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## Bike conference informs, inspires Metro's developing bicycle policy and program

- *L. A. Street Summit 2010 - Biking, Walking and Beyond* was held at March 18 and 20 and Occidental College and Los Angeles Trade Tech College

By Jennifer Gill

*Community Relations Staff and Cycling Advocate*

(April 6, 2010) When a cycling conference of a global magnitude blows into town, it definitely draws the attention of Metro officials, planners and cycling enthusiasts.

Among those attending the two-day confab at dual sites was Metro's interim Chief Planning Officer Doug Failing, a transportation official on the state and regional levels who is taking the lead in developing a regional bicycling policy.

The Metro contingent also included Transportation, Development and Implementation Executive Officer Diego Cardoso, who participated in a panel workshop discussing local planning issues related to bicycling and walking.

Transportation Planner Lynne Goldsmith, who manages Metro's own Bike Program, gave a presentation on bikes and public transportation. Other planning staff that attended included Tony Jusay, Nate Baird, Cory Zelmer, Steve Brye and Fulgene Asuncion.

The speakers and workshops reflected a new, broad, and diverse agenda that involved sidewalk politics, street design, parking, taxi justice, creating car-free streets or places where people hungry for transformation can engage in discussion and take action, said Goldsmith.

As reported in local blogs, the L. A. Street Summit kicked off with a rousing keynote address and slide show by the groundbreaking New York City DOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Kahn. At Occidental College, Sadik-



New York City DOT Commissioner Janette Sadik-Kahn packed the house with a rousing presentation on how to re-purpose existing streets to make room for uses other than cars. Below, Bike Program Manager Lynne Goldsmith engages Dorothy Le of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition in a car-free discussion.



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Commentary and short video posted on [LA.STREETSBLOG.ORG](http://LA.STREETSBLOG.ORG) summarized the dynamics of bicycle planning.

Sadik-Kahn has overseen an unprecedented transformation of streets in New York City. After generations of auto-centric transportation planning, New York City streets are being re-purposed to move and connect people rather than just cars.

She has “pedestrianized” Time Square and overseen construction projects to the tune of 200 miles of bike facilities in just 2 years—all of which are redefining streets as public places for people to inhabit in better ways. Sadik-Kahn has worked on transit issues as a Senior Vice President of Parson Brinckerhoff, a leading international engineering firm.