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President's Message

By Neelam Dorman, T.E., ITE Western District President

I had the pleasure of representing ITE at a Professional Society Panel along with representatives from other great organizations. It was a great experience and brought some of ITE's initiatives to the forefront, including:

- **Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV):** ITE has been responding to USDOT guidance on CAV and has established a position on CAV and a task force to focus on how ITE members can support CAV implementation at the local level.
- **Mobility as a Service (MaaS)/Mobility on Demand (MOD):** This is ITE's newest initiative; an early product from the initiative is the ITE Curbside Management Practitioners Guide.
- **Smart Communities:** ITE is focusing on educating its members about Smart Communities with a series of one-page Quickbites; ITE has further plans to develop case studies.
- **Transportation and Health:** ITE is partnering with transportation and health professionals to raise awareness on the intersection of these two important issues and to develop tools to better inform transportation professionals of the health impacts of their decisions.
- **Vision Zero:** ITE is providing a variety of resources to help our members reduce fatalities and serious injuries and move toward Vision Zero. ITE is also taking a leadership role with the Road to Zero Coalition.

November is STEM month! Please let the District know if you have specific activities planned so we can share it with the rest of our members. ITE has created a competition to encourage our members to participate in a Stem Activity. The STEM subcommittee also put together a list of activities and presentation templates for our members to use.

OneITE Update: the Western District is finalizing the financial aspects of creating the new Mountain District; the next step is Section Charters and Bylaws. In November, ITE International will discuss and approve the model documents. In addition, ITE International will give Section Boards the full authority to adopt these new bylaws without regard to provisions contained within their existing bylaws. This is the same process that was used as the Districts adopted their new bylaws. The Districts will issue a new charter for each Section. These charters will be effective January 1, 2021. With support and guidance from the District, each Section will prepare new bylaws that conform to their new charter. The new bylaws will follow the model bylaws approved by the IBOD. Sections are encouraged to develop Section Procedures that conform with their new charter and bylaws and provide more details on the operating procedures used by the Section. The District will approve the new Section bylaws by June 30, 2020 and submit them for review by the IBOD. The new bylaws and the new charters will go into effect January 1, 2021.

The next Western District Board activity is our mid-year board meeting which will be held in January and will be our first meeting with our Section Representatives. We are looking forward to working with our Sections and hopefully fostering better connection between the District and Sections.

Annual Board Meeting Highlights

Giancarlo Ganddini, TE, PTP, ITE Western District Vice President

On June 23rd, 2019, Western District Board members, committee chairs, LAC Chairs, section/chapter leaders, and guests assembled in Monterey, California for the 2019 Western District Annual Meeting.

President Neelam Dorman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and attendee introductions were made. Neelam gave the President's report, which included review of Section/Chapter visits, action items, bylaws, and election policy updates.

Vice President Paul Barricklow gave his report, which included updates on awards, committee travel budgets, and the leadership directory.

Secretary-Treasurer Giancarlo Ganddini reported that fiscal year-to-date income and expenses. Excess Annual Meeting income was funded forward to future Annual Meetings. The Endowment Fund was above the goal necessary to fund student initiatives.

Past President Mark Spencer reported that the Lifetime Achievement Award

recipient had been selected and would be recognized at the Annual Meeting Banquet.

International Directors Karen Aspelin, Carlos Ortiz, and Cathy Leong provided summaries of their recent activities. Key items addressed included STEM resources, Mobility as a Service (MaaS) sessions, and the 2019 Student Leadership Summit.

International Executive Director Jeffrey Paniati provided updates on the OneITE initiative, potential for pooled investment accounts for district/section reserves, MaaS, STEM programs, and the new Diversity Scholars program that will award two recipients in Fall 2019.

International Vice President Randy McCourt reported on additional International efforts, including emerging issues (MaaS), section representatives, and International's focus on providing technical support so members can focus on their communities.

District Administrator Dalene Whitlock provided an update on accountant sta-

tus and the election participation rate.

WesternITE Managing Editor Erica Jensen, Advertising Manager Robert Sweeting, Website Manager Cameron Shew, Technical Committee Chair Amit Kothari, Career Guidance Committee Chair Josh McNeill, Student Funding & Initiatives Committee Chair Kimberly Leung, Public Relations Committee Chair Paul Stanis, and District Local Activities Committee (LAC) Chair Cathy Leong gave updates on their respective committee status and goals.

Annual Meeting updates were given, including: **2019 Monterey (Co-Chair Justin Link), 2020 Hawaii (Chair Cathy Leong), 2021 Portland (Rep. Randy McCourt), and 2022 Palm Springs (Co-Chair Dennis Acuna).**

Additional items discussed included the Western District OneITE Transition Plan, social media plan, and the 2019-2020 proposed budget.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 31st, 2020.

Annual Business Meeting Highlights

Giancarlo Ganddini, TE, PTP, ITE Western District Vice President

The Western District Annual Business Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019, in Monterey, CA. The meeting was called to order by President **Neelam Dorman** and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for deceased members **William Coleman, Wayne Gruen, Joseph Kott, Dennis Neuzil, Gerald Robbins, and Harold Ruth.**

Annual Meeting Awards were presented. Neelam announced the final call for ballots, convened the teller's committee, and gave her State of the District

Address, which included an overview of the Transition Plan, re-chartering and new bylaws, geography, governance, division of assets, and additional transitional issues.

