



Advancing Metropolitan Modeling for the Analysis of Urban Sustainability Policies

January 16-17, 2015

*An international conference sponsored by the Multi-campus Research Project Initiative
Center for Sustainable Suburban Development, University of California at Riverside*

Dear conference participants!

Thank you very much for your interest in attending the international conference on “Advancing Metropolitan Modeling for the Analysis of Urban Sustainability Policies”. We are looking forward to welcome you soon in Riverside and do sincerely hope that you will enjoy your visit to California. Meanwhile, we would like to give here a few recommendations and warnings that you might find useful, especially if you are in the USA (or in California) for the first time.

Conference Venue

The conference will be held at the **Mission Inn Hotel & SPA (Santa Barbara room)**, a historic landmark castle-like hotel located in downtown Riverside and next door to the arts and culture district of Riverside Convention Center. Although a composite of many architectural styles, it is generally considered the largest Mission Revival Style building in the United States.

Address: 3649 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501, USA

Phone: 1-866-599-6674

Website: <http://www.missioninn.com/>



Guidelines for Presenters and Discussants

Presenters

Paper presentations should last no longer than **20 minutes**.

Sofia Franco (sufmff@gmail.com) will be distributing papers to discussants on **January 11th, 2015**, so please make sure that she receives your **updated version of the paper as a PDF file** by **January 10th, 2015**. **Presentation slides** must also be provided no later than **January 14th, 2015** via email to Sofia Franco (sufmff@gmail.com) and on a PC-compatible USB drive as a backup at the conference.

We will make available an LCD projector, a laptop and a screen. All conference papers and presentation slides will be made available online in the project site: la-plan.org.

Discussants

Discussants are expected to prepare a presentation of no more than **10 minutes**. In their comments, discussants are expected to provide constructive criticism about the research questions addressed, the theoretical foundations established, the methodologies employed, or the analyses, the results, and their implications. Very specific or detailed criticisms can be shared with paper authors outside of the session. You are welcome to email your presentation slides to Sofia Franco (sufmff@gmail.com) by **January 15th, 2015**.

For further questions regarding presentation guidelines and updated papers, please contact Sofia Franco (sufmff@gmail.com).

Visa Information

It is the responsibility of all participants to identify if you require an invitation letter in order to apply for your visa to attend the conference. Participants coming from the European Union can travel under the ESTA travel authorization. For further details see <http://www.esta.us/>.

WIFI Access

You will be able to access the Internet using your own device. The username and password for access to the guest wifi will be printed on the back of your name badges.

Parking

We will provide you **each day** with a **validated parking ticket**. You can get your validated parking ticket from the conference registration table. Be aware that you can only be reimbursed for self-parking and NOT valet parking. The Mission Inn Hotel and Spa only has valet parking available. However, you may park your car at the **Mission Inn Garage**, located behind the hotel (6th street/Orange street). You may find a map of downtown Riverside parking facilities at <http://www.riversideca.gov/pdf2/downtown-parking-guide.pdf>.

Meals served at the conference

	Continental Breakfast 7:45-8:30	Lunch 12:00-13:00	Dinner 18:00
Thursday, January 15th	-	On your own	On your own
Friday, January 16th	Santa Barbara Room Mission Inn Hotel	Oriental Courtyard Mission Inn Hotel	Mission Inn Restaurant
Saturday, January 17th	Santa Barbara Room Mission Inn Hotel	Oriental Courtyard Mission Inn Hotel	On your own

The Mission Inn Hotel will also provide water, coffee and tea during the morning and afternoon breaks.

With regards to **dinner on Thursday night**, to increase the probability that attendees will "bump into each other", we suggest as a focal point in space-time the **Bella Trattoria at the Mission Inn Hotel & Spa** and **7.30pm** the meeting time.

