



# Energy & Sustainability Summit

PROGRAM BOOK

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November 15, 2023

# AGENDA

*Note that all times listed are in Eastern Time*

12:00 PM - **Opening Remarks**  
12:10 PM Madalene Xuan-Trang Mielke, APAICS  
Rep. Scott Peters (CA-50)

12:10 PM - **The Clean Energy Transition: Challenges and Opportunities**  
1:10 PM **Sponsored By: Toyota Motor North America**  
As with any change, transitioning to clean energy can be a bumpy road as we weigh the impacts of this change on present dynamics. This panel sheds light on the challenges, considerations, and opportunities as we develop and implement an energy strategy that propels the U.S. toward a sustainable future. This discussion will address questions around workforce development, hurdles in the legislative process at the federal, state, and local levels, and developing new technologies and research that support a shift to cleaner energy. Join us in this insightful panel discussion as we navigate the complex yet promising present and future energy policy roadmap.

**Opening Remarks: Sen. Tammy Duckworth (Illinois), Rep. Doris Matsui (CA-07), Rep. Kim Schrier (WA-08), Joanna Dean (Toyota Financial Services)**

- **Dr. Joshua Kaakua, Ed. D., University of Hawai'i**
- **Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa (D-6), Hawai'i House of Representatives**
- **Erik Takayesu, SoCal Edison**
- **Moderator: Carianne Lee, Pioneer Public Affairs**

1:20 PM - **Plugged In: Sustainable Transportation**  
2:20 PM **Options for the Future**

**Sponsored By: Walmart, Toyota, DoorDash, Delta**

Transportation accounts for 30 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions produced in the U.S. However, recent historic investments from the federal government, some states, and many private companies seek to reduce transportation's environmental impact. This panel sheds light on the additional investments in research, development, and implementation needed to facilitate an effective transition to "green" transportation that simultaneously improves the mobility of people and goods across the globe. The panel will also discuss obstacles that must be overcome to turn this vision into reality.

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**Opening Remarks: Administrator Shailen Bhatt (U.S. Department of Transportation), Sen. Catherine Cortez-Masto (Nevada), Rep. Debbie Dingell (MI-06), José Mercado (DoorDash)**

- Robert Chiappetta, Toyota Motor North America
- Jumana Master, Delta Airlines
- Jodi Robinson, Blue Planet Foundation
- Sen. Joe Thanh Nguyễn (D-34), Washington State Senate
- Moderator: David S. Kim, WSP USA

2:30 PM -  
3:20 PM

## **Paving the Path to Equitable and Sustainable Cities**

About 50 percent of people worldwide live in cities responsible for 70 percent of carbon emissions. This panel spotlights the pressing need to prioritize sustainability in urban planning and development. The discussion will center on how sustainable cities can be designed and built, focusing on addressing the unique challenges communities of color face. The panel seeks to inspire transformative actions toward vibrant, sustainable, and equitable urban landscapes by acknowledging historical disparities and incorporating community-driven solutions.

**Opening Remarks: Sen. Alex Padilla (California)**

- Jessica Jinn, Natural Resource Defense Council
- Audrey Loh, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- Devi Ramkissoon, Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia
- Chris Rhie, Rhie Planning LLC
- Moderator: Susan Jin Davis, Al Roker Entertainment

3:30 PM -  
4:25 PM

## **Balancing Sustainability and Equity in the Energy Sector**

**Sponsored By: BP, Exelon**

On April 21, 2023, the Biden administration issued Executive Order 14096: Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All, prompting federal agencies to weigh in on the environmental burden of new energy projects on historically marginalized communities.

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This panel explores the critical nexus between developing and implementing sustainable energy projects rapidly and the imperative of achieving equity and inclusivity in the energy sector. As the world grapples with the challenges of climate change, energy reliability and affordability, and social disparities, it becomes increasingly evident that addressing sustainability and equity is essential for a just and prosperous future.