Secretary-Treasurer **Giancarlo Ganddini** presented an overview of the current fiscal year-to-date budget. Neelam presented the draft proposed budget, including a detailed review of adjustments to account for re-structuring of District committees and other changes related to creation of the new Mountain District. Affected budget items gener-

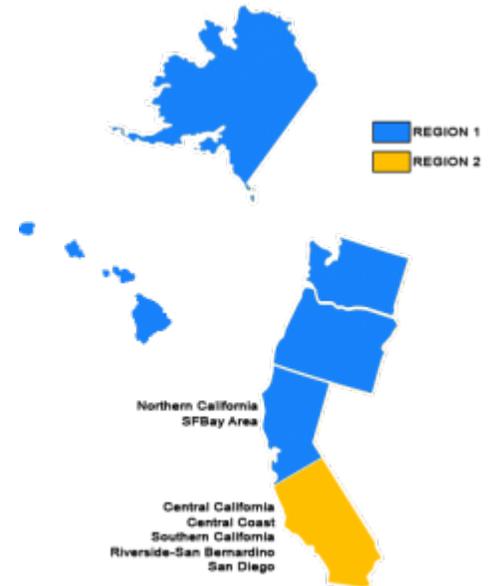
ally consisted of dues and advertising income, travel expenses, and student initiatives, which were adjusted proportionally based on future membership numbers. A motion to approve the proposed budget was made by **Justin Link**, seconded by **Monica Suter**, and approved by the membership.

The final order of business was the announcement of the winners of the 2019 election: President **Neelam Dorman**, Vice President **Giancarlo Ganddini**, and Secretary-Treasurer **Joe De La Garza**. The meeting was then adjourned.

Seeking Nominations for Western District Officer Candidates and Achievement Awards

The Western District Board is seeking nominations of qualified candidates for Secretary-Treasurer and International Director to run in the June 2020 election. Secretary-Treasurer nominations can be submitted for individuals from Region 1 (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Hawaii, Northern California, and SF Bay Area) while International Director nominations can be submitted for individuals regardless of where they reside. Anyone who would like to submit a nominee for consideration, or who would like more information about the election process, should contact Western District International Director [Cathy Leong](#). Nominations will be accepted until **December 1, 2019**. Please note that information regarding Mountain District elections will be shared with their members at a later date.

We are also requesting nominations for Western District Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards. Award information and nomination forms are available [here](#). Nominations for the Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards are due to Western District Past President [Mark Spencer](#) by **November 1, 2019**



ITE International Board Report

By Cathy Leong, P.E., Western District International Director

The following summarizes the ITE International Board of Direction's (IBOD) meeting in Austin on July 19-20, 2019.

Financials: Executive Director **Jeff Paniati** reported that revenue for 2019 is exceeding projections with expenses trending slightly lower than anticipated. ITE is expected to break even this year with some funds anticipated to be available to move into reserves later this year. Registration for the Austin meeting is higher than expected with exhibitor and sponsor revenue meeting expectations.

Technical Programs: Chief Technical Officer **Jeff Lindley** provided updates on the progress of ITE's five key initiatives: Vision Zero, CAVs, Transportation and Health, Smart Communities, and Mobility as a Service. The proposed rescission of ITE Recommended Practice Guidelines for the Prohibition of Turns on Red was discussed as well as Infrastructure Owner Operator Guiding Principles for CAVs developed by AASHTO. Finally, re-

ports were presented by the Chairs of the Coordinating Council, Maas/MOD Committee, Industry Council, and Consultant's Council.

Membership: Membership Director **Colleen Agan** reported that ITE's numbers continue to grow with the new goal being 16,000 members. ITE continues to work on transitioning Section affiliates to full members.

One ITE Initiative: Updates were presented regarding One ITE initiatives:

- Reorganization of the Florida Puerto Rico District is proceeding. Bylaws were approved.
- The Missouri Valley and Great Lakes Districts have addressed outstanding issues with their MOU. Bylaws were approved.
- Western and Mountain Districts have been working through their transition plan. Charters were issued and Bylaws were approved.

- Bylaws for Mid Colonial, Northeastern, Southern, and Texas Districts were approved with Bylaws for the remaining Districts expected later this year.

A draft of model Section charters and bylaws and Chapter charters will be sent to the Districts for comment in the coming months.

District Annual Meetings: ITE is coordinating windows for District Annual Meetings to minimize overlap between the meetings. This will allow the Executive Committee and ITE staff to participate in all of the District meetings. Recommendations regarding differential pricing for District and Section/Chapter events was discussed to reinforce the value of membership at those levels.

Certifications: The new Road Safety Professional (RSP) certification was held last October with 300 professionals certified by that exam. The Level 2 RSP certification exam is expected to be administered later this year in October.

2019 Annual Meeting Award Winners

Award	2019 Recipient
Best Annual Meeting Paper Award	Wulf Grote: "Rail Roundabouts: The Valley Metro Experience"
Best Annual Meeting Paper Award by a Young Professional	Matthew Bomberg: "Fremont Vision Zero Program: A City Getting Safer"
James H. Kell RFP Award	Brigham Young University, "MiteY Rice"
Lifetime Achievement Award	Zaki Mustafa
Membership Growth Awards: Greatest Rate of Growth Total Member Growth	Alaska Section Southern California Section
Mentor Award	Ben Waldman
MiteY Race Awards	Family/Friends: 1st - E-Squared (Victoria and Lisa Edington); 2nd - The Mounties (Karen Aspelin and Paul Barricklow); 3rd - MiteY Minions (Mark and Alex Spencer) Students: 1st - Cal State Fullerton Team B (Bakri Al Mouradi and Kenny Nguyen); 2nd - Track Suit Weekend (Travis Larson and Cameron Bennett, OSU); 3rd - Cal State Foolaround (Maniriam Phoummathep-Winspear and William Talamaivao, CSUF)
Outstanding Undergraduate Student	Vanessa See (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)
Outstanding Graduate Student	Abolfazl Karimpour (University of Arizona)
Outstanding Educator	Dr. Rhonda Young, Gonzaga University
Richard T. Romer Endowment Fund Awards: Highest Contribution Per Member Award Highest Overall Contribution Award	Riverside-San Bernardino Section Riverside-San Bernardino Section
Section/Chapter Activities Award, Large Section	Southern California Section
Section/Chapter Activities Award, Small Section	San Diego Section
Student Chapter Activity Award: Winner Honorable Mention	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Oregon State University
Student Chapter Annual Meeting Award	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Student Chapter Website Award	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Student Paper Award	Rui Yue, "An Evaluation of Operational Efficiency between Single Point Urban Interchange with Frontage Road and Tight Diamond Interchange"
Student Traffic Bowl Winner	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Wayne T. and Patricia VanWagoner Award (for best paper by a WD member published in ITE Journal in prior calendar year)	Jianqing Wu, "An Automated Procedure for Vehicle Tracking with a Roadside LiDAR Sensor"
Website Award	Oregon Section
Wisest and Windiest Scribe Award	Phuong Nguyen (San Diego Section)
Young Professional Achievement Award	Patrick Marnell

