

AMY E. LEE

Institute of Transportation Studies
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EDUCATION

- 2023 Ph.D. Transportation Technology & Policy. University of California, Davis
- 2017 MS. Transportation Technology & Policy. University of California, Davis
- 2017 Graduate Certificate. Industrial Ecology. University of California, Davis
- 2011 BS. Environmental Policy Analysis & Planning. University of California, Davis

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2025– Postdoctoral Scholar. Institute of Transportation Studies. University of California, Davis
- 2023–25 Postdoctoral Scholar. Institute of Transportation Studies. Luskin School of Public Affairs. University of California, Los Angeles
- 2012–18 Sacramento Area Council of Governments
Associate Research Analyst. January 2018 – September 2018
Research Analyst. 2012–2017
- 2011–12 Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates. Advocacy & Outreach Manager.

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Handy, S. and **A. Lee**. What Is It About Bicycling? Evidence from Davis, California. *Travel Behaviour and Society*. 20: 348-357. DOI: 10.1016/j.tbs.2020.05.001
- 2020 Volker, J., **A. Lee**, and S. Handy. Induced Vehicle Travel in Environmental Review. *Transportation Research Record*. DOI: 10.1177/0361198120923365
- 2019 Volker, J., J. Kaylor, and **A. Lee**. A New Metric in Town: A Survey of Local Planners on California’s Switch from LOS to VMT. *Transport Findings*, November. DOI: 10.32866/10817
- 2019 Volker, J., **A. Lee**, and D. Fitch. Streamlining the Development Approval Process in a Post-Level of Service Los Angeles. *Journal of the American Planning Association*. 85(2): 114-132. DOI: 10.1080/01944363.2019.1601587
- 2018 Sciara, G.C. and **A. Lee**. Allocating Transportation Revenues to Support Climate Policies in California and Beyond. *California Journal of Politics and Policy*. 10(1). DOI: 10.5070/P2cjpp10139474
- 2018 **Lee, A.** and S. Handy. Leaving Level-of-Service Behind: The Implications of a Shift to VMT Performance Metrics. *Research in Transportation Business and Management*. 29: 14–25. DOI: 10.1016/j.rtbm.2018.02.003
- 2015 **Lee, A.**, S. Underwood, and S. Handy. Crashes and other safety-related incidents in the formation of attitudes toward bicycling. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*. 28: 14–24. DOI: 10.1016/j.trf.2014.11.001
- 2014 Underwood, S., S. Handy, D. Paterniti, and **A. Lee**. 2014. Why do teens abandon bicycling? A retrospective look at attitudes and behaviors. *Journal of Transport & Health*. 1(1): 17–24. DOI: 10.1016/j.jth.2013.12.002

Manuscripts Under Review

Lee, A., A. Millard-Ball, M. Manville. “State Preemption in Theory and Practice: The Case of Parking Requirements.” *Urban Affairs Review*. Submitted April 2025. Reviews received June 2025.

Working Papers

Lee, A. and S. Handy. “Who Drives Highway Expansion? A Roadmap of the Highway Building Coalition”

Ralph, K., N. Klein, O. Linovski, **A. Lee**. “Building Consensus for the Road Lobby with the ASCE Infrastructure Report Card”

Ralph, K., **A. Lee**, and N. Klein. “Highway Widening and Freeway Fighters: A Research Agenda”

Lee, A., Klein, N., O. Linovski, K. Ralph. “Road Expansion on the Ballot: Money, Influence, and Interest Groups”

DISSERTATION & THESIS

- 2023 “The Policy and Politics of Highway Expansions.” Doctoral dissertation. escholarship.org/uc/item/13x3n8zr. [2,500 hits and 500 downloads on eScholarship as of March 2025]
- 2017 “Leaving Level-of-Service Behind: The Implications of a Shift to VMT Performance Metrics for California’s Built Environment.” Master’s thesis. <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2046938445>

RESEARCH REPORTS, WHITE PAPERS, PLANS, ETC.

