

Madeline Wander, PhD
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I am a scholar of transportation and racial-spatial inequality. My commitment to social justice and experience as a community organizer drive my research and teaching.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025 – present Assistant Professor
Urban & Environmental Policy (UEP) Department
Occidental College

Courses:

UEP 101: Environment and Society
UEP 305: Urban Data Analysis
UEP 410: Controversies in Policy and Politics

EDUCATION

2020 – 2025 PhD in Urban Planning
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
Dissertation: [Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs](#)
Dissertation committee: Prof. Evelyn Blumenberg [chair], Prof. Genevieve Carpio, Prof. Ananya Roy, and Prof. Brian D. Taylor

2010 – 2012 Master of Urban & Regional Planning (MURP) Degree
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

2004 – 2008 BA Degree in Urban & Environmental Policy, minor in Mathematics
Occidental College
Graduated *Magna cum Laude* with Honors

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

9 (refereed) tamika l. butler, **Madeline Wander**, Madeline Brozen, and Evelyn Blumenberg. Forthcoming. “Transportation Challenges of Low-Income Households with Children: A Case Study in South Los Angeles.” *Journal of Planning Education and Research*.

8 (refereed) **Madeline Wander**, Evelyn Blumenberg, Madeline Brozen, and Tamika L. Butler. 2025. [The Promise of Universal Basic Mobility.](#) *Transport Reviews*.

7 (refereed) Evelyn Blumenberg, **Madeline Wander**, and Zhiyuan Yao. 2024. [Decisions & Distance: The Relationship between Child Care Access and Child Care Travel.](#) *Journal of Transport Geography* 114: 103756.

6 (refereed) Zhiyuan Yao, Evelyn Blumenberg, and **Madeline Wander**. 2024. [Sex Differences in Child Care Travel.](#) *Findings*.

5 (refereed) Evelyn Blumenberg and **Madeline Wander**. 2023. ["Housing Affordability and Commute Distance."](#) *Urban Geography* 44(7): 1454-1473.

4 (refereed) Evelyn Blumenberg, Zhiyuan Yao, and **Madeline Wander**. 2023. ["Variation in Child Care Access across Neighborhood Types: A Two-step Floating Catchment Area \(2SFCA\) Approach."](#) *Applied Geography* 158: 103054.

3 (refereed) J. Mijin Cha, **Madeline Wander**, and Manuel Pastor. 2020. ["Environmental Justice, Just Transition, and a Low-Carbon Future for California."](#) *Environmental Law Reporter* 10216.

2 (refereed) Lara Cushing, Dan Blaustein-Rejto, **Madeline Wander**, Manuel Pastor, James Sadd, Allen Zhu, Rachel Morello-Frosch. 2018. ["Carbon Trading, Co-pollutants, and Environmental Equity: Evidence from California's Cap-and-Trade Program \(2011–2015\)."](#) *PLoS Medicine* 15(7): e1002604. ** Winner of the International Society for Ecological Economics North American Chapter Best Environmental Justice Paper Award in 2021 **

1 (refereed) Lara Cushing, Rachel Morello-Frosch, **Madeline Wander**, and Manuel Pastor. 2015. ["The Haves, the Have-Nots, and the Health of Everyone: The Relationship between Social Inequality and Environmental Quality."](#) *Annual Review of Public Health* 36:193-209.

BOOK CHAPTERS

1 Evelyn Blumenberg, Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, and **Madeline Wander**. 2024. ["The Transportation Gender Gap: The Role of U.S. Policy and Planning."](#) Pp. 359-75 in *Handbook of Gender and Mobilities, International Handbooks on Gender*, edited by V. Preston, S. McLafferty, M. Maciejewska, and B. Yeoh. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

RESEARCH & POLICY BRIEFS

7 Madeline Brozen, tamika l. butler, **Madeline Wander**, Evelyn Blumenberg, and Sang-O Kim. May 2025. ["Early Results on Individual Life Outcomes from the L.A. Mobility Wallet Phase I Pilot Program."](#) UCLA Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies.

6 Sang-O Kim, Madeline Brozen, **Madeline Wander**, tamika l. butler, and Evelyn Blumenberg. May 2025. ["Beyond Transit Discounts: Comparing the L.A. Mobility Wallet and Low-Income Fare is Easy \(LIFE\) Programs."](#) UCLA Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies.

5 Evelyn Blumenberg, **Madeline Wander**, and Zhiyuan Yao. April 2024. ["Decisions & Distance: Assessing the Relationship Between Child Care Access and Travel."](#) UCLA Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies.

4 **Madeline Wander** and Evelyn Blumenberg. January 2024. ["Is housing affordability associated with shorter commutes for low-income workers?"](#) UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies.