2019 Best Paper

The District’s Best Paper Award is one of the most prestigious presented each year. The winning paper is presented here.

Rail Roundabouts: The Valley Metro Experience

Authors: Wulf Grote, PE; Omar J. Peters, AICP; Ray Yparraguirre, PE, PTOE; Nathaniel Chadwick

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Valley Metro has operated light rail in the Phoenix metro area since 2008, and continues to improve its services to connect communities and enhance lives. The current 26-mile system is positioned to grow with several expansions planned through 2034. In concert with this growth, Valley Metro continues to pursue innovative and efficient technologies to create a more safe and reliable system. The Agency will soon have four roundabouts, with light rail or streetcar running through them. This paper identifies the safety benefits that roundabouts provide, discusses international examples of rail roundabouts and shares Valley Metro’s plans to integrate rail roundabouts. It is important to note that, although Valley Metro’s light rail system will include several roundabouts, the decision to install them must be evaluated on a site-specific basis.

2.0 SAFETY AND ROUNDABOUTS

The existing 26-mile light rail system primarily operates in a semi-exclusive guideway usually at-grade with surface streets. Since the first full year of light rail operations in 2009 through 2017, there were 265 automobile collisions with a light rail vehicle. Figure 1 charts the primary causes of those collisions. The most frequent cause (63%) was motorists making improper left-turns.

Recent studies have consistently concluded that roundabouts, when compared to traditional four-way intersections, create more safe and efficient environments for vehicular traffic. Studies looking at the safety impacts of converting conventional intersections to roundabouts have found that roundabouts reduce the number of overall collisions by 37% and, moreover, substantially reduces their severity. Collisions with injuries decrease by 75% and those with fatalities decrease by 90%. These numbers are based on data from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (Washington State Department of Transportation,

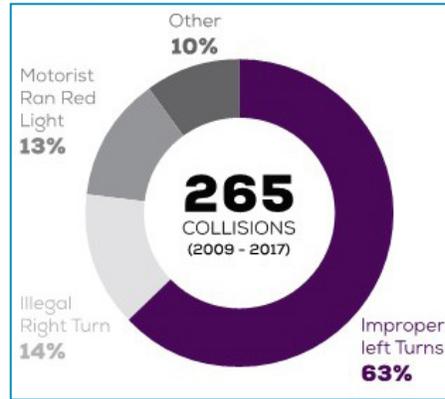


Figure 1. Primary Causes of Automobile Collisions with Valley Metro Light Rail

2018). Similar research by Arizona State University (Souliman, 2018) found that by converting conventional intersections to single-lane roundabout there was an 18 percent reduction in overall collisions, and a 44 percent reduction in injuries.

The geometric design of roundabouts with rail provides additional safety benefits because it reduces the blind spot areas for left-turning motorists. Figure 2 compares the blind spot area for a left-turning motorist in a conventional intersection to that of a left-turning motorist in a light rail roundabout. The motorist in the roundabout has a smaller blind spot and better visibility to see trains approaching from behind. This will decrease the likelihood of improper left-turning motorists.

