



Speaking With *One* Voice
Civil Rights Virtual Symposium

HONORING THE PAST,
SHAPING THE FUTURE

MAY 17-18, 2017

**Introduction to the 2017 Civil
Rights Virtual Symposium:
The Road Before Us**

Session Speakers

- Leslie Proll, Director
Departmental Office of Civil Rights, U.S. DOT
- Deeana Jang, Deputy Director
Departmental Office of Civil Rights, U.S. DOT



Welcome!



Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future



Thurgood Marshall



Rosa Parks



Bruce Boynton & Amelia Boynton Robinson



William T. Coleman Jr.



The Road Before Us



The Mission of the Department is to:

Serve the United States by ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future.



Civil Rights and Transportation: Yesterday and Today

- In December 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white passenger.
- In June 2013, DOT FHWA found the city of Beavercreek, OH in violation of Title VI for refusing to extend bus service that would allow a predominantly African American community to access jobs, health care, and other services.



Impact of Transportation on Vulnerable Populations

- Public Health
- Access to Health Care
- Access to Economic Opportunity
- Emergency Preparedness, Response, Mitigation and Recovery



What are the health effects related to transportation?

- These can fall hardest on communities of color, low-income, children, persons with disabilities, and older adults.
- Inadequate or substandard infrastructure in communities.
- Low-income and communities of color are more likely to be located near highways and other transportation facilities that produce reduced air quality.



Food Deserts

- Adequate access to transportation can limit access to health and affordable food.
- According to USDA, 2% of American households live more than one mile from a supermarket and do not own a car. Predominantly white neighborhoods have 4 times more supermarkets than predominantly black neighborhoods.
- In past decades, incidence of type 2 diabetes has greatly increased among Native American youth and African American and Latinos of all ages.



Access to Health Care

- Poor people in urban and suburban areas have difficulty if they do not have a car or must share one.
- Texas survey, 55% of African Americans and 60% of Latinos cited transportation as a major barrier to cancer treatment, compared to 38% of white respondents.
- Persons with disabilities or with chronic illness find it difficult to use public transit to go to the doctor. Some patients will wait until they have an emergency to call an ambulance to get care.



Access to jobs

- Changing communities moving to the suburbs
- $\frac{3}{4}$'s of low- and middle-income jobs cannot be accessed by a one-way, 90 minute transit commute.
- Chicago study
 - Black low-wage workers averaged 70 minute longer weekly commutes than white low-wage workers. Black women workers averaged 80 minutes longer than white women.



Civil Rights and Emergencies

- During Hurricane Katrina, one-third of African American residents did not own cars. 15% of all residents relied on public transportation.
 - [Title VI Guidance for State and Local Governments](https://www.justice.gov/crt/file/885401/download)
(<https://www.justice.gov/crt/file/885401/download>)
 - [NCD Guidance on Effective Emergency Management](http://www.ncd.gov/publications/2009/Aug122009)
(<http://www.ncd.gov/publications/2009/Aug122009>)



Thank you very much!

Enjoy the 2017 DOT Civil Rights Virtual Symposium!

