Call for Proposals: 2027 ACT International Conference

Anaheim, CA | August 2027

Keeping the momentum going for ACT's 41st Annual International Conference!

For years, our conference has featured insightful, expert-led panel discussions—and while we'll continue that tradition, we're also expanding opportunities for engagement, creativity, and collaboration.

This year's program will include several **new session formats** designed to spark dialogue, showcase innovation, and encourage peer learning. Whether you want to present, facilitate, or host a hands-on experience, we invite you to share your ideas and help shape an exciting and dynamic program in Philadelphia!

Proposal Process

Only proposals submitted through the **Cadmium submission portal** will be considered. We encourage you to review the proposal form in advance and prepare your responses in a Word document to ensure they meet the listed word limits for each session format.

Incomplete proposals—those missing required information or speaker details—will not be accepted.

All speakers listed in your proposal must be approved to attend **in person**. Sessions will not be streamed, and virtual presentations are not permitted.



We appreciate our presenters' time and commitment to the conference. Each confirmed speaker or facilitator will receive **$100 off their conference registration** (a discount code will be provided upon acceptance).

Earn 10 TDM-CP credits for speaking!

Important Dates

- **Call for Proposals Opens:** November 2, 2026
- **Proposal Submissions Due: December 18, 2026**
- **Initial Selection Notifications:** February 19, 2027
- **Final Selection Notifications:** March 5, 2027

Choosing the Right Session Format

This year's conference offers a mix of traditional and new session formats. Review the descriptions below to determine which best fits your idea. Each format has unique proposal questions designed to help reviewers understand your approach, engagement strategy, and learning outcomes.

Session Formats

Spotlight Panel Sessions (90 minutes)

Start the day in the spotlight! Our classic 90-minute sessions feature 3–5 speakers and a moderator offering diverse perspectives and practical takeaways on a key TDM topic. These sessions serve as the centerpiece of the International Conference. Discussions should be interactive, with the moderator guiding conversation and leaving time for audience Q&A.



Ideal for: Showcasing innovative programs, research findings, partnerships, or policy impacts through multiple viewpoints.

Note: These sessions are not intended for product promotion. If you wish to highlight your company's offerings, please consider submitting under the **Sponsor Showcase** format.

Proposal Questions for this format:

1. Proposed Session Title (10 words or fewer)
2. Full Session Description (up to 400 words)
3. Website Description (150–200 words) – concise summary of session content, objectives, and takeaways
4. Learning Objectives (2–3 bullet points)
5. Why is this topic timely or important to the TDM community?

Roundtable Peer Discussions (60 minutes)

These small-group, interactive discussions dive into a single topic or challenge, creating space for peer-to-peer learning and real-time problem solving. Roundtable facilitators will guide the conversation, but the focus is on participation—not presentation. Think of it as your own mini focus group of 8–10 participants, offering an opportunity to gather feedback, explore challenges, or spark great conversation. Each session room will feature multiple simultaneous discussions, allowing attendees to stay engaged in one topic or move between tables.

Ideal for: Sharing experiences, exchanging strategies, and exploring emerging issues in an informal, conversational setting.

Note: Because conversations flow better with sweets, ACT will provide candy at each table.

Proposal Questions for this format:

1. What is the specific topic or challenge your discussion will explore?
2. Why is this topic timely or important to the TDM community?
3. What 2–3 key questions will you pose to participants to spark conversation?
4. What do you hope participants will gain from this discussion?



Mobility in Motion (Mobile Sessions)

Length: 60 minutes to 3 hours

Take learning out of the conference room and into the real world! These offsite, field-based sessions bring learning to life by highlighting local TDM, transportation, or mobility projects in the Philadelphia region. Typically hosted in partnership with local agencies, organizations, or businesses, these sessions provide participants an up-close look at practical solutions in action—and an opportunity to show off what you're doing.

Ideal for: Demonstrating successful TDM strategies, infrastructure, or partnerships in action.

