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21th Annual TFI Technology Conference

- Welcome Back to Austin! ~30 In-Person
- Welcome Online Attendees! ~60 Online
- Welcome Back to Hyatt Place!
- Thank you Sponsors!



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Lay of the Land & Rules of the Road

- Conference room layout
- Chat and Q&A
- Screenshare and Video Feed
- Stay on schedule
- Audio is crucial - Use microphones!!!
- Have fun and be patient! 😊

TFI 2026 Team



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2026 Keynotes

Broadband Keynote



Daniel Grossman

Principal, NetAccess
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Wireless Keynote



Todd Humphreys

Ernest Dashiell Cockrell II
Chair in Engineering
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Policy Keynote



Roger Grabowski

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 - Conference Day 1 – Hyatt Place Austin Downtown, Meeting Place 2&3.
(Online networking before and after the first day.)

- 9:00 am **Introductions and Welcome • [Lawrence K. Vanston, Ph.D.](#), President, TFI**
- 9:15 am **Broadband Keynote: Predictions for 2026 and Beyond [Daniel Grossman](#), Principal, NetAccess Futures**
- 10:10 am Break
- 10:15 am **Wireless Keynote: Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Communications in 6G • [Todd E. Humphreys, Ph.D.](#), Ernest Dashiell Cockrell II Chair in Engineering, The University of Texas at Austin**
- 11:15 am Break
- 11:30 am **Feature Presentation: Valuations of Data Centers and the AI Impact • [Ruben Miranda](#), Managing Director, Property Tax, Kroll**
- 12:15 pm **Lunch Break** – Attendees are on their own for lunch

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- 1:30 pm **Policy Keynote: Investment-Specific-Risk in Discount Rates** • [Roger Grabowski](#), Fellow Accredited Senior Appraiser (ASA), Managing Director (ret.), Valuation Services, **Kroll**
- 2:30 pm Break
- 2:45 pm **Broadband and Wireless Industry Panel** • [Jason Butterworth](#) (Moderator) Principal, Property Tax – Complex Properties, **Ryan** • [Gary Hunter](#), AVP Tax, **AT&T** • [John Reed](#), Sr. Director, Property Tax, **Charter** • [Brandt Palmer](#), Sr. Manager, Property Tax, **T-Mobile**
- 3:45 pm Break
- 4:00 pm **Feature Presentation: From Spreadsheets to Agents: Real-World AI for Valuation & Property Tax** • [Carl Hoemke](#), GM, Property Tax, **Avalara** & [Vsu Subramanian](#), SVP, Engineering, **Avalara**
- 5:00 pm Day End
- 5:30 pm **Conference Reception** (Hyatt Place Austin Downtown, Gallery)

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 23 – Conference Day 2 – Hyatt Place Austin Downtown Meeting Place 2&3

- 9:00 am **Communications Technology Update** • [August \(Augie\) Grant, Ph.D.](#), Professor Emeritus, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, **University of South Carolina**; Co-Editor, *Communications Technology Update and Fundamentals*
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:15 am **U.S. Economic Outlook** • [Michael Brandl, Ph.D.](#), Retired Professor of Instruction, Economics, **University of Texas at Austin**; Principal, Brandl the Economist; Author *Money, Banking, Financial Markets & Institutions 3rd ed*, Cengage Learning.
- 11:15 am Break
- 11:30 am **TFI Industry Forecast Overview** • [Lawrence Vanston](#), President, TFI • [Ray Hodges](#), Senior Consultant, TFI
- 12 :15 pm **The Last Word**
- 12 :30 pm Conference Ends
Attendees, please complete conference [Feedback Form](#)

For full presenter bios,
and other info, please visit:
tfitechnologyconference.com



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Carrie Vanston,
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