3.0 RESEARCH OF EXISTING RAIL ROUNDABOUTS

Given the context of the new roundabouts being construct-

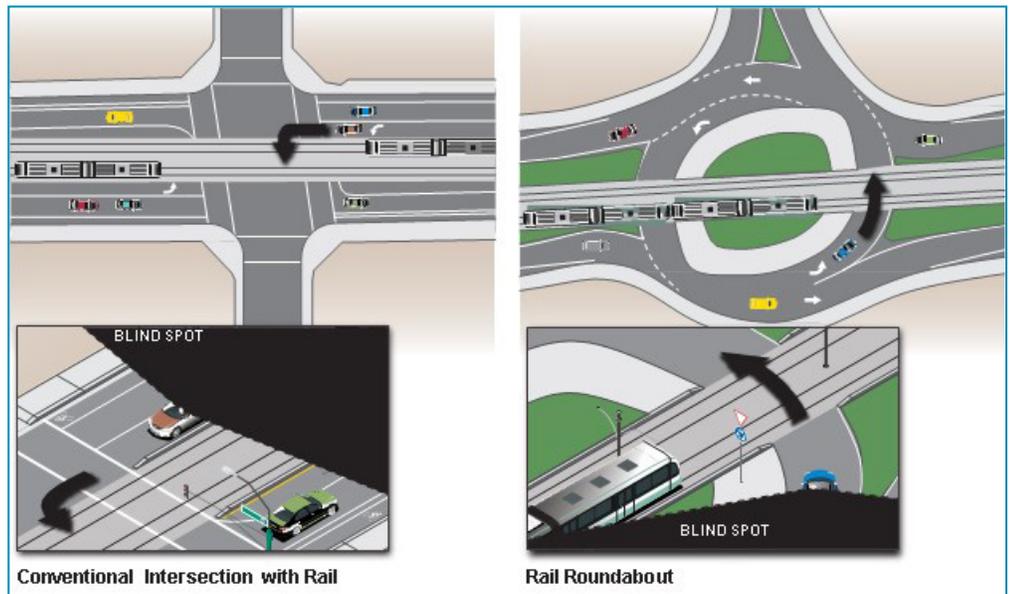


Figure 2: Blind Spots at Conventional Intersections Compared to Roundabouts

ed in the Valley Metro system, this research provides a survey of international examples where roundabouts have light rail running through them. Roundabouts were discovered using extensive internet searches and exploring Google Earth aerial imagery. After excluding non-passenger and/or heavy rail examples, a sample size of 60 rail roundabouts were recorded. For each roundabout, the location, transit mode, traffic control type, number of approaches, lanes per approach, inscribed circle diameter and posted speed limit were documented. A large majority of the sample roundabouts were found in the Nantes, France metro region (36) and the greater Melbourne, Australia area (15). Only one light rail roundabout was found in the United States. It is located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The sample of 60 rail roundabouts have varying traffic control types. Three types of traffic control devices were identified to control automobiles, bicycles and pedestrians as a light rail vehicle is approaching, in or exiting the roundabout. Figure 3 illustrates samples of each traffic control type and its definition.

The distribution of traffic control types among the 60 rail roundabouts are as follows: one uses gates, 10 use signage, and 49 use ICCs. The one rail roundabout controlled by gates is in Salt Lake City. The decision to use gates at the Salt Lake City roundabout was largely based on the land uses and traf-

fic in the area. The South Campus Drive roundabout helps facilitate vehicles entering and exiting the University of Utah, including events being held at the basketball arena to the east and football stadium to the west.

The largest group of light rail roundabouts observed in this study were found in the Nantes, France metro area. Thirty-five (35) of the 36 roundabouts in Nantes, France control traffic using ICCs, with the only exception using posted signs. The types of the ICCs in the sample set predominantly included red bouncing balls (Figure 4) and blank out signs (Figure 5) that are actuated by the train or streetcar.

4.0 COMPLIANCE OF RAIL ROUNDABOUTS AND ICCS

Three sections in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) are applicable to rail roundabouts, and give guidance on the use of ICCs in those roundabouts. Section 8C.03 (Flashing-Light Signals at Highway-Light Rail Grade Crossings) states that flashing-light signals shall be installed where light rail speeds exceed 35 miles per hour (mph). If speeds are less than 35 mph these flashing-light signals are optional. This is the case for Valley Metro's roundabouts where the operational speeds are at or below 35 mph for light rail and streetcar.



Figure 4: Red Bouncing Ball ICCs in Nantes, France



Figure 5: Blank Out ICCs in Melbourne, Australia

Section 8C.05 (Use of Automatic Gates at Light Rail Grade Crossings) states that at highway- light rail grade crossings at semi-exclusive alignments where light rail speeds exceed 35 mph, automatic gates and flashing-light signals should be installed. Again, light rail and streetcar in Valley Metro roundabouts will not operate at speeds above 35 mph.

Section 8C.12 (Grade Crossings Within or in Close Proximity to Circular Intersections) states that at circular intersections, where they include or are within 200 feet of a grade crossing, an engineering study shall be made to determine if queuing could impact the grade crossing. If traffic queues impact the grade crossing, provisions shall be made to clear highway traffic from the grade crossing prior to the arrival of rail traffic. This section further provides several actions that can be taken to clear traffic from the grade crossing prior to the arrival of rail traffic, including:

- Elimination of the circular intersection,
- Geometric design revisions,
- Grade crossing regulatory and warning devices,

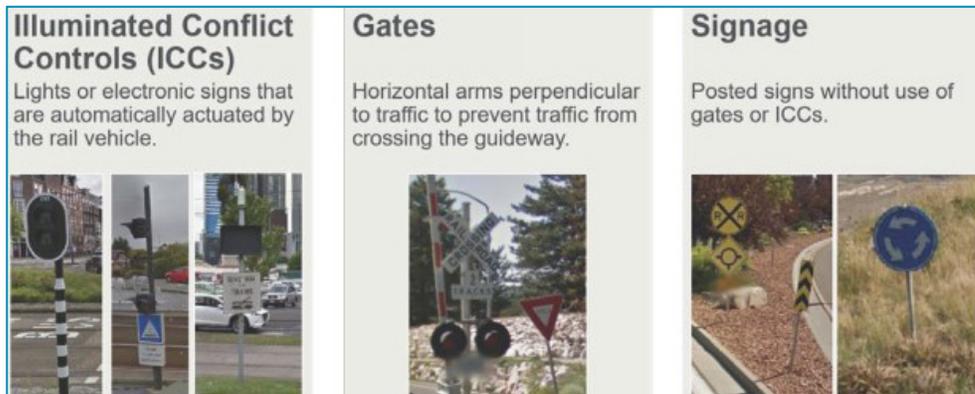


Figure 3: Traffic control Types at Rail Roundabouts

- Highway traffic signals (ICCs),
- Traffic metering devices (ICCs),
- Activated signs (ICCs), or
- A combination of these or other actions.

In the context of Valley Metro’s roundabouts, activated signals and signs (ICCs) are applicable based on the standards of the MUTCD.

