

# PSRC REGIONAL SAFETY SUMMIT SPEAKER BIOS



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 29, 2023 | 9:00AM – 3:00PM

---

**Scott Goldstein** serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy. He joins the Department with experience on Capitol Hill, in transportation advocacy, and at a transit agency. Scott has served as Chief of Staff for Congressman Hank Johnson of Georgia, a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as the Deputy Director for Transportation at Smart Growth America and Policy Director for Transportation For America, and as Congressional Relations Officer for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Scott received his undergraduate degree from Emory University and his graduate degree from Johns Hopkins University. He lives in Washington, DC, with his wife and two children.

**Leah Shahum** is the founder and director of the nonprofit Vision Zero Network and has been at the forefront of North America's adoption of Vision Zero. As a German Marshall Fund Fellow, Ms. 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 also served as a policymaker on the Boards of Directors of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency; the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District; and the national Alliance for Walking & Biking.

**Jim Hemphill** is the Senior Program Manager for Mobility Safety Strategy for the [National Safety Council](#), America's leading nonprofit safety advocate focusing on workplace, roadway, and impairment safety issues. In this role, Jim manages the [Road to Zero Coalition](#), a group of nearly two thousand individuals and organizations dedicated to achieving zero deaths on our nation's roadways. Jim also administers the Road to Zero [Community Traffic Safety](#) grant program in partnership with NHTSA, which supports a wide variety of innovative roadway safety projects in communities around the country. He also supports NSC's [Mobility Safety Advisory Group](#), which focuses on [emerging issues](#) in traffic safety.

Before joining NSC, Jim worked as a planner for the City of Charleston, SC, where he focused on active transportation, climate resiliency, and long-range planning projects. Jim has served as an adjunct professor at the College of Charleston and worked in planning and data analysis with a shared micromobility start-up company and a multi-modal transportation advocacy organization in his hometown of Charlotte, NC. He holds an MPA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and B.S. from Appalachian State University. Jim became involved in traffic safety work through his lifelong passion for bicycling and experiences losing friends and neighbors on our roads.

**Alex Schoening** is a Pacific Northwest Native, living in Battle Ground, Washington. He joined the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in 2021 and serves as a Program Manager for Washington State. Prior to this, he spent 28-years with the Clark County Sheriff's Office rising to the rank of Sergeant. It is during his 10-plus years as a collision investigator that he became passionate about ending traffic fatalities on our roadways. Alex has been married to his wife Julie for 25 years and has four children.

**John Milton** is the State Safety Engineer for Washington State Department of Transportation. He has 35 years of experience in multimodal safety, planning, design, and traffic operations. He is working nationally and internationally on implementation of the Safe System Approach. He received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree from the University of Washington. John is the Chair of the World Road Association (PIARC) Technical Committee on Road Safety, Vice Chair for the Committee on Safety for the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and past Safety Section Chair for the Transportation Research Board (TRB).

**Craig Helmann** has over 25 years of experience in travel demand modeling, traffic engineering and transportation planning. Over those twenty-five years, Craig has worked for a Department of Transportation, a County, a small software company, a multi-national consulting firm and for the last ten years the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Central Puget Sound Region. As the Director of Data at PSRC, he leads a talented group of data professionals who build sophisticated models, develop interesting and informative data visualizations and provide timely and relevant data for decision making in the central Puget Sound region.