Reimbursement Policies

All allowable lodging and travel expenses will be reimbursed. Participants must submit original itemized receipts for meals on Thursday (Jan 15th) and Saturday (Jan 17th) dinner. We will provide at the conference registration desk a travel reimbursement form that you will need to complete and turn in along with your receipts. For further questions regarding lodging and reimbursements, please contact Shayna Conaway (email: shayna.conaway@ucr.edu, work phone: [+1-951-827-7830](tel:+1-951-827-7830), cell phone: [+1-951-233-3838](tel:+1-951-233-3838)).

Certificate of Attendance

Certificates of attendance will be available at the conference registration desk during the meeting. Anyone needing a certificate after the meeting should contact Sofia Franco (sufmff@gmail.com).

Where to Eat

Here are a few suggestions, all walking distance from the Mission Inn Hotel & Spa:

- **Dona Timos (0.1 miles)**, located at 3635 University Avenue, is one of the best Mexican restaurants in Riverside.
- **Tio's Tacos (0.2 miles)**, located at 3948 Mission Inn Avenue, is also a very good Mexican restaurant. The place is particularly interesting because the grounds are covered in artwork made from recycled materials.
- **Casey's Cupcakes (0.1 miles)**, located at 3649 Mission Inn Ave, is a delightful confection boutique where you know you're in for a treat the moment you see the glass cases filled with delicious, beautifully decorated cupcakes. The décor of the store is inspired by a classic Parisian café with a glamorous Hollywood twist.
- **Simple Simon's Bakery & Bistro (0.1 miles)**, located at 3639 Main Street, has breakfast bakery items, sandwiches, delicious salads and full breakfasts available pretty much all day.
- **The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf (0.1 miles)**, located at 3712 Mission Inn Avenue, is an American coffee chain (similar to Starbucks) which can deliver the taste and aroma of nice coffee and teas if you are in a mood for those.
- **Bella Trattoria (0.1 miles)**, located at 3649 Mission Inn Avenue, provides Southern Italian cuisine including brick oven baked pizzas, pastas, and hand-pressed Panini sandwiches.
- **The Salted Pig (0.15 miles)**, an up-and-coming gastropub within walking distance of the Downtown Metrolink station. This cozy, modern spot regularly has local brews on tap and serves all things wonderful and porcine. It is located at 3700 12th Street.

- **Cafe Sevilla (0.3 miles)**, located at 3252 Mission Inn Ave (off of the 91 freeway and within walking distance of Riverside's Downtown Metrolink Station). Flamenco dancers and live bands perform several nights a week at this upscale tapas bar.

Weather/Climate

January weather in Riverside is very nice most of the time, with highs averaging about 20 C and lows around 8C. But January is also one of the wettest months in Riverside (with about 6 cm of rain on average). Most of the January rain comes in the form of storms carried in by Pineapple Express, a narrow but intense band of low pressure from Hawaii. Thus, clear, sunny days are punctuated by wet days.

Time difference

US (California) is 8-9 hours behind Europe (depending on the country). Please plan any communication with family, friends and work accordingly.

Cell phone usage

You will need international roaming to be able to use your phone in the USA. Public phones and international calling at the hotels are likely to be available as well as international phone cards. We recommend e-mail, social platforms or internet calling as possible ways of communicating with home. WiFi access will exist in your hotels.

Outlet/Voltage Info

The wall outlet looks like this:



The voltage is 110-120 V in the United States (as opposed 220-240 in Europe). But most laptop/tablet/cell phone adapters are compatible with this voltage (check to see on your chargers where it says INPUT). If the voltage range is compatible, then all you need is an American adapter plug.

How to get to Riverside

By plane

Participants looking to come into Riverside should consider Ontario International Airport located in the city of Ontario. This medium-sized airport has nonstop flights to many American cities, an uncrowded terminal, and generally easy freeway access.

Flying into the other Los Angeles area airports to reach Riverside is also possible. But the Los Angeles International Airport (Known as LAX), Burbank Airport, Long Beach Airport, and Orange County's John Wayne Airport are all about an hour's drive away; and that's without traffic congestion, which isn't likely. After arriving at the Ontario Airport, you can use Southern California's infamous freeway system to get to Riverside. Follow the signs for Interstate 10 East, then get on the I-15 South, and get on the CA-60 East. You will spend only about 2 miles on the I-15, so stay in the two right-hand lanes. After that interchange, you're only about 15 miles outside of the city. Once on the CA-60 East, the Market Street exit provides access to Downtown Riverside and it is the easiest way to get to the Mission Inn Hotel.

It is possible to take public transport from Ontario International to Riverside. However, it is not the most convenient way. **The two best ways to go from and to Riverside from any airport is either by car or by long distance airport shuttle.** Here is the website for Super Shuttle: <http://www.supershuttle.com/>. One-way rates vary from **\$50-\$80** depending from which airport you are traveling to Riverside.

By bus

Riverside has a Greyhound bus terminal located between Mission Inn and University Avenues in Downtown. This is a full-service terminal with routes to most domestic destinations, ticketing, and a restroom that they will let transit customers use, as the Greyhound terminal is across the street from the main city bus terminal.

By train

Riverside is a hub of the **Metrolink** commuter rail system, served by the Riverside, 91 and Inland Empire-Orange County lines on weekdays, and by the San Bernardino and Inland Empire-Orange County lines on weekends. The Metrolink station is about **a mile outside of the city center (15 minutes walking from the Mission Inn Hotel)**, with ample parking. The only facilities available are public telephones and ticket machines- no restrooms.

Amtrak serves the Downtown station with one trip per day on the long-distance *Southwest Chief*. Arrival from Los Angeles is at 8:03PM each evening, and departure to Los Angeles is at 5:48AM each morning. Traveling to Riverside from out-of-area by rail is not convenient or cheap, but it can be done. Note that no Amtrak personnel are available at Riverside station- if you are boarding the train in Riverside you **MUST** have advance reservations. (phone: 1-800-USA-RAIL.) You may pick up your ticket from the Metrolink kiosks at the station, or from the staffed stations in Fullerton, Anaheim, and Los Angeles.

Source: <http://wikitravel.org/en/Riverside>.

For further information see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riverside, California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riverside,_California).

How to get around in CA

By car

Most of the time, getting around in California will involve some form of car, and traffic congestion can ruin your day, and the aggressive driving habits of some other drivers may be intimidating. However, **this is still the BEST way to get around.**

The CA-60/I-215 runs along the north side of Riverside. (Confusingly, the two freeways merge at the Riverside 60/91/215 interchange and then split again at the Moreno Valley Interchange, which is still actually within the city limits.) The Market Street exit provides access to Downtown, the 3rd/Blaine and University exits allow easy entry into the University neighborhood, and the Martin Luther King exit will allow you run of the mostly-residential Canyon Crest area. Note that if you proceed on the CA-60 just past the interchange, get off at Day Street and you'll arrive at one of two area malls, the Moreno Valley Mall. It isn't in Riverside proper, but many people shop there rather than brave city traffic to go to the Galleria at Tyler.

The CA-91 runs from its origins at the 60/215/91 interchange in the north of the city, and runs the length of Riverside, eventually extending into Corona, Orange County and terminating in Long Beach. Notable exits include University Ave., which borders Downtown, Central Ave., which is near the new, upscale Riverside Plaza, Tyler St., immediately next to the Galleria at Tyler mall (shopping center), and La Sierra Ave., which is near the city's second Metrolink station, and Castle Park (an amusement park).

Public transport

While the vast majority of people in Riverside do use automobiles, there is public transit available in Riverside. The Riverside Transit Agency provides fixed-route bus service on around 15 routes in the city, as well as three express commuter services and a few new community-based trolley-bus routes. A note of warning -the entire Riverside city bus service essentially stops running at 8:00pm; with a few routes running through 10:00pm. There is simply no service at night. So if you're planning to be out late, make sure you have a way home.

Taxis

Taxi services are available in the city at the following telephone numbers:

Friendly Cab Co. (951)353-2222

Bell Cab- (951) 684-1234

AA Inland Empire- (951) 248-0709

Where to rent a car

If you decide to rent a car, rates are cheaper at the airport. There are a few car rental companies 20 minutes walking from the Mission Inn Hotel. Be aware that you will need to acquire car insurance when you rent a car. It is usually \$10/day.

AVIS

1521 University Avenue
Riverside, CA, 92507 , US
(1) 951-787-0646

Hours of Operation:
Sun 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Mon - Fri 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Sat 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

1788 University Avenue
Riverside, CA, 92507 , US
(1) 951-321-4130

Hours of Operation:
Sunday and Thursday closed
Monday, Tuesday and Friday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Wednesday 8:00 AM – 3:00PM
Sat 9:00 AM - Noon

Touristic and Sightseeing Information

Riverside

There are a couple of interesting sites worth visiting in Riverside. Here are some suggestions, all very close by the Mission Inn Hotel.

The Riverside Metropolitan Museum: 3580 Mission Inn Ave. Tu/We/F 9AM-5PM, Th 9AM-9PM, Sa 10AM-5PM, Su 11AM-5PM. The museum rotating exhibits on various topics and standing exhibits on local history, geography and culture. It's a half-hour's walk-through, but well worth the price.



The Mission Inn Museum: Every Day 9:30AM-4PM. Located on the ground floor of the Mission Inn Hotel, this space showcases the history of the building, including a chair crafted for the legendarily girth President Taft.



UCR Culver Center for the Arts: 3834 Main Street. Tu-Sa noon-5PM, 1st Th, 6PM-9PM. The newly-renovated UCR Culver Center for the Arts contains two institutions: the Sweeney Gallery, which shows a rotating collection of artistic endeavors from various, often UCR-affiliated, artists; and the UCR California Museum of Photography, which offers a collection showcasing the artistic and historical uses that photography has been put to over the years. Admission covers both institutions. There is also a performance space in the center which showcases artistic and independent films.



The UCR Botanical Gardens: 900 University Ave. Every Day 8AM-5PM. These impressive botanical gardens are hidden in the hills above campus. They are usually lightly-visited and offer fantastic views of Riverside, as well as a large collection of exotic flora. Parking is highly limited, and metered at \$0.50/hour.



Mount Rubidoux City Park, west end of 9th Street (*1/2 mile west of Downtown bus terminal, walk south on Fairmount to 9th, then west*). Every day, dawn to dusk. For a panoramic view of the city, try climbing Mt. Rubidoux! The route up Mt. Rubidoux is a steady, sometimes-paved but mostly sandy incline lined with tall, prickly pear cactus and humongous rocks. A steady gait makes for about an hour round trip. Don't forget to bring a camera. If it's a clear day, one can see clear into nearby Corona to the West and Moreno Valley to the East. The sunsets from this vantage are beautiful, too! Be sure you are able to make it down before the sky gets too dark since there are **no** lights along the path. Also, bringing a bottle of water is a good idea as there are currently no fountains or vending machines anywhere on or around the mountain. The entrance to the park is in a residential area. The park entrance is at the west end of 9th street, under a large iron gate. Parking is extremely limited in the surrounding neighborhoods. Free!



Riverside County & the Desert

Suggestions: For those of you who would like to explore the desert, Palm Springs and Joshua Tree are good options. You should take one day to explore Palm Springs and at least two-three days to explore Joshua Tree National Park.

Joshua Tree National Park is named for the Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*) native to the park. It covers a land area of 790,636 acres (3,199.59 km²). A large part of the park, some 429,690 acres (173,890 ha), is a designated wilderness area. Straddling the San Bernardino County/Riverside County border, the park includes parts of two deserts, each an ecosystem whose characteristics are determined primarily by elevation: the higher Mojave Desert and lower Colorado Desert.

Palm Springs is a desert resort city in Riverside County, within the Coachella Valley. Biking, golf, hiking, horseback riding, swimming, and tennis in the nearby desert and mountain areas are major forms of recreation in Palm Springs.

Touristic Areas nearby Riverside

Riverside is located about a 30 minutes drive to the nearest mountains, and an hour's drive to the beaches of Orange and Los Angeles Counties, and to the desert. The Orange County beaches are accessible by taking the 91, then 55 freeways; and the Los Angeles County beaches can be reached by taking the 60 or 91 freeways. Beaches have modest day use fees.

Taking the 91 north to the I-215, then following signs for CA-30 and mountain resorts, will have you in the San Bernardino mountains very easily. **Big Bear** and its surroundings are a winter playground unparalleled in much of the Southwest.

Los Angeles Highlights (one-two hours away from Riverside, no traffic)

Sunset Strip: The heady mix of hip restaurants, night clubs, and bars along the city's entertainment mile attracts always young crowds and the trendy.

Historic Hollywood Boulevard: The boulevard that gave birth to the movie industry is still associated with the stars, even if the only ones around today are those embedded in the sidewalks.

The Getty Center: One of the best bargains in LA, this striking hilltop complex is a marvel of modern architecture and for those who are fans of European art. It also has stunning views.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA): One of the largest art museums in the US, this museum offers a survey of artistic achievement in the world from prehistoric times to the present. This can easily be accessed from Union Station (Los Angeles) if you decide to take the Metrolink from Riverside.

El Pueblo de Los Angeles: This historic district preserves LA's oldest buildings, celebrating its Spanish-Mexican past with stores and eateries. This can easily be accessed from Union Station (Los Angeles) if you decide to take the Metrolink from Riverside.

Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens: One of LA's great cultural treasures. Located in Pasadena.

Universal Studios Hollywood: A day at Universal involves high-tech thrill rides, live action shows, and special effects extravaganzas.

Griffith Park: The largest park in LA. It offers a unique combination of rugged wilderness and diversions such as museums, a zoo, and an observatory. The landmark Hollywood Sign is located here as well. It is really worth visiting.

Catalina Island: This island is a quick and easy getaway whose considerable charms include clear waters, miles of undeveloped backcountry, and a sense of being far away from the bustle of big city LA.

Old town Pasadena: It is the historic core of Pasadena, LA's first suburb. It has been renovated to create a vibrant street with fine restaurants and shops.

Santa Monica Bay: Santa Monica Bay spans about 20 miles (32 km) between two of the richest communities in CA: Malibu and Palos Verdes. Its shores have some of the finest beaches including Topanga, Santa Monica, and Venice on through Manhattan, Hermosa, Redondo and Torrance. American surfing and the youth culture it spawned, was born in this area. Santa Monica's main attractions include **Santa Monica Pier** (which offers sundry entertainment options and a lively carnival atmosphere), **Third Street Promenade** (downtown Santa Monica's main artery flanked by upscale shops, movie theaters, and eclectic restaurants, bars and cafes), **Venice Boardwalk**, **Abbot Kinney Street** and **Venice Canals**. Other areas worth driving through include **Beverly Hills**, **Rodeo Drive**, **Westwood** and **Bel-Air**.

Things to Avoid:

Sightseeing Excesses - LA first time visitors sometimes make the mistake of packing too much sightseeing into a single day, which can be exhausting. Do not underestimate the time it takes to travel between attractions. If limited time is a factor, the best way to visit LA is to join an organized tour or focus your explorations on a single neighborhood.

Rush-hour Traffic – Heavy traffic is one of LA’s major drawbacks. To prevent being stuck in a traffic jam, especially on freeways, avoid traveling from 7 to 9am and 4-7pm on week days. Traffic is also heavy on Sunday afternoons.

Suggestions: For those who only have **one day** to visit Los Angeles we would recommend to rent a car and visit The Getty Museum in the morning, lunch at LA’s original Farmer’s market (located at 6333 W. 3rd St. Los Angeles, CA 90036), visit the Griffith Park & Observatory right after lunch and then spend the rest of the afternoon and late evening exploring Santa Monica Bay (Venice Beach & Abbot Kinney Street are worth going). Universal Studios requires one full day to visit & enjoy the rides. Catalina Island also requires one full day to explore the island.

