Researchers in the LINK Lab are working with Boeing to help the organization understand future learning environments where new technologies such as bots, robots, and artificial intelligence are active participants in teams alongside workers. Researchers at the Center for Transportation Equity, Decisions, and Dollars are creating an innovation index, building policies that encourage electric vehicle adoption, and testing and developing an RFID system for effective maintenance of existing infrastructure. Frank Lewis, Yan Wan, and Ali Davoudi are helping optimize microgrid capacity through DC distribution. The networks are critical to the scalable integration of renewable energy resources and fleets of electric vehicles. Jaya Davis, Steve Mattingly, and Anne Nordberg are investigating a way to reduce recidivism by linking housing for former criminal offenders with transportation to services like employment centers, educational opportunities, and medical access. Shima Hamidi was co-author on a study that identified a correlation between urban sprawl and decreased life expectancy in the United States. Kathy Lee and Rebecca Mauldin developed an app, SageServe, to help older adults build community ties and reduce social isolation. Zhen Cong is working to attain a deeper understanding of the vulnerability and resiliency of older adults to natural disasters. Anand Puppala spent the past several years using data taken at the Eagle Mountain Lake dam to create a framework that future investigators can employ to determine if a dam has sustained earthquake damage.

UTA will focus on the inter-relationship between the natural, built, economic, cultural, and social environments on community sustainability and will work with community partners to implement ideas to improve the livability of cities, the metroplex, the state, and beyond. Learning from the past and present to ensure a sustainable future, UTA will understand and interpret demographic changes and the broad spectrum of human capital. We will strengthen inter-connectedness between individuals and the community by fostering an appreciation for the varieties of human experience, and through the creation of a vibrant creative and cultural ethos.

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