**Opening Remarks: Rep. Nanette Barragan (CA-44)**

- **Jeanette Pablo, Clean Air Task Force; Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment and Commerce (AE2C)**
- **Puja Vohra, Slipstream Inc.; Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment and Commerce (AE2C)**
- **Moderator: Toshiki Bruce Tsuchida, The Brattle Group**

4:25 PM -  
4:30pm

## **Closing Remarks**

Madalene Xuan-Trang Mielke, APAICS

# FEATURED SPEAKERS



## Senator Tammy Duckworth

U.S. Senate, Illinois

U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth is an Iraq War Veteran, Purple Heart recipient and former Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs who was among the first handful of Army women to fly combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Duckworth served in the Reserve Forces for 23 years before retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 2014. She was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2016 after representing Illinois's Eighth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives for two terms. In the U.S. Senate, Duckworth advocates for practical, common-sense solutions needed to move our state and country forward like rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure, protecting Illinoisans from lead poisoning, growing manufacturing jobs while supporting minority-owned small businesses, investing in communities that have been ignored for too long and making college more affordable for all Americans. Senator Duckworth serves on several influential committees that give her an important platform to advocate for Illinois's working families and entrepreneurs: the Armed Services Committee; the Foreign Relations Committee; the Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee; and the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee.

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## Senator Catherine Cortez Masto

U.S. Senate, Nevada

Born and raised in Las Vegas, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto has spent her career fighting for Nevada's working families. She served two terms as Attorney General of Nevada and in November 2016, she made history by becoming the first woman from Nevada and the first Latina ever elected to the United States Senate. In Congress, her position on four Senate Committees allows her to continue to advocate for the issues that matter most to Nevadans. She sits on the Committee on Finance; the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; and the Committee on Indian Affairs. Senator Cortez Masto currently serves as the chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee's Public Lands, Forests, and Mining Subcommittee.

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## Senator Alex Padilla

U.S. Senate, California

In November of 2022, Senator Alex Padilla was elected to the United States Senate. He began serving in January of 2021 after being appointed to fill the vacancy created by the election of Vice President Kamala Harris. He is the first Latino to represent California in the U.S. Senate. Senator Padilla is also the first Latino to serve as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety. He is also a member of the Senate Committees on Budget; Environment and Public Works; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Judiciary; and Rules. The proud son of immigrants from Mexico, Senator Alex Padilla believes in giving everyone a fair shot at the American dream. A progressive problem solver, Alex has dedicated his career to finding solutions to the toughest challenges and fighting for communities that are too often left out and left behind.

# FEATURED SPEAKERS



## Representative Doris Matsui

U.S. House of Representatives, CA-07

Congresswoman Doris Matsui has represented the city of Sacramento and its surrounding areas since 2005. As a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, she serves as the Ranking Member of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee and as a member of the Energy, Climate, and Grid Security Subcommittee. She is committed to strengthening Sacramento's flood protection, ensuring quality, affordable health care for all, growing our clean energy economy, and promoting innovation and equity in technology.

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## Representative Scott Peters

U.S. House of Representatives, CA-50

Congressman Scott Peters serves California's 50th Congressional District, which includes the cities of Coronado, San Marcos, Escondido and coastal San Diego. First elected in 2012, he currently serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Budget Committee and the House Equality Caucus. Scott Peters is a civic leader who has made improving the quality of life in San Diego his life's work since serving on the San Diego City Council. As a Member of Congress, Scott focuses on advancing practical and critical climate policies, promoting and expanding San Diego's innovation ecosystem, advocating for San Diego's pivotal role as a partner in the national defense, and making government work.

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## Representative Debbie Dingell

U.S. House of Representatives, MI-06

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell represents Michigan's 6th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. She is a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Natural Resources Committee, where she leads on critical issues including affordable and accessible health care, clean energy and water, domestic manufacturing and supply chain resilience, and protecting our wildlife and natural resources. Dingell is focused on bringing people together – in Congress and in her communities – to support Michigan's families and the economy. This is most evident in her work to strengthen the American auto industry, maintaining America's competitiveness and ensuring good-paying American jobs. Before being elected to Congress, Dingell – a self-proclaimed car girl – worked in the auto industry for over three decades, where she was President of the General Motors (GM) Foundation and a senior executive responsible for public affairs.

# FEATURED SPEAKERS



## Representative Nanette Barragán

U.S. House of Representatives, CA-44

Nanette Diaz Barragán was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in November 2016, becoming the first Latina ever to represent California's 44th Congressional district. Nanette is Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and a member of the Progressive Caucus. She serves House Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittees on Health and Energy, Climate, & Grid Security. In 2019, she became the first Latina in 10 years to hold a seat on this prestigious committee and only the second Latina ever to do so. Representative Barragán serves as a voice for the communities that have been on the frontlines of the negative health impacts associated with climate change and environmental injustice.

