

# BUSWORLD ACADEMY WEBINAR

## SPEAKERS BIO

### How to restart bus operations after a lockdown?

**Ms. Rakhi Basu**  
Transport Advisor @ World  
Bank + Affiliate on the Smart  
Pandemic Management Team  
at UC Berkeley (USA)

**Mrs. Elke Van den Brandt**  
Minister of Transportation  
@ Brussels Government  
(Belgium)

**Mr. Li Feng**  
Deputy Director  
@ Jinan Public Transport  
Group Co., Ltd.  
(China)

**Mr. Prasanna Patwardhan**  
President @ BOCI  
(India)

**Mr. Craig Cipriano**  
Acting President, MTA Bus  
Company / Acting Senior Vice  
President, NYCT Department  
of Buses (USA)



**THURSDAY 30 APR 2020**

9.00 am EDT | 3.00 pm CEST | 6.30 pm IST | 9.00 pm CST



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## Li Feng



Mr. Li Feng has been employed in the Jinan Public Transport Group in China since 2006, and now is the Deputy Director of the company. He is also the Director of the Jinan Public Transport Research Institute since May 2017. In 2013 Li Feng graduated as Master of Engineering at the Shandong University, and since 2014 he also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the Missouri State University in the USA. His expertise is to be found in Public Transit Planning and Operations and has successfully completed multiple projects in China in this field. The Jinan Public Transport Group was the first Chinese PTA to have a plan ready for a new standard during and after COVID-19.

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## Elke Van den Brandt

Elke Van den Brandt is Brussels Minister for Mobility, Public Works and Road Safety for Groen in the Vervoort III government. As chair of the Flemish Community Commission (VGC), she is also responsible for Budget, Finance, Welfare, Childcare and Urban Policy.

Mobility and Road Safety are strategic priorities of this administration. Since the start of the legislature, the government has decided to install a region-wide 'zone 30', reducing the speed limit to 30 km/h. Furthermore, the government has adapted Good Move, which aims at replacing a quarter of car traffic by cyclists and public transport. Good Move also embraces the ambition of zero traffic fatalities.

Elke Van den Brandt studied communication sciences at the VUB. She started her career at UCOS (University Centre for Development Cooperation) and worked as a researcher on the obstacles in women's academic careers. After joining the green party (Groen) she became member of the Brussels (2009-2014) and the Flemish(2014-2019) Parliament. Elke is a mum of two and lives in Ganshoren.





## Craig Cipriano

Craig Cipriano was appointed Acting President for MTA Bus Company and Acting Senior Vice President of New York City Transit (NYCT) Department of Buses in June 2019. He is responsible for managing the largest bus agency in North America with over two million daily customers. He also manages the largest paratransit operation in North America with approximately 158,000 registrants.

Previously, he served as Executive Vice President, MTA Bus Company/MTA NYCT Department of Buses since 2014. He was responsible for a \$3.7 billion budget, strategic policy, planning, and performance for a combined bus and paratransit annual ridership of approximately 700 million, with 49 operating locations across the New York City metropolitan area and 7,400 bus and paratransit revenue vehicles. As EVP he led the successful implementation of the first-of-its-kind Express Bus Network Redesign for the borough of Staten Island.

Mr. Cipriano has over 30 years of public transit experience and proven success as a strategic leader delivering customer-focused, technological, and data-driven solutions to improve bus and paratransit operations.

He holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stony Brook University and a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from Rutgers University.

[Craig.Cipriano@nyct.com](mailto:Craig.Cipriano@nyct.com)

## Prasanna Keshav Patwardhan

Mr. Prasanna Patwardhan is President at BOCI, the Bus & Car Operators Confederation of India.

BOCI is a non-government, not-for-profit, Passenger Transport industry - led and managed organization which plays a proactive role in India's development process. BOCI represents 8 important Passenger Transport segments viz; Stage Carriage, Intercity Buses, Tourist Buses, School Buses, Company Buses, Tourist Taxis, Maxi Cabs and PPP (Private Public Partnership). Its members operate 1.5 million buses and coaches today on Indian roads.

Shri Prasanna Patwardhan is also the current Chairman & Managing Director of the Prasanna Group, founded by his father. The group has 3 companies: Prasanna Purple Mobility Solutions Pvt. Ltd (Passenger Transport), Prasanna Transport Network Pvt. Ltd (Goods Transport), Smilestone Motels Pvt. Ltd. Prasanna Patwardhan is a science graduate with professional management education. He has been instrumental in introducing new activities such as passenger, goods transportation, domestic/international tours & travels and highway restaurants/motels.



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## Rakhi Basu

Ms. Rakhi Basu is a transportation and infrastructure advisor at the World Bank, based in Washington DC. She has over 20 years of global experience in e-mobility, connected vehicles and end-to-end global supply chain management. Rakhi is also a member of the Smart Pandemic Management Team at the Berkeley University of California in Los Angeles.