- 2024 **Lee, A.** and R. Patterson. “Comments on the Project Level Conformity Determination for the South Fresno State Route 99 Corridor Project (South Fresno 99 Project or Project) (CTIPS ID 203-00000752), located in Fresno, California, May 2024.” Expert Report. July 14, 2024.
- 2023 Handy, S., **A. Lee**, et al. Measuring, Analyzing and Identifying Small-Area VMT Reduction. National Center for Sustainable Transportation. https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/Research%20Contract%20RD006%20Final%20Report_0.pdf?token=JhxIkWP-nVWxvOEC0s9_p1Mu36p1kvX4glLv7LsqfpM
- 2021 Deakin, E., C. Chow, D. Son, S. Handy, E. Barbour, **A. Lee**, et al. Evaluation of California State and Regional Transportation Plans and Their Prospects for Attaining State Goals. (California Transportation Assessment Report Pursuant to AB 285) UC Berkeley: Institute of Transportation Studies at UC Berkeley. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/50j4b4r8>
- 2021 **Lee, A.** and S. Handy. Putting Our Cash Where Our Climate Policy Is: Transportation Funding versus Planning for Climate Protection among California MPOs. Part 2 of: “MPO Planning and Implementation of State Policy Goals”. Part of “Evaluation of California State and Regional Transportation Plans and Their Prospects for Attaining State Goals”. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7p8096mh>
- 2020 **Lee, A.** Maps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5a and 5b in Lily Pearl Balloffet, author, *Argentina in the Global Middle East*. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press.
- 2020 **Lee, A.** Results of the 2019-20 Campus Travel Survey. Institute of Transportation Studies. University of California, Davis. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9929r4j1>
- 2020 **Lee, A.** and J. Volker. The Cannery Mixed-Use Project (Davis, CA) Case Study. Prepared for the California Senate Bill 743 Implementation Assistance Project. www.SB743.org/casestudies
- 2020 **Lee, A.** State Route 210 Widening, San Bernardino County Case Study. Prepared for the California Senate Bill 743 Implementation Assistance Project. www.SB743.org/casestudies
- 2020 Steinberger, A. and **A. Lee**. City of Woodland 2035 General Plan Update Case Study. Prepared for the California Senate Bill 743 Implementation Assistance Project. www.SB743.org/casestudies
- 2019 **Lee, A.** Results of the 2018-19 Campus Travel Survey. Institute of Transportation Studies. University of California, Davis. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/44z3060c>
- 2018 Sciara, G.C. & **A. Lee**. Aligning California’s Transportation Funding with its Climate Policies. National Center for Sustainable Transportation. <https://escholarship.org/content/qt9jp6d597/qt9jp6d597.pdf>
- 2017 **Lee, A.**, K. Fang, and S. Handy. Evaluation of Sketch-Level Vehicle Miles Traveled Quantification Tools: Strategic Growth Council Grant Programs Evaluation Support Project. National Center for Sustainable Transportation. <https://escholarship.org/content/qt08k3q8m5/qt08k3q8m5.pdf>

- 2017 Electric Vehicle Readiness and Infrastructure Plan. Prepared for the County of Sacramento and the Cities Within. Sacramento Area PEV Collaborative and Sacramento Area Council of Governments.
- 2015 Yolo Case Study: Context-Sensitive Economic Development West of 505. Sacramento Area Council of Governments. www.sacog.org/post/yolo-case-study
- 2014 Sacramento Regional Agricultural Infrastructure Project: Yuba County Case Study. Sacramento Area Council of Governments. www.sacog.org/post/yuba-case-study
- 2013 Take Charge: An Infrastructure Roadmap for EVs. 2013. Sacramento Area Council of Governments. <https://www.sacog.org/post/pev-implementation>
- 2010 **Lee, A.** *Holocarpa macradenia* v. Alternate Transportation: An Endangered Species and the Broadway-Brommer Bike Path. Prized Writing 2009–2010. University of California, Davis University Writing Program.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Awards

- 2024 Charley V. Wootan Memorial Award – Best doctoral dissertation in the field of policy and planning in transportation studies – Council of University Transportation Centers
- 2020 Outstanding Student of the Year – National Center for Sustainable Transportation
- 2020 Mary Nichols Environmental Policy Award – for “Induced Vehicle Travel in the Environmental Review Process” – University of California, Davis Institute of Transportation Studies (with Dr. Jamey Volker)
- 2011 Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship – WTS Sacramento