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## Representative Kim Schrier

U.S. House of Representatives, WA-08

Congresswoman Kim Schrier represents Washington's 8th Congressional District, which includes much of King, Pierce, Kittitas, Chelan, and Snohomish Counties, and a small portion of Douglas County. She currently serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and is a member of the Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security. Prior to being elected to Congress on November 6, 2018, Congresswoman Schrier spent her career as a pediatrician in Issaquah, working with children across the Puget Sound region and helping families navigate the health care system. In Congress, she uses this expertise to inform her work on issues that improve the lives, health, and wellbeing of children.

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## Administrator Shailen Bhatt

U.S. Department of Transportation

On January 13, 2023, Shailen Bhatt was sworn in by U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg as the 21st Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). He is the first person of Indian descent to lead FHWA. In this role, he oversees over 2,700 FHWA employees in all 50 States, U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia, and provides executive leadership on strategic initiatives and policy, including administering more than \$350 billion as part of President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and its formula and competitive grant programs that are available to State departments of transportation, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, Tribes, territories, federal land management agencies, and other organizations. His distinguished career includes serving in leadership positions in the public and private sectors, including the Kentucky, Delaware, and Colorado Departments of Transportation, the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, AECOM, and as FHWA's Associate Administrator for Highway Policy and External Affairs in the Obama Administration.

# FEATURED SPEAKERS



## Joanna Dean

Toyota Financial Services

Joanna Dean is group vice president of sales at Toyota Financial Services (TFS), where she is responsible for all sales activities for the organization. She leads a team that works closely with the Toyota and Lexus divisions to bring a wide range of financing, insurance, and voluntary protection products to dealer partners. Dean has overseen significant growth in the scope of the sales and credit decisioning functions for TFS, and established essential shared services necessary to support to TFS' private label business. Most recently, Dean was named an Automotive News Rising Star for her impact on the next generation of leaders in the automotive industry. She has also served as an executive sponsor for WIIT (Women Influencing and Impacting Toyota), and is part of the Women in Sales Excellence Advisory Council, which develops talent and promotes diversity in field sales, and within Toyota as a whole.



## José Mercado

DoorDash

José R. Mercado is a seasoned government affairs professional working as DoorDash's Manager for Federal Government Relations, where he leads the company's engagement with federal Democratic lawmakers. Before joining DoorDash, José worked as a lobbyist representing various clients, including DoorDash, on Capitol Hill. He started his career in public service as a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Fellow, where he advised U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) on Latino Affairs as his Congressional Hispanic Caucus Liaison. José is a native of Sacramento, CA, now residing in Alexandria, Virginia with his wife and shih tzu-poodle. In his free time, he serves on the Executive Committee of the Hispanic Lobbyist Association Board of Directors, dedicated to empowering Latinos in the field of government relations.



# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 1 | The Clean Energy Transition: Challenges and Opportunities



### **Joshua Kaakua, Ed. D.**

**Academic Program Officer, University of Hawai'i**

Joshua Kaakua serves as a Program Officer with the University of Hawai'i System and leads various statewide initiatives to promote affordable and open-door access to college education, workforce training, and student support that enables local residents and communities to thrive. His portfolio includes the Good Jobs Hawai'i Initiative, a \$35 million dollar partnership between businesses, educators, government agencies, and community partners to design and implement workforce solutions for four strategic sectors of Hawai'i's economy: Healthcare, Technology, Creative Industries, and Clean Energy. Beyond his professional interests in modernizing post-secondary education, Dr. Kaakua serves on the boards of the Society of Native Hawaiian Engineers, the State of Hawai'i Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana/Fund, and the Hui Mālama o ke Kai Foundation - a place-based youth leadership non-profit organization. Kaakua is of mixed Hawaiian-Chinese ancestry raised on Hawaiian Homelands in Waimānalo, Oahu.



