

The Safe System Approach



Biographies



Jennifer Homendy
Board Member
National Transportation
Safety Board

Jennifer Homendy took the oath of office as the 44th Member of the National

Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on August 20, 2018. Member Homendy is a tireless advocate for safety and brings to the Board expertise in the safety of railroads, pipelines, and hazardous materials (on all modes of transportation). From 2004 to 2018, Homendy served as the Democratic Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, which is under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I Committee) of the U.S. House of Representatives. Homendy previously held positions with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the Transportation Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, and the American Iron and Steel Institute.

During her tenure as Subcommittee Staff Director, Member Homendy guided major pieces of rail, pipeline, and hazardous materials safety legislation through the legislative process, including: the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432, Division A); the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432, Division B); the Pipeline, Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006; the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011; the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015; the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2016; and the Norman Y. Mineta Research and Special Programs Improvement Act of 2004, which created the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, an agency charged with overseeing the safety of our nation's pipelines and hazardous materials transportation within the U.S. Department of Transportation. Throughout her tenure on the T&I Committee, Homendy was an unwavering defender of transportation safety and worked to implement numerous safety recommendations proposed by the NTSB, including the installation of excess flow valves in distribution pipelines and implementation of positive train control.



Linda Bailey
Vision Zero Director
District Department of
Transportation

Linda Bailey joined the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) in March 2019 from

the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) where she served as executive director since 2014. In her role, Bailey worked with a network of transportation officials from large U.S. cities to develop strong national policies based on best practices in various aspects of transportation policy, including street design, bicycle infrastructure design, public space design, transit-supportive street design, and green stormwater design for city streets. Bailey led policy development, with significant work on the accommodation of autonomous vehicles, and oversaw the launch and operation of NACTO's Global Designing Cities Initiative, as well as the development of six NACTO Designing Cities conferences in New York, San Francisco, Phoenix, Austin, Seattle, and Chicago.

Prior to joining NACTO, Bailey worked for the New York City Department of Transportation where she played a key role in developing the agency's Vision Zero Program and helped deliver hundreds of millions of dollars in federal transportation funding. As a federal programs adviser, Bailey shaped the city's applications for special federal grant programs, including the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects. Bailey began her career as a policy analyst focusing on senior transportation issues, federal transportation spending, and the high cost of transportation for low income households.

Bailey holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Urban Planning from the University of Michigan. She is a member on the Committee on Large Cities for the Transportation Research Board and a former board member of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association.

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Jamila Porter, DrPH, MPH
 Director of Resilient Communities
 Big Cities Health Coalition

Jamila Porter, DrPH, MPH, leads the Big Cities Health Coalition's (BCHC) efforts to build healthy, resilient, and vibrant communities across our nation's largest cities by utilizing expertise in systemic equity, racial justice, violence prevention, and policy. Prior to joining BCHC, Dr. Porter was director of Programs and Evaluation at the Safe States Alliance, a national professional association dedicated to strengthening the practice of injury and violence prevention. At the Safe States Alliance, she led the association's program, policy, and evaluation initiatives, including providing technical assistance and training to multi-sector organizations and practitioners at local, state, and national levels. Prior to the Safe States Alliance, Dr. Porter worked in health care consulting and international development.

Dr. Porter's research interests include public health capacity, policy evaluation, transportation equity, the social determinants of health, systems change, and healthy community design. She has published articles in a variety of peer-reviewed journals, including the American Journal of Public Health, the Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation, the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, and the Journal of Transport and Land Use.

Dr. Porter earned her bachelor's degree in Communication and Health Policy and Administration from Wake Forest University. She earned her Master of Public Health degree from Mercer University School of Medicine and her Doctor of Public Health degree from the University of Georgia College of Public Health.



Laura Sandt, Ph.D.
 Director, Collaborative Sciences
 Center for Road Safety
 Director, Pedestrian and Bicycle
 Information Center
 UNC Highway Safety Research
 Center

Laura Sandt, Ph.D., is a senior research associate at the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center and the director of the Collaborative Sciences Center for Road Safety, one of the five national University Transportation Centers funded by the FAST Act in 2016. Her primary focus area is conducting research and developing guidance related to multimodal safety and health. Sandt has a Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health, with a concentration in injury prevention. She also holds a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from UNC-Chapel Hill, with a concentration in transportation and land use.



Leah Shahum
 Founder and Director
 Vision Zero Network

Leah Shahum is the founder and director of the Vision Zero Network, a national nonprofit campaign supporting communities working toward Vision Zero—zero traffic fatalities and severe injuries. The Network helps communities develop and share best practices for safe mobility for all road users.

As a German Marshall Fund Fellow, Shahum researched Vision Zero strategies in Sweden, Germany, and the Netherlands. Prior to that, she was the executive director of the 10,000-member San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, which promotes bicycling for everyday transportation. She formerly served on the Boards of Directors of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District, and the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency.



Wendy Weijermars, Ph.D.
 Senior Researcher and Research
 Manager
 SWOV Institute for Road Safety
 Research

Wendy Weijermars is a senior researcher and research manager at SWOV Institute for Road Safety Research in the Netherlands. She studied Civil Engineering at the University of Twente (NL) and holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. In 2007, she joined SWOV.

Weijermars has been involved in a wide variety of road safety research projects related to road safety monitoring and road safety forecasting, the sustainable safety/safe system approach, and road safety performance indicators. In July 2019, she became head of the department focusing on research related to safe infrastructure.

Internationally, Wendy has been involved in several European Union projects; she was a member of the steering committee of the EU H2020 project SafetyCube and is a member of the Steering committee of the EU H2020 project Levitate. She was also involved in several OECD/ITF working groups and was part of the editorial group of the OECD report 'Zero Road Deaths and Serious Injuries; Leading a Paradigm Shift to a Safe System'.

