

Advancing Equitable Transportation Systems

December 8, 2020

TPA
Tuesdays
SYMPOSIUM SERIES

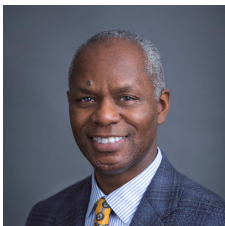


Stephanie Gidigbi

Stephanie Gidigbi champions public policy solutions that promote economic, social, and environmental benefits for communities. She is the CEO of North Star Strategies that helps leaders bring their dreams to life by transforming their visions into reality. She also directs Policy & Partnerships for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) Healthy People, Thriving Communities Program. Stephanie advances federal campaigns, coalition efforts, social equity and climate justice strategies.

Ms. Gidigbi previously served as a political appointee in the Obama Administration, where she advanced the administration's economic opportunity agenda at the U.S. Department of Transportation. She was also previously appointed as the New Jersey Director for Public Engagement, overseeing the Hurricane Sandy Taskforce, under the leadership of the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to support the federal disaster response in the region. Prior to working for President Obama, Stephanie served as Chief of Staff for the City of Orange in New Jersey. She managed the City's response to housing and mortgage crisis; developing a coordinated response to reclaim community asset and implement a continuum of prevention, management, and redevelopment strategies.

Ms. Gidigbi holds a master's degree from Seton Hall University. Stephanie Gidigbi is a lecturer at Johns Hopkins University. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) as First Vice Chair and Principal Director, representing the District of Columbia. She lives in the Congress Heights Neighborhood in Washington, DC.



Donald Burns, AICP

Donald Burns is the Director of Planning and Program Development for the Federal Transit Administration, Region 2 office (FTA). Mr. Burns began his FTA career in 1999 as a community planner. He has worked on some of the region's largest projects including the Fulton Street Transit Center EIS, South Ferry Terminal Station EA, Northern Branch Corridor project, and Access to the Region's Core, and World Trade Center Permanent PATH Station.

Donald Burns has earned a BA of Public Affairs from SUNY-Albany in 1988. In 1993, he earned a Masters of Urban Planning from CUNY-Hunter College. From 1991 to 1998, he worked as a planner for the Office of the Bronx Borough President where he worked on land use and transportation issues. Mr. Burns was a board member and is a Past-President of the American Planning Association's New York Metro Chapter. He was on the board of the Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, and served as Secretary of the Montessori Day School of Brooklyn.



Flora Castillo, CHIE

Ms. Castillo is a nationally recognized healthcare executive, and a mobility and public transportation thought leader. She is the President of Pivot Strategies, LLC, a consulting firm serving the transportation, healthcare and insurance industries. Her executive leadership spans over 25 years leading transformative customer engagement, health promotion, market and member acquisition strategies for the nation's leading health insurance companies, including UnitedHealthcare and AmeriHealth Caritas. As former Vice President of

Transportation for UnitedHealth Group, she led innovative pilots to address social determinants of health barriers and spearheaded the modernization of medical transportation services. She was the first Latina elected chair to the American Public Transportation Association serving as the industry spokesperson in the U.S. and Canada. Ms. Castillo championed equity, affordability, and service expansions for transit-dependent riders during her 20-year tenure as NJ Transit Board Member.

www.njtpa.org/Plan2050
www.bit.ly/Plan2050Survey

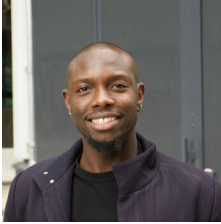
NJTPA LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION
PLAN 2050
Transportation ▶ People ▶ Opportunity





Jen Robertson, AICP

Jen Robertson is a Senior Transportation Policy Advisor at the New York City Mayor's Office of Sustainability. Their office puts forward policies, programs and legislation that reduces the pollution that worsens the impacts of climate change. Ms. Robertson's work on transportation aims to eliminate the pollution that comes from tailpipes by identifying funding for electric vehicle charging for New Yorkers to use as well as conducting research on the best way to legislate and form new policies to reduce our reliance on vehicles all together. Ms. Robertson believes that addressing climate change is intrinsically linked to tackling injustices from racism, sexism, homophobia and transphobia. As an avid cyclist, she can be found riding around on her bike most days.



Byron Nicholas, AICP, PP

Byron Nicholas is currently the supervising transportation planner for Hudson County, NJ and works on federal and state funded transportation projects and studies. He also serves on his regional MPO's Transportation Advisory Committee. Prior to this role, Mr. Nicholas worked in the Geometric Design unit of New York City Department of Transportation. Mr. Nicholas is also the Founder of Black + Urban, an online publication created as a safe space for Black urban planners, designers and forward thinkers. Mr. Nicholas has received both his Master's degree in Urban Planning and Bachelor's degree in Environmental Design from the University at Buffalo.