5.0 VALLEY METRO ROUNDABOUTS

Valley Metro is currently integrating four new roundabouts into the regional rail system. The first roundabout completed became operational in spring 2019 as part of the Gilbert Road Light Rail Extension in the city of Mesa. Given that only one through lane exists in each direction, a roundabout was recommended at this location to facilitate U-turns by large vehicles and to slow down traffic. Figure 6 shows an aerial image of the roundabout with a test train travelling east through the intersection.



Figure 6: Gilbert Road Extension Roundabout

The Gilbert Road Light Rail Extension roundabout uses gates at the light rail crossing, however it was constructed so that it can be retrofitted with ICCs. Each of the four approaches has one lane of traffic. Some notable design elements include embedded pedestrian flashers at crossings, chicanes to slow traffic, bike lanes/shared paths and a truck apron.

The next roundabout will be constructed as part of the Tempe Streetcar in the city of Tempe. Figure 7 shows the design of the roundabout.

ICCs are proposed for the Tempe Streetcar roundabout crossing, but the design includes potential for future gates, if needed. Two of the three existing approaches have one lane of traffic, with the third having two lanes. Additional design features are still being finalized.



Figure 7: Tempe Streetcar Roundabout

In Phoenix, the South Central Light Rail Extension project will feature two new roundabouts intersecting the light rail line. Figure 8 shows the proposed concept for the roundabouts. These roundabouts are needed because this is an industrial area, where circulation of large trucks need to be accommodated. Conventional intersections at these locations cannot handle the radius needed for truck turning.

ICCs are also proposed at these light rail roundabouts, but the design can easily accommodate gates, if needed in the future. Each roundabout’s approaches will have one lane of traffic. Design of these roundabouts is still in process, and they will include several notable design features, including chicanes to slow traffic.

CONCLUSIONS

Valley Metro has determined that the

inclusion of rail roundabouts at selected locations is appropriate, but they are not universally applicable. A sight specific analysis must be completed prior to recommending that a roundabout be used.

Where roundabouts are proposed, Valley Metro recommends use of ICCs to control rail crossing. Based on the research conducted on rail roundabouts, ICCs provide operational benefits and will not make roundabouts less safe or less efficient than those with gates. ICCs offer several benefits, including:

- **Reliability:** ICCs have a lower likelihood of malfunctioning compared to gates
- **Traffic delay:** Gates take more time to lower and raise, increasing the length of traffic delay
- **Cost:** ICCs require lower capital costs to install and operate/maintain over time than gates
- **Noise:** Bells required with gates, are not required for ICCs, reducing the impact to the surrounding community
- **Safety:** Given that roundabouts are proven to reduce intersection collision severity, the presence of ICCs will not sacrifice safety benefits
- **Compatible:** Rail roundabouts with ICCs are permissible according to the MUTCD guidelines

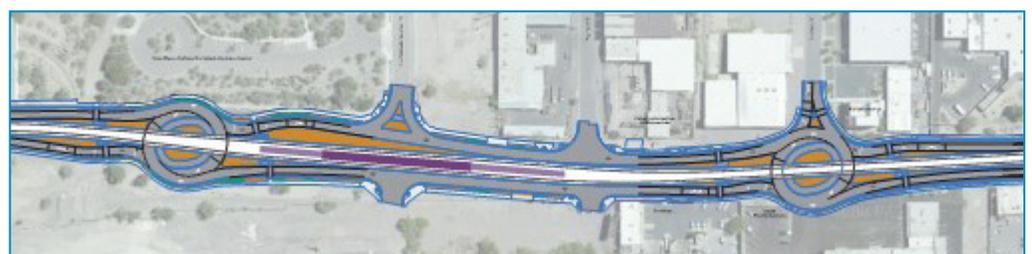


Figure 8: South Central Extension Roundabout

Thank You for Attending the 2019 Western District Annual Meeting!

Kimberly Leung and Justin Link, 2019 LAC Co-Chairs

The 2019 Local Arrangements Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Western District Annual Meeting. We had over 450 conference attendees, including 93 students; a sold-out Exhibit Hall; and numerous sponsors. This conference was the first time a District Annual Meeting has been hosted in beautiful Monterey, CA, and it was truly a success. We hope that it was a memorable conference with the diverse technical program and tours, the engaging presentations from Keynote Speaker Therese W. McMillan and Kickoff Luncheon Speaker Stanley Roberts, the magical Family Night at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the nonstop 80s dance party at the Awards Banquet, and everything else in between. The 2019 Monterey Technical Compendium is available at westernite.org/annual-meetings/technical-compedia/compendium2019/.

Thank you for being a part of the 2019 Annual Meeting!

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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Contributors of Note

Clary Corporation • GHD • MaxGreen Transportation Engineers • W-Trans • Western Systems, Inc.

Celebrating our past as we look to the future

Guest Editorial, by Jonathan Upchurch, P.E., PTOE, 1991 ITE International President

The era of a 13 state Western District is now coming to an end. Its origin was a 13 state Western Section that was created in 1948. As a result of the ITE Constitutional Convention in the early 1970's, the Section became a District, known as District 6. In 2009 it was renamed the Western District.

Now is a time when we should celebrate the accomplishments of the Western District over the years. The first ever ITE International Annual Meeting held west of Kansas City was in Los Angeles in 1951. In total, the Western District has hosted the International Annual Meeting 13 times. In a 36 year period from 1986 to 2021 the Western District has contributed to the Institute's leadership by being the home District of 13 ITE International Presidents.

For the past 38 years I've had the opportunity to watch the Western District grow and become more sophisticated in what it offers the membership. I've seen it happen by participating in the last 38 Western District Annual Meetings – the annual event that brings together many of our members. I know there are a handful of others who have attended more than 38 meetings – perhaps not all consecutively - and I expect they also appreciate what the Western District has accomplished for the membership.

