
Education

- 2020 **University of California, Berkeley**
Ph.D., City and Regional Planning
Dissertation, *The travel behavior of people with disabilities in the era of ridehailing*
Advised by Drs. Daniel Chatman (Chair), Karen Chapple, and Karen Trapenberg Frick
- 2016 **University of California, Berkeley**
M.C.P. with specialization in Transportation Policy and Planning
Client Report, *Is ignorance bliss? Impact of real-time information on commuter perceptions of transit network usability*
Advised by Drs. Paul Waddell (Chair) and Karen Trapenberg Frick
- 2014 **University of Arizona**
B.S. with honors, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, *summa cum laude*
Honors Thesis, *The urban ecology of Gila Topminnow: A case study of population health in built environments*
Advised by Drs. Peter Reinthal (Chair) and Philip Rosen

Academic Appointments

- 2022–Present **University of Nebraska–Lincoln**
Assistant Professor, Community and Regional Planning Program, College of Architecture
Courtesy Assistant Professor, Geography, School of Global Integrative Studies
- 2020–2022 **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of City and Regional Planning
Supervised by Dr. Noreen McDonald
Research Collaborator (2022–Present)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

*Indicates student/trainee

Cochran, Abigail L., Jueyu Wang, and Evan Iacobucci. 2025. “Perceived Discrimination, Transit Use, and Walking Behavior during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence from the Understanding America Study.” *Travel Behaviour and Society* 38 (January):100871. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tbs.2024.100871>.

Wang, Ming (Bryan), Li Zhao, and **Abigail L. Cochran**. 2024. “Sentiments of Rural U.S. Communities on Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure: Insights from Twitter Data.” *Sustainability* 16 (11): 4871. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su16114871>.

Cochran, Abigail L., Jueyu Wang, Mary Wolfe, Evan Iacobucci, Emma Vinella-Brusher*, and Noreen C. McDonald. 2023. "Spatial and Temporal Trends in Travel for COVID-19 Vaccinations." *AJPM Focus* 2 (3): 100122. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.focus.2023.100122>.

Cochran, Abigail L. 2022. "How and Why Do People with Disabilities Use App-Based Ridehailing?" *Case Studies on Transport Policy* 10 (4): 2556–62. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cstp.2022.11.015>.

Cochran, Abigail L., Noreen C. McDonald, Lauren Prunkl*, Emma Vinella-Brusher*, Jueyu Wang, Lindsay Oluyede, and Mary Wolfe. 2022. "Transportation Barriers to Care among Frequent Health Care Users during the COVID Pandemic." *BMC Public Health* 22 (1): 1783. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-14149-x>.

Vinella-Brusher, Emma*, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Evan Iacobucci, Jueyu Wang, Mary Wolfe, Lindsay Oluyede, Lauren Prunkl*, and Noreen C. McDonald. 2022. "Potential of Telehealth to Mitigate Transport Barriers: Evidence from the COVID-19 Pandemic." *Findings* (July): 37060. <https://doi.org/10.32866/001c.37060>.

Oluyede, Lindsay*, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Mary Wolfe, Lauren Prunkl*, and Noreen McDonald. 2022. "Addressing Transportation Barriers to Health Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Perspectives of Care Coordinators." *Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice* 159 (May): 157–68. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tra.2022.03.010>.

Oluyede, Lindsay*, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Lauren Prunkl*, Jueyu Wang, Mary Wolfe, and Noreen C. McDonald. 2022. "Unpacking Transportation Barriers and Facilitators to Accessing Health Care: Interviews with Care Coordinators." *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives* 13 (March): 100565. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trip.2022.100565>.

Wang, Jueyu, Noreen McDonald, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Lindsay Oluyede*, Mary Wolfe, and Lauren Prunkl*. 2021. "Health Care Visits during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Mobile Device Data." *Health & Place* 72 (November): 102679. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2021.102679>.

Cochran, Abigail L., Jueyu Wang, Lauren Prunkl*, Lindsay Oluyede*, Mary Wolfe, and Noreen McDonald. 2021. "Access to the COVID-19 Vaccine in Centralized and Dispersed Distribution Scenarios." *Findings* (May): 23555. <https://doi.org/10.32866/001c.23555>.

Cochran, Abigail L., and Daniel G. Chatman. 2021. "Use of App-Based Ridehailing Services and Conventional Taxicabs by Adults with Disabilities." *Travel Behaviour and Society* 24 (July): 124–31. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tbs.2021.02.004>.

