management, traffic modeling, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), freight, and other modes. Jennifer has over 20 years of planning experience, including working with roads, MPO's, transit, and as a consultant. She is currently serving as the Production Lead for the M-CORES Northern Turnpike Corridor project.

## **Drowning in Scenarios? Decision Making for Sea Level Rise**

#### **Renee Collini, Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative**

Renee Collini has a dual appointment as a Coastal Climate Resilience Specialist with Mississippi State University and Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium. Focused on sea-level rise, Renee facilitates the flow of information between researchers and decision-makers to improve science application. She integrates a multi-state network of stakeholders, researchers, NGOs, and state and federal agencies to build tools, programs, and projects to address gaps in sea-level rise observing, research, and decision-making in the northern Gulf of Mexico. She has collaborated on projects and efforts that have improved coastal community and environmental resilience and has led development of tools that have been applied throughout the Gulf and across the United States and is a recognized leader in resilience across the Gulf of Mexico.

#### **Jennifer Carver, Florida Department of Transportation, Moderator**

Jennifer Carver, AICP, serves as the Statewide Community Planning Coordinator for the Florida Department of Transportation Office of Policy Planning. Jennifer coordinates FDOT's community/comprehensive planning and resilience planning efforts. She has over 20 years of experience in planning and public engagement, including land use/transportation planning, bicycle and pedestrian planning, hazard mitigation, coastal/environmental management, and parks and recreation.

#### **Crystal Goodison, University of Florida GeoPlan Center**

Crystal Goodison is the Associate Director of the University of Florida GeoPlan Center, a research and teaching center specializing in geospatial systems and technologies. Crystal leads geospatial projects which provide data, tools, and training to the State, regional, and local governments for informing environmental, transportation, and coastal resiliency planning efforts.



## Discovering the Keys to Access and Opportunity

### **Tony Carvajal, The Able Trust**

Tony Carvajal is president/CEO of The Able Trust, a foundation committed to helping persons with disabilities and Florida employers achieve their shared goal...meaningful and sustainable work that produces results. Established in 1990, the organization directs state, private, and corporate funds to targeted grants, programs, and initiatives focused on realizing the power of work and the potential of vocational rehab. The Able Trust works with partners to focus on abilities- not disabilities- and remove barriers to employment across the entire spectrum of needs, including developmental and learning disabilities, physical and mental health challenges, and injury and age-related developments. The organization works with companies, communities, grantees, and individuals to make work possible for the 1 in 6 Floridians dealing with some sort of visible or invisible disability. Tony brings more than 30 years of nonprofit management and consulting experience to the role, having helped organizations across the country design and implement plans to address all types of opportunities and disruptions. He recently completed a decade of service as the Executive Vice President (and futurist in residence) at the Florida Chamber Foundation where he developed research, programs, and policies designed to ensure competitiveness, prosperity, vibrancy, and resiliency across the state. Since 2000, he has also served as the "Primemover, Problem-Solver & Calmer of Chaos" at Carvajal Consulting and Management. Tony earned a Masters in Public Administration from Florida International University and holds undergraduate degrees in psychology and communications from Florida State University.

### **Tim Center, Capital Area Community Action Agency**

Tim Center is an attorney and statewide leader who has committed his professional and personal life to building better communities for everyone. A Florida native, Tim has worked on state policy and nonprofit advocacy for the Florida Legislature, Florida Chamber of Commerce, Florida Home Builders Association and the Collins Center for Public Policy. Tim is the Chief Executive Officer of the Capital Area Community Action Agency -- an \$12 million nonprofit program that works as the safety net for the poor in eight counties. Capital Area operates five Head Start pre-school centers for children from low-income families, helps people in crisis, and works with individuals to promote economic mobility to move out of poverty. Tim is also the Executive Director of Sustainable Florida, an alliance of organizations committed to promoting the adoption of sustainable development principles through collaboration and education. He is the Principal

of Centerfield Strategy, a consulting firm focusing on strategic planning, community engagement, public speaking and facilitation. Tim is a frequent keynote and panel speaker at conferences throughout Florida addressing poverty, economic and workforce development, and sustainability best management practices and key actions that individuals, organizations and companies can take to improve their communities to increase the prosperity of workers and employees, reduce dependency and increase self-sufficiency. Tim is a graduate of the Florida State College of Law where he served as an Associate Editor of the FSU Law Review. He received his undergraduate degree in Communication and Political Science from Florida State.