In addition to attending almost four decades of annual meetings, I've experienced the Western District in another way – a way that I doubt anyone else has experienced. I have been to every county in the 13 state Western District (419 counties in total). That's 419 different perspectives on geography, transportation needs, and transportation solutions. I've seen the many different ways that our members solve transportation problems. One of the great benefits of a 13 state Western District is that it allowed us to share those solutions among all our members through this newsletter, the Western District Annual Meeting, and the professional networking that we shared.

Let's celebrate our past as we look to the future.

Committee Updates

Career Guidance Committee

By Josh McNeill, PE, TE, Committee Chair

The Career Guidance Committee is here to help promote the advancement of the transportation planning and engineering profession by fostering the close association of senior professionals with young professionals.

While scanning through your Western District ITE meeting program in recent years, you may have noticed the career guidance track running all day Tuesday. It's made up of three sessions aimed at providing students and young professionals better tools for getting a job and navigating the early years of their career. I have a tremendous amount of respect and appreciation for all of those volunteers. I'm proud to say that we have never failed in finding people willing to help our younger generation of transportation engineers.

There is another session that takes on a more improvisational format. It's aimed at helping young professional navigate challenging workplace situations. A small group from the career guidance committee performs short skits as a way of setting

up discussion amongst the attendees on how to best handle each scenario. The skits, which are typically humorous if not necessarily the most well-conceived, inevitably result in great dialogue amongst the audience. A special thanks to those individuals that have participated in these skits over the past years for your bravery: **Cathy Leong, Kimberly Leung, Mark Spencer, Justin Link, Neelam Dorman, Giancarlo Ganddini, Krista Purser, and Emilio Murga.**

We are also looking for people that are passionate about helping students and young professional to join our committee. Please feel free to reach out to me if you are interested or would just like to share some ideas.

District Local Arrangements Committee (LAC)

By Cathy Leong, PE, Committee Chair

The District LAC Committee continues to assist the local LACs for the meetings in Hawaii, Portland, and Palm Springs. The 2021 Portland meeting will be a joint meeting with Interna-

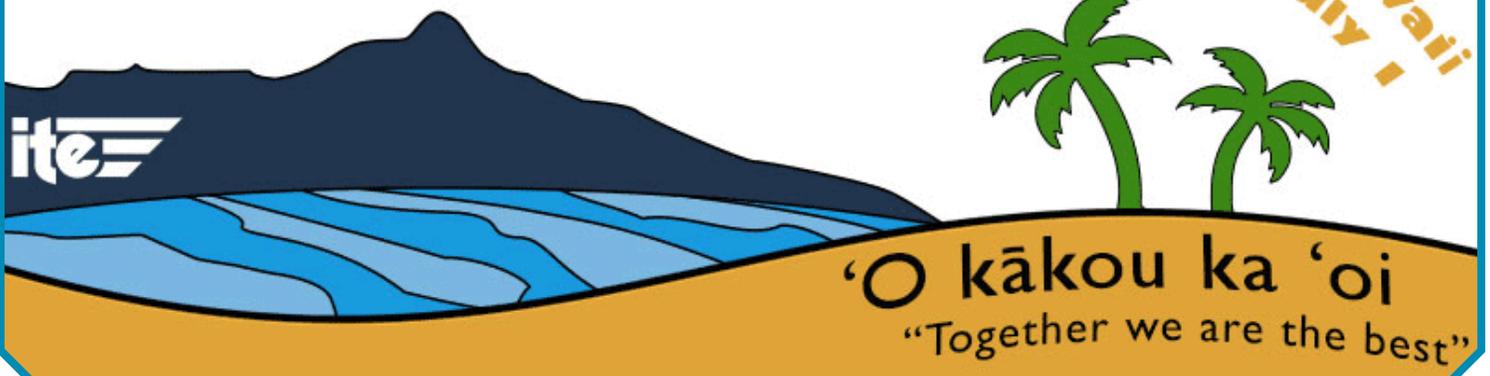
Save the Date: Honolulu, HI – June 28-July 1, 2020!

The 2020 Joint Western & Mountain Districts Annual Meeting will be in Hawaii from June 28th - July 1st at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. The website (<https://www.westernite.org/annualmeeting/>) for the meeting is already up! You can register, book your hotel room, and find sponsorships and exhibition information. In addition, we have already begun accepting abstract so if you would like to participate as one of our speakers, submit your abstract today. The **deadline for the Call for Papers of December 20th** is rapidly approaching!

Plan early to attend and be eligible for a drawing for a 3-night stay at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Sign up for a full registration and book your room at the conference hotel to be eligible (discounted registrations not eligible). Attendees that register/reserve by March 1, 2020 will be eligible for two drawings while those that register/reserve by May 1, 2020 will only be eligible for one drawing. Winners will be selected shortly after the cut-off dates. Don't delay, sign up today!

2020 Annual Meeting Joint Western & Mountain Districts

Honolulu, Hawaii
June 28 - July 1



tional and the Mountain District while the 2022 Palm Springs meeting will be a standalone Western District meeting. In addition, the District expects to select additional future meeting sites at next year's Mid-Year Board Meeting.

Public Relations Committee

By Paul Stanis, Committee Chair

The Western District Lifetime Achievement Award is considered the District's highest recognition of professional accomplishment and outstanding services in the interest of Western District. The 2019 ITE Western District Lifetime Achievement Award winner was presented to **Zaki Mustafa** at the annual meeting.

This year, we produced a video "**What is Your Transportation Journey**" which debuted at the Annual Meeting in Monterey, California. The video promotes the role of ITE in the transportation engineering and planning fields and encourages practitioners to find their role in the ever expanding and evolving field of transportation. The video can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZONQYdBpa-k>

The Western District was awarded first place for their submittal for the ITE International District/Section Communications Award at this year's Joint International and Texas Meeting this summer. Year over year, the Western District increased its engagement with membership on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter while also maintaining more traditional communication

methods such as the WesternITE electronic and print newsletter editions.

Student Funding & Initiatives Committee

By Kimberly Leung, PE, TE, Committee Chair

The James H. Kell Student Competition gives student members an opportunity to apply transportation engineering classroom knowledge to a specific "real-world" problem. The District issues a request for proposals inviting student chapters to define and run the student competition and the winning student chapter is awarded \$1500 to cover material costs and travel to the Annual Meeting. The winner of the RFP this year was BYU for their "MiteY Rice" challenge. Nearly 70 students from across the District participated in the event.

The purpose of the Student Chapter Award is to recognize overall participation by a student chapter in all of the Annual Meeting activities. The winner of the Student Chapter Annual Meeting Award for 2019 was Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Each year, \$2000 worth of annual scholarships is awarded for student travel assistance to attend the District Annual Meeting. The District received eight applications, and this year's winner were **Peter Yu** from Pullman High School/ Washington State University, **Mitchell Hadfield** from BYU, **Joceline Suhaimi** from UCLA, and **Amy Huang** from UC Berkeley.

MiteY Race Recap

Thank you to all of the teams that participated in the MiteY Race at the recent Western District Annual Meeting in Monterey, CA! We kicked off the meeting on Saturday with four family/friends and eight student teams completing fun but challenging tasks around the Hyatt Regency Monterey.

The top family & friends teams were:

- 1st Place: E-Squared – Victoria and Lisa Edington
- 2nd Place: The Mounties – Karen Aspelin and Paul Barricklow
- 3rd Place: MiteY Minions – Mark and Alex Spencer

The top student teams were:

- 1st Place: Cal State Fullerton Team B – Bakri Al Mouradi and Kenny Nguyen from Cal State Fullerton

- 2nd Place: Track Suit Weekend – Travis Larson and Cameron Bennett from Oregon State University
- 3rd Place: Cal State Fullerton – Maniriam Phoummathep-Winspear and William Talamaivao from Cal State Fullerton

Join us again next year in Hawaii for our next edition of the MiteY Race themed "Hawaii Five-O."



Family and Friends teams (left) and Student team (right)

Section and Chapter Updates

Alaska Section

by Jared Travis, Section Secretary/Treasurer

In May the Alaska Section was joined by Western District President **Neelam Dorman**. Shortly after on June 4, we marked the start of summer with the Alaska Section member appreciation barbeque. The event was attended by ITE members and families and proved to be a great opportunity to catch up in a relaxed environment and hear summer plans. Our regular lunch meeting schedule re-commenced in September with a presentation from **Craig Lyon** from Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions regarding transportation planning in the municipality. In October economist **Jonathan King** discussed how Alaska's economic projections could affect transportation infrastructure and project funding. Efforts are currently underway to organize our annual scholarship fundraiser Beer, Cider and Wine Tasting Event, which is held in November.



Alaska Section officers with Neelam.

Colorado/ Wyoming Section

by Devlin Joslin, Section Scribe

Since the last newsletter update, we have been very busy.

- Our Section hosted three regular lunch meetings in March, May, and September. The March meeting was a joint meeting with Souther Colorado Chapter of ASCE.
- We also hosted a Leadership Meet n' Greet in March with local agency leaders. The event was held at Empower Field at Mile High (where the Denver Broncos play) and attendees could tour the stadium, including the locker rooms and the field.
- Our 16th Annual Spring Transportation Symposium was held in Apriand drew a record crowd of nearly 600 attendees, including strong representation from student chapters.

- We kicked off the summer season with an "almost summer" happy hour, the annual golf tournament, and another "hike 'n happy hour" in Castle Rock.
- In August, we hosted a joint outing with WTS to a Colorado Rockies game on.
- At the September meeting, **Susi Marlina** (President), **Brian Staley** (Vice President), **Lisa Truong Nguyen** (Secretary-Treasurer), and **Duane Cleere** (Past President) were sworn in as the Section's officers. Duane will also serve as our Section representative to the new Mountain District.



CO/WY Section and WTS enjoying a Rockies game

ITE Hawaii Section

By Jasmine Teramae-Kaehuaea, Section Secretary

We held our first section meeting in September with **Eric Lee Niemeyer** presenting on "Flashing Yellow Arrow for Protected/Permitted Left Turns at Traffic Signals".

We had a student outreach event at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) in September with a one-on-one Resume Review Workshop, which was open to all students in the College of Engineering.

Our second section meeting will be held on October 30, 2019 with **Melissa White** presenting "Going Macro with Micromobility".

To celebrate National STEM day, we will hold our second student outreach event on November 9: The MiteY Rice Challenge, which will be open to both UHM and high school students.

Hawaii Section resume workshop



Montana Chapter

By Stephen McDaniel, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

Current officers are **Lisa Fischer** (President), **Dillon McLain** (Vice-President), **Stephen McDaniel** (Secretary/Treasurer) and **Tessa Wermers** (Past President). ITE Montana is sponsoring 8 sessions at the state's Joint Engineer's Conference (JEC) in November featuring alternative contracting methodology, tribal transportation, Montana DOT bridge infrastructure, and Super Bowl traffic operations.

ITE Montana contributed a total of \$1,500 to the Montana State University Student ITE Chapter, Intermountain Section scholarship fund, and the Western Transportation Institute for their annual Summer Transportation Camp.