### **Rep. Kirstin Kahaloe (D-6)**

**State Representative, Hawai'i House of Representatives**

Representative Kirstin Kahaloe serves as the Vice Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Food Systems in the Hawai'i State House of Representatives. After a career in higher education administration on the continental U.S., Kahaloe returned to her native Hawai'i to work at the intersection of economic development, food security, and community well-being. Her professional passion is bridging the gap between traditional systems of agricultural abundance and prosperity in the modern global economy. She has pursued that passion by leading a regional chamber of commerce, working to establish a \$10 million food systems investment fund, and growing a research campus for global sustainability initiatives. Kahaloe heeded the call to public service in 2022, when she ran for and was elected to the Hawai'i State House to represent Kona on Hawai'i Island.



### **Erik Takayesu**

**Senior Vice President, Asset Strategy and Planning, SoCal Edison**

Erik Takayesu has been with Southern California Edison (SCE) since 1991 and is currently the Senior Vice President of the Asset Strategy and Planning organization at SCE. He leads the company's business and asset management strategy, electric system planning, technology demonstration and development, and wildfire safety. At SCE, he previously served as Vice President of Transmission, Substations and Operations in the Transmission and Distribution organization and, prior to that, as the managing director of Integrated Innovation and Modernization. Takayesu serves on the boards of directors for several organizations, including the College of Engineering for California State University, Long Beach and Pomona and the executive committee for the Western Energy Institute. He also serves on a number of advisory boards and steering teams across the industry.

# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 1 | The Clean Energy Transition: Challenges and Opportunities



### **Carianne Lee (Moderator)**

**Director of Climate Policy and Appropriations, Pioneer Public Affairs**

Carianne is the Director of Climate Policy and Appropriations at Pioneer Public Affairs, a clean energy, clean tech, and climate solutions government relations firm in Washington, DC. At Pioneer, Carianne develops strategies for her clients to best engage with the federal government and elevate important climate policies necessary to decarbonize our economy and protect communities from the impacts of climate change. Prior to Pioneer, Carianne was a senior legislative staffer for Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ-12). In her role, Carianne managed a legislative portfolio including energy, environment, housing, agriculture, and appropriations. While working in Congress, Carianne also sat on the board of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Staff Association (CAPASA), and most recently led the association as President. After leaving the Hill, Carianne co-founded the AAPIs in Clean Energy, a professional networking group for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the DMV area working in clean energy and clean transportation.

# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 2 | Plugged In: Sustainable Transportation Options for the Future



### Robert Chiappetta

**Director of Government Affairs, Toyota Motor North America**

Robert Chiappetta is currently Director of Government Affairs at Toyota Motor North America, Inc. He is responsible for enhancing the company's reputation and advancing its legislative agenda with Members of Congress and the Administration. His primary focus is on tax, workforce development, labor, and education. In addition, he serves as the company's liaison to various political organizations, trade associations, and congressional caucuses. He joined Toyota in 1998. Chiappetta currently serves as the Board Chair of the Partnership for Transportation Innovation and Opportunity (PTIO), which aims to understand the interplay between autonomous vehicles and the workforce. He serves on the Board of Directors of Excelencia in Education, which seeks to accelerate Latino student success in higher education.



### Jumana Master

**Program Manager, Sustainable Travel Experience, Delta Airlines**

Jumana Master has a degree in Public Health specializing in Human Rights and has spent her career in the environmental movement. Her roots stem from mitigating environmental harms in communities impacted by the climate crisis and energy transition. Her work spans educating state and local lawmakers on environmental issues in Georgia, leading corporate ESG reporting strategy, managing sustainability marketing, and piloting corporate sustainability innovation initiatives. In her current role at Delta Air Lines, Jumana focuses on roadmapping a sustainable travel experience and scaling initiatives to reduce the airline's environmental footprint, including leading Delta's efforts on the Sustainable Flight Challenge. She serves as Vice Chair of Georgia Sierra Club's Executive Committee and is a certified Climate Reality Leader with Al Gore's Climate Reality Project. She is an Atlanta resident and Georgia native.



### Jodi Robinson

**Policy Analyst, Blue Planet Foundation**

Jodi Robinson is a fourth generation Japanese American in Hawai'i, born on the island of Kaua'i and raised on O'ahu. She received her degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Hawai'i and is an environmental justice advocate with nearly ten years of experience in state environmental policy and legislative strategy management. Jodi currently works as the Policy Analyst for Blue Planet Foundation, a non-profit organization that is committed to helping Hawai'i cut its carbon emissions and avoid the worst impacts of climate change. She loves to read and hike and is an avid solo traveler, having visited 36 countries across every continent.

# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 2 | Plugged In: Sustainable Transportation Options for the Future



### Sen. Joe Thanh Nguyễn (D-34)

State Senator, Washington State Senate

Born and raised in Washington's 34th Legislative District, Sen. Joe Nguyễn has deep roots in the community. His experiences and his involvement with community makes him an ardent champion for investing in Washington families and residents, expanding economic opportunities, and marks him a bold leader in our fight against the climate crisis. Sen. Nguyễn is the Chair of the Environment, Energy & Technology Committee. He also serves on the Ways & Means Committee, Human Services Committee, and is the Senate Democratic Assistant Floor Leader. Elected to the state Senate in 2019, he has spent his tenure advocating for working families and community members who historically have been left out of the political process. His priorities mirror the committees he serves on.



### David S. Kim (Moderator)

Senior Vice President and Principal, National Transportation Policy and Multimodal Strategy, WSP USA

David S. Kim is a transportation executive with WSP USA, a global engineering and professional services firm. In his role as Senior Vice President and Principal, National Transportation Policy and Multimodal Strategy, Kim works with WSP's Advisory national business line, collaborating with senior transportation executives in the public and private sector across the United States. He guides policymaking that supports federal funding for transportation projects anticipated under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law enacted in November 2021. He also guides the delivery of transportation capital projects, including strategic planning and policy, environmental process, funding and finance and capital delivery. Prior to joining WSP, David served as Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA). He was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in April 2019 and served as Cabinet Secretary until January 2022.

# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 3 | Paving the Path to Equitable and Sustainable Cities



### Jessica Jinn

**Advocate, City Equity, People & Communities Program, Natural Resource Defense Council**

Jessica Jinn supports NRDC advocates, core partners, community partners, and cities to equitably advance climate programs and goals. Prior to this role, Jinn worked in clean transportation policy and programs with the mayor's office of Los Angeles and the Center for Sustainable Energy. She was also director of communications at a large social justice organization, where she developed communication and digital mobilization strategies for local, state, and national campaigns. Jinn holds a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's degree in international economics from the University of California San Diego.



### Audrey Loh

**PhD student, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Hawaii at Manoa**

Audrey has returned to UH after more than 40 years of professional practices in Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning in California, Washington DC, Singapore, and Malaysia. In Singapore, she worked in the Urban Development Authority and the Land Transport Authority. She was the Chief Architect (Land Transport Infrastructure) responsible for the master-planning, design, development, and construction of the nation's land transportation system. For the last 10 years, she was Chief Architect/Director Engineering in Kuala Lumpur where she designed and implemented their Mass Transit systems. As a practitioner, Loh has comprehensive action experience in sustainability measures in city planning and development, urban transit and implementation, and for equitable accessibility.



### Devi Ramkissoon

**Executive Director, Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia**

Devi Ramkissoon serves as Executive Director for SBN, with 15+ years of experience in international development, specializing in working with sustainable businesses for economic growth and poverty reduction. An immigrant and social entrepreneur herself, Devi has worked tirelessly to advance the work of small businesses from underrepresented communities across Latin America, Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East. For nearly the past decade at USAID, she led multimillion dollar food security, environment, and private sector development projects around the world, managed the Agency's premier knowledge-sharing platform for market development, and advanced the US Government's sustainable development goals at multiple international market development fora. She has won numerous awards from the US Government and the private sector for her leadership navigating global humanitarian crises.

# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 3 | Paving the Path to Equitable and Sustainable Cities



### Chris Rhie

Founder and Principal, Rhie Planning LLC

Chris Rhie (he/him) is an urban planner who has over 15 years of experience shaping equitable, place-based strategies to combat global climate change. He is a nationally recognized expert on urban sustainability, and has worked with leading cities, regions, and NGOs across the United States. His portfolio includes project leadership for New York City's first comprehensive environmental justice report and the award-winning Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan – widely recognized as the nation's boldest, most inclusive regional sustainability strategy. Prior to his experience as an urban strategy consultant, Rhie served as an energy manager at the Cities of Oakland and New York. Rhie currently serves as the President of the Board of the Westside Urban Forum in Los Angeles and as a Board Member at Urban Environmentalists. A second generation Korean American, Rhie strives to center equity in every project and embrace a collaborative approach to help communities become carbon neutral whilst furthering social, economic, and environmental justice.