Proposal Questions for this format:

1. Proposed Session Title (10 words or fewer)
2. Session Description (150–200 words) – overview of what attendees will see, learn, or experience
3. Locations to be visited
4. Proposed Session Length
5. Session Theme/Focus Area
6. Estimated Group Capacity
7. Is transportation needed for this session?

Rapid Exchange Sessions (60 minutes)

A faster-paced version of our Spotlight Panels! These sessions feature 2–3 presenters (max) sharing insights on a focused topic in rapid succession, offering attendees a broad view of challenges, strategies, and innovations in a short timeframe. Designed for interactive Q&A and lively discussion, these sessions keep energy high while delivering diverse expertise and actionable takeaways.

Ideal for: Sharing multiple perspectives and concise insights on a focused topic in an engaging, fast-paced format.



Proposal Questions for this format:

1. Proposed Session Title (10 words or fewer)
2. Full Session Description (up to 400 words)
3. Website Description (150–200 words)
4. Learning Objectives (2–3 bullet points)
5. Why is this topic timely or important to the TDM community?

Game Time Sessions (60 minutes)

Bring the fun—and the learning—to life! These sessions turn TDM and mobility concepts into game-style experiences where participants collaborate, compete, and problem-solve in real time. Through challenges, simulations, or scenario-based activities, attendees actively engage with the content, test strategies, and explore creative solutions in a lively, hands-on environment.

Ideal for: Sparking discussion, building connections, and reinforcing key takeaways in a fun, interactive setting.

Proposal Questions for this format:

1. Proposed Session Title (10 words or fewer)
2. Session Description (150–200 words)
3. Session Theme or Focus Area
4. Why is this topic timely or important right now? (1–2 sentences)
5. What knowledge, strategies, or skills will participants practice or reinforce through your game?
6. Describe the game mechanics (e.g., team challenge, simulation, role-play) and session flow. Include timing if possible.
7. What is the ideal number of participants for your activity?
8. List any materials, AV, or space requirements.

Proposal Submission Requirements

To ensure a fair and comprehensive review process, each proposal must include:



1. Session Information
– Responses to the specific questions listed under your chosen format

2. Speaker / Facilitator Information
For each proposed speaker or facilitator, provide:

- Full Name
- Title and Organization
- Email Address
- Short Bio (75 words)
- Headshot *(preferred at time of submission; required upon acceptance)*

For **panel sessions**, please list all confirmed or invited speakers (4–5 maximum) and identify a moderator.
For **roundtables, rapid exchanges, game time,** and **mobile sessions**, one or two facilitators are recommended.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance and importance of the topic to TDM professionals
- Clarity of learning objectives and participant takeaways
- Diversity of perspectives and presenters
- Opportunities for audience engagement and discussion

Desired Themes / Topics of Interest

We welcome proposals on all areas of TDM and mobility innovation, including but not limited to:

Emerging Technologies & Innovations



- Artificial Intelligence (AI) in TDM – trip planning, predictive analytics, commuter insights
- New TDM Trends and Innovations – cutting-edge strategies and tools shaping the field
- Micromobility – scooters, bikes, shared mobility, and system integration

Transportation Infrastructure & Planning

- Airports – commuter programs, employee shuttles, traveler access, and multimodal integration
- Complete Streets / Vision Zero – designing safe, accessible streets for all users
- Filling in the Gaps with Transit – connecting public transit, microtransit, and private-sector shuttles
- Suburban & Rural TDM – strategies tailored for low-density communities

Employer & Organizational Strategies

- Employer / Private-Sector Programs – incentives, benefits, and workplace engagement
- Employee or Tenant Transportation Coordinators – effective program management
- Making the Case for TDM – demonstrating value, ROI, and impact to stakeholders

Communications & Engagement

- Marketing & Communications – strategies to increase awareness and participation
- Public Policy & Advocacy – engaging policymakers and advancing legislation
- Special Events & Venues – managing transportation for large-scale events and destinations

Creating Strong Programs

- Organizational Management & Challenges – best practices in HR, finance, and governance
- Supporting the TDM Workforce – professional development and TDM-CP certification

Other

If your topic doesn't fit neatly into one of these categories, we still want to hear from you!