3 Evelyn Blumenberg, Zhiyuan Yao, and **Madeline Wander**. October 2023. ["Access to Child Care: Does it Vary by Neighborhood Type?"](#) UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies.

2 Manuel Pastor, **Madeline Wander**, and Mirabai Auer. December 2012. ["Equity Issue Brief: Advancing Environmental Justice through Sustainability Planning."](#) USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

1 Lara J. Cushing, **Madeline Wander**, Rachel Morello-Frosch, Manuel Pastor, Allen Zhu, and James Sadd. September 2016. [A Preliminary Environmental Equity Assessment of California's Cap-and-Trade Program](#). USC Program for Environmental and Regional Equity.

REPORTS

10 Manuel Pastor, Jennifer Ito, and **Madeline Wander**. September 2020. [Leading Locally: A Community Power Building Approach to Structural Change](#). USC Equity Research Institute (formerly USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity).

9 May Lin, Jennifer Ito, **Madeline Wander**, and Manuel Pastor. October 2019. [Vote, Organize, Transform, Engage \(VOTE\): New Frontiers in Integrated Voter Engagement \(IVE\)](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

8 J. Mijin Cha, Manuel Pastor, **Madeline Wander**, James Sadd, and Rachel Morello-Frosch. April 2019. [A Roadmap to an Equitable Low-Carbon Future: Four Pillars for a Just Transition](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

7 Robert Chlala, **Madeline Wander**, Jennifer Ito, and Manuel Pastor. January 2019. [1,000 Leaders \(and More\) Rising: Developing a New Generation for Progressive Governance](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

6 Vanessa Carter, Manuel Pastor, and **Madeline Wander**. January 2018. [Measures Matter: Ensuring Equitable Implementation of Los Angeles County Measures M & A](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

5 Manuel Pastor, Jennifer Ito, and **Madeline Wander**. June 2016. [Changing States: A Framework for Progressive Governance](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

4 Rachel Rosner and **Madeline Wander**. June 2015. [Linking in the Lab: Innovating Cross-Movement Leadership and Learning](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

3 Vanessa Carter, Manuel Pastor, and **Madeline Wander**. November 2013. [An Agenda for Equity: A Framework for Building a Just Transportation System in Los Angeles County](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

2 Manuel Pastor, Gihan Perera, and **Madeline Wander**. March 2013. [Moments, Movements, and Momentum: Engaging Voters, Scaling Power, Making Change](#). USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity.

1 Evelyn Blumenberg, Brian D. Taylor, Michael Smart, Kelcie Ralph, **Madeline Wander**, and Stephen Brumbaugh. September 2012. [What's Youth Got to Do with It? Exploring the Travel Behavior of Teens and Young Adults](#). UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

13 **Madeline Wander**. 2025. "Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs: A Qualitative Exploration." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

12 tamika l. butler, Sang-O Kim, **Madeline Wander**, Evelyn Blumenberg, and Madeline Brozen. 2025. "Mobility Wallet Effects on Individual Life Outcomes: A Qualitative Longitudinal Study in South Los Angeles." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

11 Sang-O Kim, Madeline Brozen, tamika l. butler, **Madeline Wander**, and Evelyn Blumenberg. 2025. "Low-Income Travelers and Transportation Stress." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

10 **Madeline Wander**. 2024. "Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs: A Quantitative Exploration." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

9 Madeline Brozen, tamika l. butler, **Madeline Wander**, and Evelyn Blumenberg. 2024. "How Financial Support for Transportation Affects Stress." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

8 (refereed) **Madeline Wander**. 2023. "Do Low-Income Suburbanites Commute Farther and Longer than Urbanites? Comparing Commute Patterns by Income and Neighborhood Type in California." *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*.

7 (refereed) Evelyn Blumenberg, **Madeline Wander**, and Zhiyuan Yao. 2023. "Decisions & Distance: The Relationship between Child Care Access and Child Care Travel." *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*.

6 **Madeline Wander**, Madeline Brozen, tamika l. butler, and Evelyn Blumenberg. 2023. "Deepening the Understanding of Households with Children and Their Transportation Challenges: A Case Study in South Los Angeles." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

5 Evelyn Blumenberg, Zhiyuan Yao, and **Madeline Wander**. 2023. "Child Care Access Across Neighborhood Types: Implications for Policy and Planning." *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

4 (refereed) Evelyn Blumenberg and **Madeline Wander**. 2022. "Housing Affordability and the Commute: A Tale of Two Metros." *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*.

3 Evelyn Blumenberg, **Madeline Wander**, and Zhiyuan Yao. 2022. "Child Care Access and Child Care Travel: What's the Relationship?" *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*.

2 Manuel Pastor, **Madeline Wander**, and Justin Scoggins. 2016. "Inner Suburb, Outer Strategy: Change, Challenge, and Opportunity." *The Shifting Politics of U.S. Suburbs Conference*.

