

Amanda Eaken is Director of Transportation and Climate in the Healthy People and Thriving Communities Program at the Natural Resources Defense Council. In 2008, Ms. Eaken was instrumental in passage of the nation's first law to connect regional planning and climate change, Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg). She was appointed by the California Air Resources Board to serve on the Regional Targets Advisory Committee to review global data on the potential for land use and transportation planning and policy to reduce vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions, and successfully built consensus among diverse stakeholders to set ambitious GHG targets for Round 1 SB 375 implementation in 2010.

She has worked across the state advising metropolitan planning organizations on the creation of Sustainable Communities Strategies to achieve their GHG targets, as well as continued to advocate for legislative change to eliminate barriers to SCS implementation. One of her most important legislative victories was drafting and passage of Senate Bill 743 (Steinberg, 2013) to eliminate automobile delay, defined as Level of Service (LOS), from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). By prioritizing the movement of automobiles as the primary metric for transportation impact analysis under CEQA, LOS has for decades incentivized road and highway widening, prevented the creation of safe infrastructure for walking, cycling and transit, and promoted auto-dependent, low-density land use patterns, while serving as a barrier to transit-oriented, infill development.

In June 2014, Ms. Eaken was delighted to help secure 35% of the state's cap and trade revenues (~ \$2B/yr.) as a permanent source of revenue to implement SB 375, via funding for affordable housing, transit capital and operations, walking, biking and shared mobility choices.

Ms. Eaken established herself as an early leader in the shared-use mobility sector when she conceptualized *Live.Ride.Share: SoCal's Emerging Mobility Marketplace*, Southern California's first conference to examine shared-use mobility. She is partnering with UC Berkeley's Transportation Sustainability Research Center to lead a first-of-its-kind climate impacts analysis of the Transportation Network Companies Lyft and Uber. The study will document vehicle ownership, VMT/GHG, and mode shift impacts of TNCs in three cities.

In 2017, she was part of a coalition that helped to secure passage of a major affordable housing package in California, including a permanent source of revenue for affordable housing construction. She leads NRDC's advocacy related to land use and transportation planning at the city, state and federal scales.

Professional Experience

- Director of Transportation and Climate, Natural Resources Defense Council, SF, CA 2015 – Present
- Deputy Director, Urban Solutions Program, Natural Resources Defense Council, SF, CA 2013-2015
- Transportation Policy Analyst, Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, CA 2007 – 2013
- Affordable Housing Developer, Citizens Housing Corporation, San Francisco, CA 2005 - 2007
- Founder and Steering Committee Member, ClimatePlan, Statewide Coalition of Equity, Land Use, Health, and Transportation Groups working to implement SB 375, 2007-2017
- Research Associate, Innovative Mobility Research, California Partners for Advanced Transit and Highways (PATH), University of California, Berkeley, 2003-2005
- Project Director, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, San Francisco, CA, 2000-2003

Relevant Awards, Recognition

- Next City Vanguard, Selected one of 40 National Urban Leaders for Urban Design Challenge, 2014
- San Francisco Business Times Forty Under 40 Emerging Bay Area Leaders Award, 2013
- President's Sustainability Leadership Award, Southern California Association of Governments, 2013
- Selected as a TEDx Speaker for Global Cities Day, 2012

Relevant Expertise:

- ◆ Transportation Planning and Policy
- ◆ Climate Change Policy
- ◆ Land Use Planning and Policy
- ◆ Regional Planning
- ◆ Shared Use Mobility
- ◆ Affordable Housing

Years of Experience: 18

Education:

Master of City Planning,
College of Environmental
Design, University of
California, Berkeley (2005)
B.A., Environmental and
Evolutionary Biology,
Dartmouth College (1999)