Cochran, Abigail L. 2020. "Impacts of COVID-19 on Access to Transportation for People with Disabilities." *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives* 8 (November): 100263. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trip.2020.100263>.

Cochran, Abigail L. 2020. "Understanding the Role of Transportation-Related Social Interaction in Travel Behavior and Health: A Qualitative Study of Adults with Disabilities." *Journal of Transport & Health* 19 (December): 100948. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jth.2020.100948>.

Cochran, Abigail L. 2020. “Challenging the Urban/Rural Divide: Implications for Contemporary Planning Theory and Practice.” *Berkeley Planning Journal* 31 (1). <https://doi.org/10.5070/BP331042884>.

Santana Palacios, Manuel, **Abigail Cochran**, Corwin Bell, Ulises Hernández Jiménez, Eleanor Leshner, Francisco Trejo Morales, and Daniel G. Chatman. 2020. “Bus Rapid Transit Arrives in Barranquilla, Colombia: Understanding a Changing Landscape through Residents’ Travel Experiences.” *Travel Behaviour and Society* 21 (October): 131–39. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tbs.2020.06.003>.

Patents

Caywood, Matthew, **Abigail Cochran**, Ryan Croft, and Diego Canales Salas. Apparatus and Method for Quantifying Multimodal Transportation Resources at a Geographic Location. U.S. Patent 10,380,891, issued August 13, 2019.
Developed transportation access algorithm for calculating an address’ MobilityScore™

Research Grants

Southeast Nebraska Development District, “Southeast Nebraska Infrastructure Inventory” (**PI**), pending \$70,000, 2025–2026.

City of Ogallala, “Study of Current Conditions for Comprehensive Plan Update in Ogallala, NE” (**PI**), pending \$15,000, 2024–2026.

Rural Drug Addiction Research (RDAR) Center Pilot Projects, “Understanding Transportation Barriers to Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Enhancing Access in Rural Nebraska” (**PI**), \$50,000, 2024–2026.

North Carolina A&T University (Prime Sponsor: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development), “Enhance resilience capacity for disadvantaged communities and tribes in the Midwest region through promoting post-disaster recovery effectiveness in social equity and economic development” (Co-PI), \$93,750, 2023–2026.

The Mid-America Transportation Center for Transportation Safety and Equity (MATC-TSE) (Prime Sponsor: U.S. Department of Transportation), “Transportation Barriers to Vision Care for the Visually Impaired” (**PI**), \$84,986, 2023–2024.

City of York, “Housing Study for York, NE” (**PI**), \$7,000, 2023–2024.

City of Bennet, “City of Bennet Plan” (Co-PI), \$7,000, 2023–2024.

Nebraska Governance and Technology Center, “Understand the Sentiment of Rural Consumers on EV Charging Station Deployments using Real-time Data from Mobile Platforms” (Co-PI), \$19,874, 2023–2024.

UNL Research Council: Faculty Seed Grant, “Transportation Barriers to Low Vision Care Among Individuals with Visual Impairments in Nebraska” (PI), \$10,000, 2023–2024.

Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) Class Fund Research Grant, “Heat Waves: Designing a Heat Action Plan to Mitigate Disproportionate Impacts of Urban Heat Island Effect in Underserved Communities in Omaha, NE” (Co-PI), \$25,000, 2022–2023.

City of Peru, “Downtown/Economic Plan for Peru, NE” (PI), \$7,000, 2022–2023.

Southeast Nebraska Development District, “Food security planning for Southeast Nebraska” (PI), \$7,500, 2022–2023.

North Carolina Department of Transportation, “Impacts of Medicaid Transformation on North Carolina Public Transit Systems: Lessons Learned and Best Practices” (Co-PI), \$162,607, 2022–2023.

Under Review

*student/trainee

Esmaily, Aysan*, Ciara Nelson-Forcade*, John D. Shepherd, and **Abigail L. Cochran**. 2024. “Addressing Transportation Barriers to Low Vision Care Among Individuals with Visual Impairments in Nebraska.”

Popular Press

Mary Wolfe, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Lindsay Martin Oluyede, and Noreen McDonald. “For Effective Vaccine Rollout, Transportation Cannot Be an Afterthought.” 2021. *Community Transportation Association of America*. June. <https://ctaa.org/>.

Cochran, Abigail. “Pandemic Underscores Difficulties Accessing Transportation for People with Disabilities.” 2020. *Streetsblog California*. April 21. <https://cal.streetsblog.org/>

Conference Papers, Presentations, Organized Sessions & Invited Talks

*student/trainee

Esmaily, Aysan*, Ciara Nelson-Forcade*, John D. Shepherd, and **Abigail L. Cochran**. 2024. “Addressing Transportation Barriers to Low Vision Care Among Individuals with Visual Impairments in Nebraska.” Abstract accepted for presentation at the ACSP Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, November 2024.