Fellowships

- 2024 Climate & Community Institute – Fellow
- 2024 Eno Center for Transportation Fellowship – Leadership Development Conference, Washington, DC
- 2021 FHWA – Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Graduate Fellowship – \$35,500
- 2021 National Center for Sustainable Transportation – Dissertation Grant – \$30,000
- 2020 FHWA – Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Graduate Fellowship – \$5,000
- 2020 Eno Center for Transportation Fellowship – Leadership Development Conference (canceled due to Covid)
- 2019 FHWA – Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Graduate Fellowship – \$5,000
- 2019 National Center for Sustainable Transportation – Graduate Student Exchange to University of Vermont
- 2010 UC Davis Sustainable Transportation Center – Undergraduate Research Fellowship

GRANTS

Principal Investigator. “Evaluating the Environmental Review Process of Highway Expansions: Induced Vehicle Travel and the Attendant Impacts.” \$61,100. UC Institute of Transportation Studies. 2024–2025.

TEACHING (overall teaching effectiveness, mean, out of 5)

Instructor of Record

- Applied Research Methods. UC Davis ESP 178. Winter 2022. (3.7)
- Urban & Regional Planning. UC Davis ESP 171. Summer 2020. (4.6)

Co-Instructor

Directed Group Study (“Researching the Road Lobby”). Rutgers University. Spring 2025.

Teaching Assistant

Applied Research Methods. UC Davis ESP 178. Winter 2021 (4.8)
Urban & Regional Planning. UC Davis ESP 171. Spring 2020 (4.7)
Urban & Regional Planning. UC Davis ESP 171. Spring 2019. (4.3)
Urban & Regional Planning. UC Davis ESP 171. Spring 2017. (4.7)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

Conference Presentations

- 2024 “What Happens When the State Nixes Parking Minimums Near Transit?” at the ACSP Annual Conference. Seattle. Panelist.
- 2024 “Pathways to Decarbonizing Urban Transportation” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Panelist.
- 2023 “The Consequences of Highway Expansion” at the ACSP Annual Conference. Chicago. Panelist.
- 2022 “To Advocate or Not: Exploring the promises and perils of evangelism among transportation planning professors” at the ACSP Annual Conference. Toronto. Panelist.
- 2022 “Highways and the Danger Zone: Policy and Politics of Highway Expansions during a Climate Crisis” at the ACSP Annual Conference. Toronto. Lectern presentation.
- 2022 “Highway Expansion & Induced Travel” presented to the Yolo County Transit District Board of Directors. January 10. Invited speaker.
- 2021 “Putting our Cash Where Our Climate Policy Is: Transportation Planning versus Programing for Climate Protection in California” at the ACSP Annual Conference. Virtual. Lectern presentation.
- 2021 “The High Carbon of Scarce Housing” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Virtual. Poster.
- 2020 “Comparing Induced Travel Research Methods” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Poster.
- 2018 “The Implications of a Switch from LOS to VMT Performance Metrics” at the ACSP Annual Conference. Buffalo, New York. Lightning talk.
- 2018 “Adaptive Regional Transportation Solutions from the Coast to the Valley” at the California Adaptation Forum. Sacramento, CA. August. Lectern presentation.
- 2018 “LOS versus VMT in California’s Environmental Review: A Los Angeles Case Study” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Poster.
- 2018 “What Is It About Bicycling? Evidence from Davis, California” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Poster.
- 2017 “LOS to VMT: A new approach to measuring congestion impacts” at the Portland State University Transportation & Communities Summit. Portland, Oregon. Invited panelist.
- 2017 “Quantifying Vehicle Miles Traveled” with Professor Susan Handy. National Center for Sustainable Transportation. Webinar Presenter & Co-host.
- 2017 “Sketch-Level Methods for Quantifying Vehicle Miles Traveled” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Poster.
- 2017 “Allocating State Transportation Funds to Promote Sustainability” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Lectern presentation.
- 2012 “Exploring the Formation of Attitudes toward Bicycling” at ProWalk/ProBike/ProPlace. Long Beach, California. Lectern presentation.

- 2012 “Incidents and Crashes: Exploring the Formation of Attitudes toward Bicycling” at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. Poster.
- 2011 “Exploring Attitudes to Bicycling: A Retrospective Look from Adulthood” at Velo-City International Conference on Bicycling. Sevilla, Spain. Roundtable.