### **Shannon Nazworth, Ability Housing, Inc.**

Shannon Nazworth is President and CEO of Ability Housing, a position she has held since 2003. Ability Housing is dedicated to building strong communities where everyone has a home. Its vision is a society where housing is a right, not a privilege, and all individuals have safe, affordable housing in vibrant communities. Nazworth brings more than 19 years of experience in the affordable housing sector having held executive positions with Habitat for Humanity, both Habitat International and local affiliates. In addition to leading Ability Housing, Nazworth is Chair of the State of Florida Council on Homelessness, immediate past president of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition and was a gubernatorial appointee to both the Florida Affordable Housing Workgroup and Affordable Housing Study Commission. She also serves on the Chase Community Advisory Board, National Low-income Housing Coalition Policy Committee, and many other state and national organizations. Most recently, Shannon was named Multifamily Executive's Executive of the Year. Nazworth is a native of Massachusetts, but has resided in Northeast Florida for over twenty years. She has a B.S. in Political Science, having graduated magna cum laude from Boston College; a Certificate in Executive Leadership from Harvard Business School and a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Duke University.

### **Shamarial Roberson, Ph. D., Florida Department of Health**

Dr. Shamarial Roberson began serving as the Deputy Secretary for Health for the Florida Department of Health in November 2019.

Dr. Roberson most recently served as the Department's Director for the Division of Community Health Promotion. She joined the Department as a chronic disease epidemiologist and evaluator where she served for two years as the bureau



epidemiologist. Dr. Roberson was also a section administrator in Chronic Disease Prevention, providing administrative direction and policy coordination for the Bureau. Dr. Roberson is a graduate of Florida State University where she earned her bachelor's degree—a double major—in Biological Sciences and Family and Child Sciences. She returned to FSU, receiving her Masters of Public Health. Dr. Roberson was awarded the highest academic distinction in her field, Doctorate of Public Health, from Florida A&M University. Dr. Roberson is committed to protecting, promoting and improving the health of all people in Florida.

#### **Rick Owen, United Way of Florida**

Rick Owen is President of United Way of Florida in Tallahassee, Florida. In this role he manages a network of 28 local United Ways representing all 67 counties

in Florida. Additionally, Owen oversees strategic partnerships and organizational development; leads and directs corporate policy; provides statewide leadership, disaster preparedness and response; and is the leading voice to help communicate the power of the United Way organizations throughout the State. Owen has served on various boards and committees and is a staunch advocate for veterans and seniors. He holds a master's degree in Human Resource Management, a bachelor's degree in Professional Aeronautics, as well as Master Certificates in Strategic Leadership, Organizational Management, and Human Resource Management.

## **Partnering with FDOT – What's in it for me?**

#### **Alison Stettner, Florida Department of Transportation, Moderator**

Alison Stettner serves as the Director of the Office of Policy Planning. She has worked for the Florida Department of Transportation for the past 5 years serving both at District 5 as the District Planning & Environmental Management Administrator and at Florida's Turnpike as the Planning Manager. She has more than 20 years of experience in transportation planning and growth management. Prior to her work at FDOT, Alison was the Development Services Director at Orange City, the Planning and Development Manager at Seminole County, and a transportation planner for both PBS&J and Orange County. Alison received her Bachelor of Science from Michigan State University in Environmental Science and Management and a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Florida.

#### **Josiel Ferrer-Diaz, P.E., City of Miami Beach**

Josiel Ferrer-Diaz serves as the Assistant Transportation Director for the City of Miami Beach. Josiel has worked for the City of Miami for over ten years and is currently responsible for managing the traffic operations, design, safety, and multi-modal design team.

#### **Frank Martz, City of Altamonte Springs**

As the City Manager of Altamonte Springs, Frank Martz brings more than 28 years of industry expertise, P3 creation, strategic direction, and executive management experience to his role. Frank has managed and overseen the planning, engineering, financing and/or development of nearly \$2.7 billion of public, public/private or private projects. Frank has also served as a member or chair of numerous regional committees relating to land use, transportation and mobility, fiscal planning, opioid addiction, and other issues relating communities.

#### **David Edwards, Wakulla County**

Mr. Edwards has served the Wakulla County citizens for the last 9 years and oversees the County's nearly \$100 million annual budget along with its many dedicated employees. In this capacity Mr. Edwards oversees all departments including Public Works, Planning, Parks and Recreation, and Utility departments. As County Administrator, he has overseen some of the County's most significant projects and initiatives, including the Coastal and Ochlocknee Bay Trails, the US 319 Highway widening, large Septic to Sewer Projects for the benefit of Springs Protection, in addition to overseeing the County's responses to the BP Oil spill and the more recent COVID-19 pandemic. A native of Wakulla County, he has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of the citizens of Wakulla County.