Cochran, Abigail L., Jueyu Wang, and Evan Iacobucci. 2023. “Perceived Discrimination, Transit Use, and Walking Behavior During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evidence From the Understanding America Study.” Abstract accepted for presentation at the ACSP Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, October 2023; and the TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2024.

“Planning for Transportation Equity.” UNL, College of Architecture, LARC 311 Design Studio IV: Ecological and Cultural Landscape Systems Guest Lecture, Lincoln, NE, March 2023.

“Transportation Planning for People with Disabilities in Post-Pandemic Cities.” University of California, Riverside, School of Public Policy, PBPL 180 Special Topics in Public Policy: Post-Pandemic Cities Guest Lecture, February 2023 (virtual).

Xiaojian Zhang*, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Noreen McDonald, and Xilei Zhao. 2022. “Optimizing Rural Demand-Responsive Transport Operations for Medical Trips.” Abstract accepted for presentation at the 2022 TRANSED: Mobility, Accessibility & Demand Response Transportation Conference, September 2022 (virtual).

Abigail L. Cochran and Noreen McDonald. 2021. “Transportation barriers to health care access during the COVID-19 pandemic among North Carolina residents” Paper accepted for presentation at the 2021 NCDOT Research & Innovation Summit, October 2021 (virtual) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdBgrbYxXkA&ab_channel=UNCHighwaySafetyResearchCenter (start 43:10); and the ACSP Annual Conference, Miami, FL, October 2021 (virtual).

“Transportation’s Critical Role in the COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout” Southeastern Transportation Research, Innovation, Development and Education (STRIDE) Center Webinar, June 2021(virtual).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlZydFuCMro&ab_channel=UFTtransportation

“Transportation to Health Care and COVID-19: Exploring Pandemic-Era Travel Trends and Post-Pandemic Challenges and Opportunities” STRIDE Center Webinar, June 2021(virtual).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=knsLN_OLZDA&ab_channel=UFTtransportation

“Disability and Transportation.” Cornell University Department of City and Regional Planning, CRP 3860/6860 Transportation Equity and Justice Guest Lecture, March 2021 & November 2023 (virtual).

Zhang, Xiaojian*, Yu Yang, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Noreen McDonald, and Xilei Zhao. 2021. “Optimizing Demand-Responsive Paratransit Operations: A Mixed Integer Programming Approach.” In *2021 55th Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems (CISS)*, 1–6.
<https://doi.org/10.1109/CISS50987.2021.9400283>.

Abigail L. Cochran. 2020. “I’m stuck’: Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic Response on Access to Transportation and Other Essentials Among People with Disabilities.” Paper accepted for presentation at the TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2021 (virtual).

“Transportation Equity, Disability, and Health Disparities.” Invited talk at the UNC Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, October 2020 (virtual).

“How can we plan post-pandemic cities to be more accessible to people with disabilities?” Abstract accepted for presentation at the Pandemic Urbanism Symposium, University of Washington, May 2020 (virtual). View (start 27:45): <https://vimeo.com/430087468>

Abigail L. Cochran. 2020. “How and why do people with disabilities use app-based ridehailing?” Paper accepted for presentation at the ACSP Annual Conference, Toronto, ON, November 2020 (virtual); and the TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2022 (virtual).

“Urban Data Science Beyond the Hype: Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities of Incorporating Data Science into Urban Planning Pedagogy and Practice.” with Manuel Santana Palacios. Roundtable abstract accepted for the ACSP Annual Conference, Toronto, ON, November 2020 (virtual).

Abigail L. Cochran and Daniel G. Chatman. 2019. “Demand for On-Demand: Use of Conventional Taxis and App-Based Ridehailing Services by Adults with Disabilities.” Paper accepted for presentation at the ACSP Annual Conference, Greenville, SC, October 2019; and the TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2020.

“Transportation Justice in Theory and in Practice: How Have They Evolved During the Past Decades?” with Manuel Santana Palacios and Tamara Kerzhner. Roundtable abstract accepted for the ACSP Annual Conference, Greenville, SC, October 2019.

“Transportation Equity and Justice.” CP 114 Introduction to Urban and Regional Transportation Guest Lecture, Berkeley, CA, June 2019.

“Does Privatization Mean Isolation? Transportation Mode Use and Out-of-Home Activity Participation Trends Among People With Disabilities.” Abstract accepted for presentation at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 2019.

“People with Disabilities' Use of On-Demand Transportation Services: Evidence from the 2017 National Household Travel Survey.” Invited presentation at the JSPS Symposium on Disability, Technology, Architecture and Design in Berkeley, CA, December 2018.

“App-Based Ride Hailing Among Immigrants and Persons with Disabilities.” Presented by co-author Daniel Chatman (additional co-author, Nicholas Klein) at National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) Data for Transportation Applications Workshop, Washington, DC, August 2018.

“Disability-Responsive Planning.” CP 114 Introduction to Urban and Regional Transportation Guest Lecture, Berkeley, CA, June 2017, February and September 2018.

“Disability-Responsive Urban Design in the United States.” Universal Design Festival, Moscow, Russia, October 2017.

With Eurasia Foundation US-Russia Social Expertise Exchange (SEE) Disability Initiative Program

“Disability-Responsive Versus Disability-Proactive Planning.” SOC WEL 98/198 Breaking the Digital Age Barrier Guest Lecture, Berkeley, CA, November 2017.

Santana Palacios, Manuel, **Abigail L. Cochran**, Corwin Bell, Ulises Hernández Jiménez, Eleanor Leshner, Francisco Trejo Morales, and Daniel G. Chatman. 2017. “Bus Rapid Transit Comes to Barranquilla: Perspectives from Metropolitan Area Residents.” Paper accepted for presentation at the TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, January 2017.

“Moving Oakland Forward: Building and Innovative Department of Transportation.” With Lee Reis. Abstract accepted for presentation at 2016 Berkeley Circus, Berkeley, CA, March 2016.

“Impacts of Transmetro BRT in Barranquilla, Colombia: A qualitative approach to understanding the lived experience of Barranquilla residents post-BRT.” With Corwin Bell, Dana Rubin, Evelyne St-Louis, and Manuel Santana Palacios. CY PLAN 201B Planning Methods Gateway: Part II Guest Lecture, Berkeley, CA, March 2016.

“Impacts of Transmetro BRT in Barranquilla, Colombia: A qualitative perspective.” With Ulises Hernández Jiménez. Abstract accepted for presentation at UCCONNECT Student Conference, Riverside, CA, February 2016.
Awarded 1st Place, Best Podium Presentation

“Moving Oakland Forward: Enhancing Mobility and Building and Innovative Department of Transportation.” With Karl Anderson, Derek Cheah, and Dana Rubin. Presentation to City of Oakland Mayor Libby Schaff and Staff, Oakland, CA, December 2015.

“Barranquilla Transportation Studio: Qualitative assessment of changes to life in the city after BRT.” With Kelan Stoy. Invited presentation at BRT and Private Transit: Integration in Domestic and International Contexts Symposium, Berkeley, CA, October 2015.

“On Proximity to Transit-Oriented Development and Automobile Use: A Case Study of the Fruitvale Neighborhood in Oakland, CA.” Abstract accepted for presentation at UCCONNECT Student Conference, Santa Barbara, CA, February 2015.

Teaching & Curriculum Development

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Fall 2023, 2024	CRPL 463/863 Land Use and Transportation Planning, Instructor (online)
Summer 2023, 2024	CRPL 492/892 Planning for Transportation Equity and Justice, created course and taught as Instructor (online)
Spring 2023, 2024	CRPL 991 Capstone Studio, Instructor (studio)
Spring 2023, 2024	CRPL 400/800 Introduction to Planning, Instructor (online/lecture) <i>Completed Faculty-Led Inquiry into Reflective and Scholarly Teaching (FIRST) Project First-Year Course Portfolio for CRPL 400/800 Spring 2023</i>
Fall 2022, 2023, 2024	CRPL 840 Planning Methods and Analysis, Instructor (lecture)

University of California, Berkeley

- Spring 2020 CY PLAN 101 Introduction to Urban Data Analytics (lecture/lab), created instructional videos with Dave Amos on introductory statistics and working with Census data, <http://www.cp101.org/stats-reference.html>
- Fall 2019 CY PLAN 218/CY PLAN 250 Transportation and Land Use (studio), advised students on disability research project, invited by Dr. Karen Trapenberg Frick
- Spring 2019 CY PLAN 101 Introduction to Urban Data Analytics (lecture/lab), created course and taught as Co-Instructor with Dr. Karen Chapple
- Fall/Spring 2017–2019 CY PLAN 280C Doctoral Colloquium in City & Regional Planning (lecture/speaker series), Co-Organizer and Co-Instructor
- Fall 2018 CY PLAN 88 Introduction to Urban Data Science Methods (lecture), developed syllabus with Drs. Karen Chapple and Paul Waddell
- Summer 2018 CY PLAN 114 Introduction to Urban and Regional Transportation (lecture), Instructor
- Spring 2017 CY PLAN 101 Introduction to Urban Data Analytics (lecture/lab), developed syllabus with Dr. Karen Chapple
- Fall/Spring 2015–2017 ESPM 175 A/B Senior Thesis Research in Environmental Sciences (lecture/lab), Graduate Student Instructor

University of Arizona

- Spring 2014 SBE 201 Sustainable Design & Planning (lecture), Assistant Instructor
- Summer 2013 PLG 301 Introduction to Regional Planning (online), Assistant Instructor

Mentoring & Students

- 2022–2023 Master's Thesis Advisor (Major Advisor): Tanner Hiemer (MCRP), *Scouting to a Brighter Tomorrow: Shared E-scooters and Their Use in Lincoln, Nebraska*; Becky Virgil (MCRP/MArch), *Revitalizing Main Street, USA: Recovering from the American Dream and the Destruction of the Rural Main Street*; Kyle McLaughlin (MCRP/M.S. Civil Engineering), *Transportation Components of the City of Bennet Comprehensive Plan and Downtown Development Plan*; Senior Thesis Advisor: Bella Devney (B.A. Environmental Studies), *Survey of Energy Literacy in Lincoln, NE Households*
- 2018–2021 Senior Thesis Advisor: Rachel Schten, 2021, *The Disproportionate Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Social Well-Being of People with Disabilities in the Bay Area and the Structural Inequities in Disaster Response Planning in the Region*; Jacquelyn

Broader, 2019, *Expanding Horizons: Increasing Air Travel Accessibility for People with Disabilities*; Allison Yang, 2019, *Improving Senior Mobility and Bay Area Rapid Transit*

2019–2020 UC Berkeley Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP), students: Caitlin Aladham, Jordan Collins, Hannah Habibi, Rachel Schten, Wako Morimoto

Membership & Service

2023–Present d.ONE Core Team Committee, UNL College of Architecture, Member

2023 Student Planning Association of Nebraska (SPAN) Faculty Advisor

2023 Administration for Community Living (ACL) National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), Competition for the *2023 Disability Rehabilitation Research Project (DRRP) on Promoting Positive Employment Outcomes Among People with Disabilities who are Experiencing Long-COVID*, Reviewer

2022–2023 Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Community and Regional Planning, UNL College of Architecture, Member

2020–Present *Findings, Journal of Transport Geography, Journal of Public Transportation, Transport Policy, Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives, Transportation Research Part A, Transportation Research Part D, Transportation Research Record, Travel Behaviour and Society, World Symposium on Transport and Land Use Research*, Reviewer

2020–2021 WTS San Francisco Bay Chapter, Member

2016–Present Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Member

2019–2020 UC Berkeley Department of City and Regional Planning Ph.D. Committee, Student Representative

2019–Present California SB 1376 TNC Access for All Act Working Group Member

2017–2021 Metropolitan Transportation Commission Policy Advisory Council Member, Representing the Disabled Community of Alameda County

2017–2018 *Berkeley Planning Journal*, Editor and Reviewer

2016 UC Berkeley College of Environmental Design Graduate Student Council, City & Regional Planning Ph.D. Representative

2015–2021 LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Fitness Partner, Instructor and Counselor at Enchanted Hills Camp
LightHouse Volunteer of the Year 2019

Other Professional

2017 Consultant, G3ict: The Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs

2015–2016 Researcher, Actionfigure (formerly TransitScreen)

2014–2015 Intern, San Francisco Clean Cities Coalition

Awards & Fellowships

2024 UNL College of Architecture (CoA) Hyde Program in Support of Excellence Fund Meritorious Award

2023 UNL CoA Faculty Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship

2020 Michael B. Teitz Fellow

2020 Eno Center for Transportation Future Leaders Development Conference Fellow

2020 WTS Maggie Walsh Leadership Legacy Scholarship, San Francisco Bay Chapter Award

2019 2019 Data Science Summer School Student, University of Göttingen

2016–2019 USDOT FHWA Dwight David Eisenhower Graduate Fellow

2017 UC Berkeley Data Science for the 21st Century (DS421) NSF Fellow

2016–2020 Eugene Cota-Robles Fellow

2014 University of California Center on Economic Competitiveness in Transportation (UCCONNECT) Fellow

2014 Lucretia Hamilton Scholar

2013 Phi Beta Kappa