Invited Talks

- 2025 “What Happens When the State Nixes Parking Minimums Near Transit?” Parking Reform Network Lunch & Learn. May 30.
- 2024 “Metropolitan Planning Organizations & Transportation Governance: Challenges and Successes with Hasan Ikhata.” FEDTalk Series at UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies. Moderator. November 20.
- 2024 “Regional Transportation Planning for Climate Protection.” ECOS Climate Committee. November 18.
- 2024 “Regional Transportation Planning & SB 375 Briefing.” ClimatePlan Network. November 12.
- 2024 “What Happens When the State Nixes Parking Minimums Near Transit?” FEDTalk Series. UCLA Institute for Transportation Planning. October 23.
- 2024 “The Policy and Politics of Highway Expansion.” Institute of Transportation Studies Seminar Series. University of California, Davis. March 1.
- 2024 Demand Elasticity Workshop. Hosted by US Department of Transportation at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting. January 9.
- 2023 “The Policy and Politics of Highway Expansions.” Presentation to California Air Resources Board’s Sustainable Transportation and Communities Division. December 19.
- 2023 “The Policy and Politics of Highway Expansions.” Presentation to Natural Resources Defense Council. November 6.
- 2023 “The Policy and Politics of Highway Expansion.” FEDTalk Series. UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies. Fall.
- 2022 “Putting Our Cash Where Our Climate Policy Is? Induced Travel, Transportation Infrastructure, and Climate Change in the Golden State.” Geography, Environment, and Planning Research Colloquium at Sonoma State University. Spring.
- 2022 “Highway Expansion & Induced Travel.” Presentation to the Board of the Yolo County Transportation District. January 10.
- 2019 “Level of Disservice: The Implications of a Switch from LOS to VMT for Planning and Development Decisions.” Transportation Research Center Seminar. University of Vermont. Fall.
- 2018 “Leaving Level of Service Behind: The Implications of a Switch to VMT Impact Metrics.” Presentation to the UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies Board of Advisors. Fall.
- 2011 “Exploring Attitudes to Bicycling: The Effects of Incidents and Crashes.” Centre for Transport & Society Seminar. University of the West of England. Bristol, UK. March 17.

Guest Lectures

- 2024 “Who Has Influence? The Power Players in Transportation.” Transportation Policy in the Real World (TTP 289A). University of California, Davis. October 18.
- 2024 “Planning for Housing in California.” Urban & Regional Planning (ESP 171). University of California, Davis. May 16.
- 2020 “CEQA: The California Environmental Quality Act.” Urban & Regional Planning (ESP 171). University of California, Davis. Spring.
- 2019 “Land Use & Vehicle Miles Traveled.” Transportation Policy (ECI 165). University of California, Davis. Fall.

- 2019 “GHGs, VMT, LOS, RTPs, ETC” Environmental Analysis (ESP 1). University of California, Davis. Summer.
- 2019 “CEQA: The California Environmental Quality Act.” Urban & Regional Planning (ESP 171). University of California, Davis. Spring.
- 2017 “Infrastructure & Growth.” Urban & Regional Planning (ESP 171). University of California, Davis. Spring.

SERVICE & MENTORSHIP

Academic & Professional Service

- 2021–22 UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Committee
- 2020–22 Transportation Technology & Policy Graduate Group Student Representative
- 2020–22 Transportation Technology & Policy Graduate Group Executive Committee
- 2021 TRB Conference on Advancing Transportation Equity. Program Committee
- 2020–21 Transportation Technology & Policy Graduate Group Peer Mentor
- 2019 6th International Conference on Women’s Issues in Transportation. Abstract Committee
- 2015–17 Secretary. SACOG Employees’ Association

Journal Peer Review

- International Journal of Sustainable Transportation*
- Journal of Planning Education and Research*
- Journal of Transportation Engineering*
- Journal of Urban Affairs*
- Policy Studies Journal*
- Research in Transportation Business & Management*
- Transportation Research Part D: Transport & Environment*
- Transportation Research Record*
- Urban Studies*
- Council of University Transportation Centers Student Awards*

Community Service

- 2023 Commissioner. City of Sacramento. Active Transportation Commission
- 2021–22 Sacramento Area Council of Governments’ Project Evaluation Technical Working Group
- 2015–16 City of Davis Transportation Systems Design Standards Advisory Group
- 2014–16 Vice Chair. City of Davis. Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission

Student Supervision

- Oliver Craven. Research assistant, 2022. BS Environmental Policy & Planning 2023
- Rosanelly Alvarez-Coria. Research assistant, 2021. BS Managerial Economics 2022
- Holly Murphy. Research assistant, 2021. BS Environmental Policy & Planning 2022
- Noah Larson. Research assistant, 2019-21. BS Civil Engineering 2020
- Joseph Kaylor. Research assistant, 2017-18. BS Environmental Policy & Planning 2018

MEDIA INTERVIEWS & RESEARCH COVERAGE

- Yale Climate Connections*. Sarah Wessler. “Why widening highways doesn’t reduce traffic congestion.” October 18, 2024. <https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2024/10/why-widening-highways-doesnt-reduce-traffic-congestion>
- Slate*. David Zipper. “How America Can Break Its Highway Addiction.” August 28, 2024. <https://slate.com/business/2024/08/construction-traffic-cars-driving-transportation-highway.html>

Los Angeles Times. Rachel Uranga. “It’s one of California’s worst freeway bottlenecks. Will fixing it ruin the planet?” June 20, 2024. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-06-20/the-road-to-the-capitol-is-a-test-case-for-freeway-expansions>

The New York Times. Megan Kimble. “Colorado’s Bold New Approach to Highways – Not Building Them.” May 31, 2024. <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/31/headway/highways-colorado-transportation.html>

NRDC Expert Blog. Carter Rubin. “CTC Lets Flawed Yolo 80 Project Cut the Line.” May 17, 2024. <https://www.nrdc.org/bio/carter-rubin/ctc-lets-flawed-yolo-80-project-cut-line>

Daily Bruin. N. Bachman. “Navigating LA’s evolving transportation options as a Bruin.” May 10, 2024.

Transfers Magazine. “UC Davis alum wins CUTC award for best dissertation.” April 24, 2024. <https://transfersmagazine.org/2024/04/29/uc-davis-alum-amy-lee-wootan-award>

Davis Enterprise. Monica Stark. “Researchers, activists sound alarm on highway widening.” June 2, 2023. https://www.davisenterprise.com/news/state_government/researchers-activists-sound-alarm-on-highway-widening/article_1f18af46-2602-5ad4-b0dc-70c5314f0c5e.html

KPBS. Andrew Bowen. “After pledging 'net zero' emissions, San Diego wants to spend \$22.5M to expand a freeway.” October 21, 2022. <https://www.kpbs.org/news/environment/2022/10/21/net-zero-emissions-climate-action-plan-san-diego-expand-sr-56-freeway-hov-lanes>

Streetsblog Cal. Melanie Curry. “Legislative Report Says: Align Transportation Money with Climate Goals. Now: How?” March 21, 2022. <https://cal.streetsblog.org/2022/03/10/legislative-report-says-align-transportation-money-with-climate-goals-now-how>

Governing. Jake Blumgart. “Searching for Ways to Limit Induced Demand in a Car-Loving Society.” March 7, 2022. <https://www.governing.com/next/searching-for-ways-to-limit-induced-demand-in-a-car-loving-society>

Streetsblog Cal. Melanie Curry. “Induced Demand is Hard to Explain – But It’s Crucial to Get It.” March 2, 2022. <https://cal.streetsblog.org/2022/03/02/induced-demand-is-hard-to-explain-but-its-crucial-to-get-it>

Governing. Jake Blumgart. “Why the Concept of Induced Demand is a Tough Sell.” February 28, 2022. <https://www.governing.com/now/why-the-concept-of-induced-demand-is-a-hard-sell>

Streetsblog Cal. Melanie Curry. “Report: CA’s Historical Focus on Highway Construction Must Change.” February 23, 2022. <https://cal.streetsblog.org/2022/02/23/report-cas-historical-focus-on-highway-construction-must-change>

Los Angeles Times. Liam Dillon & Ben Poston. “Freeways force out residents in communities of color – again.” November 11, 2021. <https://www.latimes.com/projects/us-freeway-highway-expansion-black-latino-communities>

Streetsblog Cal. Joe Linton. “Interview: California Freeway Expansion Projects Induce Travel, and Underestimate Impacts of Additional Driving.” February 21, 2021. <https://cal.streetsblog.org/2021/02/17/interview-california-freeway-expansion-projects-induce-travel-and-underestimate-impacts-of-additional-driving>

Office Hour with Dr. Naomi Janowitz. “Transportation Studies.” KDVS Radio. January 8, 2019.