1 (refereed) Evelyn Blumenberg, **Madeline Wander**, Brian Taylor, and Michael Smart. 2013. "The Times Are They A Changin'? Youth, Travel Mode, and the Journey to Work." *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*.

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

1 Robert Chlala and **Madeline Wander**. August 2, 2019. ["Translating Elections into Action: Developing Leaders and Remaking Power."](#) *NonProfit Quarterly*.

IN PROGRESS

2 tamika l. butler, Sang-O Kim, **Madeline Wander**, Evelyn Blumenberg, and Madeline Brozen. "Transportation and Quality-of-Life Effects of Los Angeles's Mobility Wallet Program."

1 Madeline Brozen, Sang-O Kim, **Madeline Wander**, tamika l. butler, and Evelyn Blumenberg. "Low-Income Travelers and Transportation Stress."

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

2024 Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Transportation Fellowship, U.S. Department of Transportation (\$35,000)
Dissertation Year Award, UCLA Graduate Division (\$20,000)
Dissertation Fellowship, UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies (\$20,000)
Dissertation Research Grant, UCLA Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies and UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies (\$10,000)

2023 Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Transportation Fellowship, U.S. Department of Transportation (\$35,000)
Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Transportation Fellowship "Top Rated Doctoral Fellow" Award
Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division (\$20,000)

2022 Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Transportation Fellowship, U.S. Department of Transportation (\$10,000)
Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division (\$6,000)

2021 Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Transportation Fellowship, U.S. Department of Transportation (\$10,000)
Board of Directors Graduate Scholarship, Women's Transportation Seminar, Los Angeles Chapter (\$7,500)
Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program Fellowship, UCLA Graduate Division (\$6,000)
David and Marianna Fisher Fellowship, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs (\$5,000)
Luskin Graduate Fellowship, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs (\$5,000)

2020 Luskin Graduate Fellowship, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs (\$9,000)
Donald and Pat Shoup Fellowship, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs (\$1,000)

2012 Outstanding Student Award, American Institute of Certified Planners
Eno Foundation Fellow, Eno Center for Transportation

2011 Harvey S. Perloff Scholarship, UCLA Department of Urban Planning (\$2,500)
Martin Wachs Fellowship, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs (\$1,000)

2010 Graduate Fellowship, University of California Transportation Center (\$5,000)
Professional Fee Fellowship, UCLA Department of Urban Planning (\$4,500)

2008 *Phi Beta Kappa*, National Academic Honors Society
Pi Mu Epsilon, National Honorary Mathematics Society

2006 Research Mentors Fellowship, Ford Foundation

2004 Dean's Scholarship, Occidental College (\$40,000 over 4 years)
Smith College Book Award

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 "Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs: A Qualitative Exploration." October 23. Presentation at the *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*. Minneapolis, MN.

"Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs: A Qualitative Exploration." March 25. Presentation at the *American Association of Geographers Conference*. Detroit, MI.

"Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs: A Quantitative Exploration." January 7. Poster in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program Session at the *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.

2024 "Mobility and Racial-Spatial Isolation in Suburbs: A Quantitative Exploration." November 8. Presentation at the *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*. Seattle, WA.

"Gender and Child Care Travel." September 9. Poster at *Transportation Research Board 7th International Conference on Women and Gender in Transportation*. Irvine, CA.

"The Promise of Universal Basic Mobility." July 17. Presentation at *Transportation Research Board 2nd Conference on Advancing Transportation Equity*. Baltimore, MD.

"Transportation Challenges Facing Low-Income Households with Children: A Case Study in South Los Angeles." March 12. Presentation at *The University Transportation Center's Pacific Southwest Region Annual Congress – Moving Forward: Improving Transportation in Region 9*. Las Vegas, NV.

"Do Low-Income Suburbanites Commute Farther and Longer than Urbanites? Comparing Commute Patterns by Income and Neighborhood Type in California." January 9. Poster at the *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.

"Transportation Challenges Facing Low-Income Households with Children: A Case Study in South Los Angeles." January 8. Presentation in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program Research Showcase at the *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.

2022 "Child Care Access and Child Care Travel: What's the Relationship?" November 3. Presentation at the *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*. Toronto, ON.

"Housing Affordability and the Commute." January 10. Poster at the *Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting*. Washington, D.C.

2021 "Housing Affordability and the Commute." October 22. Presentation at the *Annual Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference*. Virtual (due to COVID-19 pandemic).

"Housing Affordability and the Commute." September 9. Presentation at the *Transportation Research Board Conference on Advancing Transportation Equity*. Virtual (due to COVID-19 pandemic).

2017 "The Climate Gap and Cap-and-Trade in California." March 2. Presentation at the *California Budget and Policy Center Conference*. Sacramento, CA.