Nevada Chapter

By Ati Abad

The Nevada Chapter held meetings in April, June, July, August, and September with an average of 26 attendees. At the April meeting, the 2019-2020 officers of ITE NV Chapter were elected, appointed, and sworn in by the ITE International Vice President, **Alyssa Rodriguez**. At the June meeting, the president described the proposed approach to transition from ITE Nevada Chapter to ITE Nevada Section, the proposed organizational chart, new positions, and roles and responsibilities. In August, the ITE NV logo contest was announced and companies were encouraged to submit their logos and ideas.

The Executive Board shared with the membership the approach of developing a formalized structure for monthly email blasts. Membership were given the opportunity to vote their preferred option. The final decision has not yet been made.

On October 30 & 31, 2019, the ITE Nevada Chapter will co-sponsor the Fall Transportation Conference with ITS Nevada, the ASCE Southern Nevada Branch, the UNLV College of Engineering, and the WTS Nevada Chapter. About 225 professionals, technicians and students are expected and the program will feature one and a half days of technical presentations, vendor exhibits, and a student paper competition.

Oregon Section

by Molly McCormick, Scribe

Current officers are Past President **Patrick Marnell**, President **Julie Kentosh**, Vice President **Maggie Lin**, and Treasurer **Carl Olson**.

The Oregon Section recognized several students through scholarship opportunities: **Alireza Mostafizi** (Undergraduate Award), **Kayla de Hoop** (Undergraduate Award), and **Cadell Chand** (Graduate Award).

We held regular luncheon meetings in March, April, June, and September.



OR Section March meeting.

In May, the Oregon ITE ITS Subcommittee held their first ever SensorAMA event. The event was a day filled with, you guessed it, sensors! The one-day event had more than 110 individuals in attendance!

With vendors and agency professionals all vying for time in each session, it was imperative to use creative techniques to keep the presentations moving. If anyone's presentation exceeded their allotted time, the song "Never Going to Give You Up" from Rick Astley would begin playing. This kept the event lighthearted, moving, and fair to all in attendance.

In June, we hosted the Greater Oregon ITE Summer Technical Workshop in Eugene, OR. In addition to the technical program, attendees could explore Eugene's Bus Rapid Transit system the Emerald Express, experience the city's certified Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Community, submerge themselves in Eugene's craft beer scene, and take a group hike to the summit of Spencer Butte.

We typically organize networking events every quarter, including: SimCap NightCap, Golf for People Who Don't Golf, and 28th Annual Bill Kloos Traffic Bowl.

San Diego Section

by Phuong Nguyen, Secretary

The San Diego Section held the meetings in March, April, May, June, July, September, and October. The March meeting was a joint workshop held by ITE Riverside/San Bernardino, Southern California, and San Diego. The topic was Planning and Deploying Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) Projects. The workshop was presented by **El Alegre**, **Ellison Alegre**, **Farid Nowshiravan**, **Vassili Alexiadis**, **Nick Compin**, and **Joe Butler**.

The April meeting was our annual golf tournament, which raised \$1,000 for the San Diego State University Student Chapter of ITE and \$1,700 for the San Diego Section of ITE. We hosted our summer social in July, with over 45 members and family in attendance. The September meeting was a joint monthly meeting with the Student Chapter at San Diego State University. In addition to a regular meeting in October, we also hosted a workshop and vendor show.



SO Cal & OCTEC Job Fair and Student Chapter Night

In November, we will be hosting our Annual Award Luncheon and our Holiday Dinner with follow in December. The San Diego Chapter is donating to the nonprofit organization Transforming a Life for the 2019 holiday season.

Additionally, the San Diego Chapter is currently assisting the SDSU Student Chapter with strategies to increase their membership.

Metro's highway and transit projects through its local transportation measures (Measure R and Measure M). We are looking forward to having another fun and successful year!

Washington State Section

By Claudia Hirschev, President

Southern California Section

By Ed Alegre, Section Vice President

The ITE Southern California Section hosted its Annual Job Fair and Student Night in partnership with the Orange County Traffic Engineering Council (OCTEC) in May. Approximately \$14,000 was awarded to six local universities. This year's 1st Place prize went to Cal Poly Pomona. In addition, ITS California awarded UC Irvine with the Best ITS Project Award. In June, the SoCal Section swore in its new Board Officers for the 2019-2020 year and awarded its Classic Transportation Engineer Award to **Zaki Mustafa**, and Individual Excellence Award to **Ed Alegre**.

ITE SoCal Board members attended the Western ITE District meeting in Monterey, and the Joint ITE International and Texas District Meeting in Austin. ITE SoCal was honored to accept the Section Activities Award at this conference. A special acknowledgement to **Sowmya Chandrasekhar** for putting together a great award-winning report. Lastly, ITE SoCal hosted its Summer Mixer at the LA Police Academy Rock Garden and held its first meeting of the year in September with a presentation on Los Angeles

ITE Washington has greatly expanded student activities. We were successful in tripling our outreach to Washington universities through student initiatives. We have extended our student initiatives to include more student scholarship opportunities and travel stipends to allow university students to attend transportation conferences.

In March we held our second annual "Traffic Trivia Night". This is a fun evening mixing seasoned professionals, young professionals and students on trivia teams. In April we conducted ITE's first Eastern Region ITE industry night held at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. Students were invited from Eastern Washington University, Washington State University, the University of Idaho in addition to Gonzaga University. The speakers and attendees provided students with an opportunity to learn from a wide array of industry professionals in various facets of our profession.

May Student night has been a long-standing tradition of ITE that challenges our students across the state to help us solve real-world transportation problems.

ITE Washington youngest member is **Peter Yu** who attends Pullman High School. Peter presented papers at both the Western ITE District conference in Monterey, California and the ITE International Conference. ITE Washington is proud to support Peter Yu!



SO Cal officers and award winners

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