Rethinking the California HSR Project: What Can We Learn From Other Contexts?

Professor Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, UCLA

Why have a number of European and East Asian nations successfully built high-speed rail (HSR) networks, while California’s HSR project has met such hardship and controversy? What lessons can we learn from countries like France, Spain, or Germany, and can these lessons apply to California? And can high speed rail be planned and designed, to not only promote higher levels of mobility, but also economic development? This talk will respond to these questions by giving an overview of the lessons learned from European high-speed rail projects, with an emphasis on the prerequisites for success. It will also talk about three dimensions of connectivity that help HSR projects become successful: spatial connectivity that can be achieved through good planning and design; intermodal connectivity that can be achieved through good transportation planning and seamless integration of time-coordination of transportation modes; and operational connectivity that can be achieved through good governance, project management, and coordination and cooperation of multiple stakeholders.

Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris is Associate Provost for Academic Planning at UCLA and an Urban Planning Professor at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. Dr. Loukaitou-Sideris’ research includes documentation and analysis of the social and physical changes that have occurred in the public realm; cultural determinants of design and planning and their implications for public policy; quality-of-life issues for inner city residents; transit security, urban design, land use, and transportation issues. She has served as a consultant to the Transportation Research Board, Federal Highway Administration, Southern California Association of Governments and many municipal governments on issues of urban design, open space development, land use and transportation. She received her two MA’s and PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Southern California.

Co-sponsored by ‘The CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®’

Center for California Real Estate’

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu