How do the differences between forecasts and projections matter?
What are the implications of these differences for your own areas of focus or study?
Based upon your area of study or specialization, what types of information help you to assess the accuracy or certainty of a forecast?

The differences between forecasts and projections matter because one shows current trajectory and one shows the results of interventions. Projections allow planners like myself to test the results of interventions in an area and determine which interventions will be the most successful.

I am specifically interested in making places more accessible for women and children so for me, projections are important to determine which interventions will positively impact the usability of a space for my target audiences.

This summer for example, I will be working for the National Park Service and a lot of the work I do will be looking at forecasts and projections in order to determine usage level at different parks and destinations. I will also be using forecasts and projections to determine which improvements need to be made for our target populations. For example, are we providing ramps for disabled visitors, for visitors with strollers, etc? Are those visitors accessing our site? If they aren't is it because there is no desire or is it because they aren't able to.

These are the types of things that planners need to keep in mind when they are looking at forecasts vs projections. The difference is that projections can be used to determine which types of interventions will be most successful. In my field of study, the information that helps assess the accuracy or certainty of a forecast is the inclusivity of the forecast. Is the forecast acknowledging every scenario or is it singular?