2016 "Using RSEI to Develop the Environmental Justice Screening Method." October 20. Presentation at the *Toxic Release Inventory Conference*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Washington, D.C.
"Inner Suburb, Outer Strategy: Change, Challenge, and Opportunity." June 24. Presentation at *The Shifting Politics of U.S. Suburbs Conference*. George Mason University. Arlington, VA.

INVITED TALKS

2025 "Transportation, the Development of Cities, and Mobility Justice." October 28. Guest lecture in *UEP101: Environment and Society* at Occidental College. Los Angeles, CA.

2024 "Community-Engaged Research and Planning toward Environmental Justice." August 21. Guest lecture in *UP121: Urban Policy and Planning* at UCLA. Los Angeles, CA.

2023 "Quantitative Analysis for Environmental Justice." November 16. Guest lecture in *UEP305: Urban Data Analysis* at Occidental College. Los Angeles, CA.

2022 "Spatial Analysis for Social Justice." October 12. Guest lecture in *GEO150: Geographic Information Science* at Occidental College. Los Angeles, CA.

2021 "Spatial Analysis in the Real World." April 5. Guest lecture in *GEO150: Geographic Information Science* at Occidental College. Virtual (due to COVID-19 pandemic).

2020 "Community-Engaged Research for Environmental Justice in California." September 23. Guest lecture in *UEP300: Environmental Law & Policy* at Occidental College. Virtual (due to COVID-19 pandemic).

2016 "Research toward Environmental Justice." April 2. Presentation at the *USC Students of Color and Allies Policy Forum*. Los Angeles, CA.

SERVICE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board Secretary, Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment, 2015 – present
Strategic Planning Committee Member, Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment, 2024 – 2025
Member, Liberty Hill Community Funding Board, 2016 and 2018

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Co-Organizer, Transportation Justice Session at the American Association of Geographers Conference, 2024 – present
Member, Environmental Studies Working Group at Occidental College, 2026
Reviewer, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 2024 – 2026
Reviewer, *Urban Studies*, 2024 – 2025
Editorial Board Member, *Critical Planning Journal*, 2021 – 2025

TRAININGS

Rockwood Art of Leadership in Racial Justice and Human Rights Training, 2019
“How to Hold Whiteness Responsibly” Course, 2018
Liberty Hill Commissions Training Program, 2015

OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Sept. 2020 – July 2025 Graduate Researcher, Institute for Transportation Studies and the Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

July 2012 – July 2020 Senior Data Analyst, Program for Environmental and Regional Equity, University of Southern California [now the USC Equity Research Institute]

June 2011 – June 2012 Graduate Student Researcher, Institute of Transportation Studies and the Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Oct. 2010 – June 2012 Graduate Student Researcher, Program for Environmental and Regional Equity, University of Southern California [now the USC Equity Research Institute]

July 2011 – Sept. 2011 Research/Policy Analysis Intern, Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE)

Jan. 2010 – Sept. 2010 Research Consultant, Program for Environmental and Regional Equity, University of Southern California [now the USC Equity Research Institute]

Jan. 2010 – Sept. 2010 Research Consultant, Urban & Environmental Policy Institute, Occidental College

Sept. 2007 – May 2008 Research Assistant, Urban & Environmental Policy Institute, Occidental College

June 2006 – Aug. 2006 Researcher, Undergraduate Research Center, Occidental College

TEACHING POSITIONS

Mar. 2023 – June 2023 Teaching Associate, *PA110: Urban Revolution – Space & Society in the Global Context* (undergraduate) taught by Professor Ananya Roy, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

Mar. 2022 – June 2022 Teaching Assistant, *PA110: Urban Revolution – Space & Society in the Global Context* (undergraduate) taught by Professor Ananya Roy, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

Sept. 2021 – Mar. 2022 Teaching Assistant, *UP205A/B: Applied Planning Research Project* (graduate) taught by Professor Evelyn Blumenberg, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Urban Planning Department

Jan. 2020 – May 2020 Adjunct Faculty Instructor, *UEP 101: Environment and Society* (undergraduate), Occidental College, Urban & Environmental Policy Department

Aug. 2006 – May 2008 Reader, Mathematics Department, Occidental College

OTHER RELEVANT POSITIONS

Jan. 2009 – Dec. 2009 Housing LA Organizer, Southern California Assoc. of Nonprofit Housing (SCANPH), L.A., CA

June 2008 – Nov. 2008 Colorado Deputy Policy Director / Organizer, Obama's Campaign for Change, Denver, CO

June 2007 – Aug. 2007 Intern, Planning & Development Department, City of Pasadena, Pasadena, CA

Aug. 2006 – Dec. 2006 Community Organizing Intern, One LA – IAF (Industrial Areas Foundation), L.A., CA