



Keynote Speaker

Veronica Castro de Barrera

Founder + Principal Architect

Lead Campus & Mobility Planner



Veronica Castro de Barrera is a licensed architect and LEED Accredited Professional with nearly three decades of experience in civic, urban design, and multimodal transportation systems. She is registered with the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. In 2024, she joined The University of Texas at Austin, where she leads planning initiatives in mobility and transportation, historic preservation, sustainability, and environmental graphics.

At UT Austin, Veronica chairs the Campus Design Review Committee and contributes to interdisciplinary education through mentoring students in engineering, architecture, and urban design. Her civic leadership includes service on multiple boards, including Design Austin, and she serves as Chair of the Austin Transit Partnership Board of Directors, overseeing implementation of the voter-approved Project Connect transit program.

Her professional and research-informed practice spans mass transit, civic and institutional facilities, healthcare, education, public spaces, and public art. Her work has a global dimension, with experience in Mexico, Italy, and Denmark. Previously, she practiced at MWM DesignGroup, led the transit studio at KAI Enterprises focused on transit, active mobility, and placemaking strategies across five U.S. cities.

Veronica's contributions to the profession and humanizing cities have been recognized nationally, including the American Institute of Architects Honor Award for Community Service and being named a "Woman Who Moves the Nation" by the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials in Washington, D.C.