### Susan Jin Davis (Moderator)

Social Impact Officer, Al Roker Entertainment | Board Chair, APAICS

Susan Jin Davis has 30 years of experience in the telecommunications, media, entertainment, and technology industries. She currently serves as Social Impact Officer for Al Roker Entertainment, a leading producer of TV, digital, branded programming and entertainment. She is also an advisor for ALO Advisors, a consulting firm specializing in areas of sustainability, diversity, and corporate social responsibility. She also serves as faculty for the Center for Creative Leadership in the areas of organizational leadership, women's leadership, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Most recently, Ms. Jin Davis was a senior executive at Comcast Corporation, where she held a multitude of roles over a 15-year career at the Company, including becoming the company's first Chief Sustainability Officer, creating the framework for the company's Environmental, Social, and Governance disclosures, operationalizing its renewable energy and energy efficiency strategy, and contributing to transforming its fleet to low-carbon vehicles. She serves as the Chair of the Board of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) and serves on the Board of the Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce & Entrepreneurship (National ACE).

# PANELISTS AND MODERATORS

## Panel 4 | Balancing Sustainability and Equity in the Energy Sector



### Jeanette Pablo

**Director of the Climate Initiative, Clean Air Task Force | Co-founder and Vice President, Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment and Commerce (AE2C)**

Jeanette Pablo is the Director of the Climate Initiative at Clean Air Task Force where she focuses on climate equity issues, and carbon-free electricity procurement policies. Prior to joining CATEF, Ms. Pablo was General Counsel at the Energy Futures Initiative, a clean energy think tank founded by Ernest Moniz, the 13th Secretary of Energy. She was also a major contributor to EFI's research and analysis portfolio for advancing clean energy technologies and deep decarbonization pathways. Ms. Pablo served as Senior Advisor and Acting Deputy Director for Energy Systems in the Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis at the U.S. Department of Energy. Ms. Pablo is currently the lead director of the board of ESPX Global, a clean energy storage startup, chair of the audit committee of the EFI Foundation, and co-founder and vice president of the board of Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment, and Commerce, an affinity organization.



### Puja Vohra

**Vice President of Partnerships, Slipstream Inc. | Massachusetts Chapter Director, Asian Americans in Energy, the Environment and Commerce (AE2C)**

Puja Vohra is currently the Vice President of Partnerships at Slipstream, a non-profit climate solutions provider. She has more than twenty years of professional experience in the clean energy space specifically around strategic planning for utility energy programs, market research and clean energy policy analysis, and sustainability in the built environment. At Slipstream she is responsible for leading collaborations and partnerships to provide clean energy solutions at federal, state, local government and community level. Vohra serves as a board member at MA Climate Action Network and is the Massachusetts Chapter director for Asian Americans in Energy, Environment and Commerce.



### Toshiki Bruce Tsuchida (Moderator)

**The Brattle Group**

Mr. Tsuchida specializes in the analysis of wholesale electric markets and modeling, including operations, valuations of transmission and generation assets, deliverability analyses, RTO cost benefit analyses, market power studies, and contract evaluations. His experience spans a wide range of utility consulting projects, including the analysis of operations for power markets, ranging from integration studies for intermittent resources such as wind and solar power, ancillary service studies, operational logic studies, and analyses required for regulatory proceedings. Mr. Tsuchida also has extensive experience in the analysis and modeling of wholesale marketing restructuring for the electric industry and power systems. Prior to joining Brattle, Mr. Tsuchida was a principal at Charles River Associates. He was also a project manager at the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), where he oversaw international generation development projects and was the lead engineer for Southeast Asia generation units.

# ABOUT APAICS

Founded by former Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and former Delegate Robert Underwood in 1994, APAICS is a national non-partisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to building the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AA & NH/PI) political pipeline at all levels, from community advocacy to elected office.

**INSPIRE: Identifying future leaders for tomorrow**

**EDUCATE: Building public policy knowledge**

**EMPOWER: Developing individual leadership**

**CONNECT: Bridging local, state, and national politics & the AA & NH/PI community**

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