SELA Transportation: A Research View

The Transportation Summit was built on the premise that sound academic research can inform and empower community stakeholders and illuminate the key decisions that lie ahead for SELA. Helping to frame the conversation for the day, USC Professor **Genevieve Giuliano** presented her research and analysis of SELA's transportation system and the area's socioeconomic profile.* Dr. Giuliano surveyed the Southeast and found that it is an area with:

- A greater percentage of blue-collar jobs (led by manufacturing and warehousing) and a smaller proportion of white-collar jobs than Los Angeles County as a whole;
- Potential to become a key target for development in light of the housing affordability crisis throughout the County and general economic growth;
- High numbers of pedestrian and truck accidents in key safety hot spots;
- Heavy truck activity from industry and the port corridor;
- Higher levels of car pool and public transit use than Los Angeles County generally;
- Bus frequency and on-time performance lower than the County average;
- Commutes shorter than Los Angeles County as a whole, likely due to high job access.

In light of these findings, Giuliano provided her recommendations for enhancing transportation within SELA:

- Improve public transportation by identifying potential realignments and connections for service, adopting strategies to ensure on-time performance, and considering innovative feeder services;
- Planning for density and the gentrification challenge by creating special zones and districts that take into account the varied interests and needs of automobile drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists;
- Preparing for and adopting new communication technologies that could help manage high-volume corridors and improve pedestrian and bicycle safety.

*For Genevieve Giuliano's research report, see *Southeast LA Transportation Study.*

