



## The Role of Title VI and Environmental Justice in Transportation Planning

Thursday February 16, 2023

9:30 am – 12:00 pm (CT)

### AGENDA

**9:30 a.m. Welcome**

Craig Raborn, AICP – Houston-Galveston Area Council

**9:35 a.m. History of Environmental Justice and its Future Direction**

Dr. Carol Lewis – *Texas Southern University*

**10:00 a.m. Equity and Justice at the EPA Today**

Dr. Matthew Tejada – *Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights,  
U.S. EPA*

**10:30 a.m. Diversity in Transportation – The Texas Demographic Transition**

Dr. Helen You – *Texas Demographic Center*

**11:00 a.m. Advancing Equity in Transportation Planning**

Tia Boyd – *Center for Urban Transportation Research, University of Southern Florida*

**11:55 a.m. Closing Remarks**



This event is eligible for 2.5 CM Credits from the American Planning Association  
(1 Equity CM and 1.5 Regular CM)

# TODAY'S PRESENTERS

## Carol Abel Lewis



Carol Lewis is a Professor in Transportation Studies and Emeritus Director of the Center for Transportation Training and Research at Texas Southern University (TSU). Prior to her tenure at TSU, she spent 15 years as manager /director of planning for Houston's Metropolitan Transit Authority. She is responsible for educating students in fundamentals of transportation and urban transportation issues, as well as conducting operational and policy related transportation research. Her research focuses on automated vehicles for transit and incorporating vulnerable populations into planning activities. Carol Lewis served from 2018 - 2023 as Transportation Research Board's (TRB) Chair of the Inclusion & Diversity Committee, and member, TRB's Transit Research Advisory Committee (TRAC). She was appointed TRB Vice Chair of the Executive Committee in 2023.

Carol Lewis is a member of the Houston-Galveston Area Council's (MPO) Transportation Policy Council and Transportation Advisory Committee. She chairs the Gulf Coast Rail District, serving at the pleasure of Houston Mayor, Harris County Judge and Commissioner's Court. She was honored with TRB's Sharon D. Banks Humanitarian Award, and with WTS Houston Chapter's Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award. Her Ph.D. is from the University of Houston and master's and bachelor's degrees from the University of Iowa.

## Matthew S. Tejada



Matthew S. Tejada is the Deputy Assistant Administrator (DAA) for Environmental Justice within EPA's national program office for Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR). Matthew joined EPA in March of 2013 as a career senior executive and director of the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ), a position he held until the reorganization of OEJ into OEJECR in September of 2022. As DAA, Matthew provides leadership for EPA's EJ portfolio, including the integration of EJ throughout all of EPA's policies, programs, and activities, coordination and alignment of EJ priorities with the external civil rights programmatic priorities, in addition to leading EJ efforts with other federal agencies, states, Tribes, local governments, and other stakeholders.

Before his career at EPA, Matthew spent over five years as executive director of the environmental justice advocacy group, Air Alliance Houston, in the Houston and Texas Gulf Coast area. Matthew received his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Oxford where he was a member of St. Antony's College, and a B.A. in English from the University of Texas at Austin. He then served two years in the Peace Corps in Bulgaria. Matthew is a native of Fort Worth, Texas and lives with his wife Andrea in Silver Spring, Maryland and is the proud father of Nia Tejada.

## Xiuhong Helen You



Helen You is the Associate Director of the Texas Demographic Center, where she is the lead scientist for the Population Estimates and Projections program. Helen has almost 20 years of demographic research experience with a general interest in demography and public policy in Texas. Her works cover a wide range of topics including welfare, education, migration, health, and health care in Texas.

Some of Helen’s projects include the Population Projections for Texas, Population Estimates for Texas, the Educational Attainment Projections of the Texas Labor Force, the Diabetes Projections, and the Projections of the Uninsured in Texas.

## Tia Boyd



Tia Boyd is a Research Associate at the University of South Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research. Her research focuses on transportation decision-making, with an emphasis on equity in transportation planning. She has led the development of several tools and resources to support transportation planners and communities as they work to advance equity in transportation.

Tia has contributed to planning and engineering pedagogy with curricula for transportation equity, multimodal transportation planning, and citizen academies designed for community empowerment through education.