Orange County Highlights (one hour away from Riverside, no traffic)

Disneyland: for more information check <https://disneyland.disney.go.com/>

Newport Beach: The Newport Harbor and beach area features miles of paths, fresh seafood, two piers, and an old-fashioned amusement park. Balboa Island with its ferry and nonstop yachts also create a good setting for a relaxed vacation.

Huntington Beach: Huntington Beach is celebrated as Surf City but it may just be the world's bonfire capital too. With nearly 600 fire rings available on a first-come, first-served basis, bonfires are a city tradition right up there with surfing and volleyball. Beach concessionaires and some hotels offer wood and the fixings for a cookout.

Laguna Beach: Laguna Beach is a seaside resort city, approximately 19 miles (31 km) southeast of the county seat of Santa Ana. Laguna Beach is known for its mild year-round climate, scenic beaches and coves, and artist community.

Suggestions: For those who have one extra day to explore Orange County we recommend to focus on Laguna Beach & Newport Beach. Disneyland (located in Anaheim) requires one full day to explore.

Santa Barbara County Highlights (two and 1/2 hours away from Riverside, no traffic)

Santa Barbara is the county seat of Santa Barbara County. Located on a south-facing section of coastline, the longest such section on the West Coast of the United States, the city lies between the steeply rising Santa Inez Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. Santa Barbara's climate is often described as Mediterranean, and the city has been promoted as the "American Riviera".

Suggestions: Santa Barbara & Santa Ynez Valley are worth visiting only if you have at least two-three extra more days.

NBA & Baseball Games

The Los Angeles Lakers Games

From November 1st through the middle of April one of the most exciting things to do in LA is to attend an LA Lakers basketball game at Staples center (Downtown Los Angeles).

The LA Lakers normally play about 40 home games a season. That averages about two per week. Check out the LA Lakers schedule at www.lakers.com.

Once you decide to see a game, the best way to get tickets is through the LA Lakers Ticket Exchange. This is where LA Lakers Season Ticket Holders sell tickets to games that they can't attend. You can find the link to the LA Lakers Ticket Exchange at www.lakers.com.

Season Ticket Holders can offer tickets for sale for face value or above. The ticket exchange adds 20% which is split between Ticketmaster and the team. The total price per ticket, including the 20% mark-up is what is shown in the listing. There is a \$1.95 charge per ticket authentication and ticketFast delivery fee. During the season, tickets are listed for virtually every game. The listing is from highest price to lowest price. Prices range from face value to three to four times face value for the most popular games. You can count on paying a large premium to see the Lakers play Boston, Cleveland, Phoenix, or San Antonio. There is a seat map on the web site so you can see where the seats are located for tickets you are interested in.

Staples Center is easy to find. Maps and directions can be found at www.staplescenter.com. While Staples Center is easy to find, sometimes parking is not. The Metro Blue Pico station is within one short block of Staples Center. It is convenient and will cost a lot less than parking for two people. Parking is typically from \$15.00 and up; higher the closer the lot is to Staples Center.

Source: <http://www.tripadvisor.com>.

The Los Angeles Clippers Games

Sometimes is quite difficult to find tickets to a Lakers game. Moreover, tickets can be very expensive for a Lakers' game. A good alternative is to watch the Los Angeles Clippers. Check the LA Clippers at <http://www.nba.com/clippers/>.

The Los Angeles Dodger Games

The Los Angeles Dodgers are a professional baseball team located also in Los Angeles. The Dodgers are members of the National League West division of Major League Baseball. Established in 1883, the team originated in Brooklyn, New York, where it was known by a number of nicknames before becoming the Brooklyn Dodgers definitively by 1932. The team moved to Los Angeles before the 1958 season. For further information on upcoming game tickets and directions to the Dodger stadium (also located in downtown Los Angeles) please check http://losangeles.dodgers.mlb.com/ticketing/index.jsp?c_id=la.

Highway Map of Southern California

