



Official Publication of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, Western District

Spring 2025, Vol. 77, No. 1

## Look inside for:

President's Message .....	1
Mid-year Board Meeting Highlights .....	2
Annual Meeting Updates - Long Beach, CA .....	2
Committee Updates.....	3
Section and Chapter Updates .....	3
Sponsors .....	5
Positions Available .....	6
Professional Services Directory.....	7



## President's Message

By Pat Marnell, P.E., ITE Western District President

*"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." -F. Bueller*

It's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day hustle of life. Whether it's getting to work on time, sending that next email, making dinner for the family, or just brushing your teeth, there are thousands of little things that can consume your day. That makes it important to intentionally set aside time to focus on the big picture. In your family life, that might mean taking a vacation to one of the many National Parks the Western District is blessed with. At work, it could be a strategic planning meeting or a corporate retreat. And for your own professional development, it might be an ITE Meeting.

For me, the [ITE Western District Annual Meeting](#) is a place where each year I try to set aside time to focus on engaging with our community of transportation professionals, indulging in conversation with other traffic nerds, and educating myself about diverse transportation topics purely for the love of learning.

This year, I'm also looking forward to Monday's Family Night which will be held aboard the [historic](#), and some say [haunted](#), RMS Queen Mary. The [Queen Mary](#) is a retired luxury liner with stunning Art Deco interiors, built for a world that had not yet seen transatlantic commercial flights. At one time, she was the [fastest ship](#) to offer transatlantic passenger service, completing the crossing in just under four days—about the same duration as an ITE Western District Annual meeting.

Whether you are a new member of our community or an old salt with 30 years of Annual Meetings under your belt, I hope you will join us this year in Long Beach, California from June 29th to July 2nd .

# Mid-year Board Meeting Highlights

*Cameron Shew, PE, TE, ITE Western District Secretary-Treasurer*

The 2025 Mid-Year Board Meeting took place on Friday, January 31st, in a hybrid format. Western District President Patrick Marnell led the meeting, with Board members, committee chairs, and section representatives in attendance.

**President Patrick Marnell** kicked off the meeting with discussions on Western District operations and initiatives.

**Vice President Joshua McNeill** provided updates on financial allocations, including funding for future meetings and student chapter support.

**Secretary-Treasurer Cameron Shew** shared financial reports for the 2023-2024 fiscal year closeout and the 2024-2025 fiscal year-to-date.

**Immediate Past President Doug Smith** led discussions on officer nominations, and **International Directors Peter**

**Koonce and Kimberly Leung** summarized recent ITE International Board of Directors meetings.

**District Administrator Dalene Whitlock** provided an update on section reorganizations, including the transition of the Central California Section into a chapter and the approval of new student chapters at UC Riverside and the University of Portland. Committee chairs also shared their updates: Career Guidance Committee Chair Henry Hammel, Public Relations Committee Chair Giancarlo Ganddini, Student Funding and Initiatives Committee Chair Kayla Fleskes-Lane, Technical Committee Chair Edith Victoria, District LAC Committee Chair Cathy Leong, Advertising Manager Ryan Zellers, Website Manager Kezia Suwandhaputra, and WesternITE Managing Editor Ryan Caldera.

Each Section Representative provided updates on recent and upcoming activities, including successful technical events, vendor shows, golf tournaments, and student outreach initiatives. Notable updates included the reactivation of the UC Davis student chapter, the Hawaii Section's efforts to increase younger member engagement, and the Oregon Section's expansion of events beyond the Portland area.

A key discussion topic was the Western District's rebranding efforts to align with ITE International's updated branding standards. The Board approved a one-time, unrestricted payment of \$1,000 to each section and chapter to support the rebranding process. The Board will reconvene at the 2025 Annual Meeting in Long Beach on June 29.

## Annual Meeting Updates - Long Beach, CA, June 29-July 2

*By Sowmya Chandrasekhar, LAC Chair*

The Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) welcomes you and your families to Long Beach, CA! Over the past year, the LAC has worked to put together a robust technical program, exciting technical tours, an extensive group of vendors in the Exhibit Hall, and engaging keynote and luncheon speakers. In addition, we packed in some fun with Family Night on Monday at the legendary Queen Mary, and Awards Banquet on Tuesday night with the "PORTals to the World" theme—we hope to see you there in traditional attire from your favorite country!

We have worked with Visit Long Beach to put together resources to help you explore the City outside of the conference. Please visit the following page for more information on all that the City of Long Beach has to offer: [ITE Western District Annual Meeting 2025 | Visit Long Beach](#). Be sure to show your conference badges at participating restaurants and merchants for discounts and promotions as part of City's "Show Your Badge" program.



## Committee Updates

### *District Local Arrangements Committee (LAC)*

*By Cathy Leong, PE Committee Chair*

The District LAC Committee continues to assist the local LACs for upcoming annual meetings with advance meeting planning. Planning continues for the upcoming 2025 Annual Meeting in Long Beach, CA from June 29 - July 2, 2025 with the technical program posted and the exhibit hall sold out. In addition, the 2026 Bellevue LAC is continuing planning for their meeting and the District continues to coordinate with the Mountain District on our joint meeting in Reno, NV in 2027. The committee is currently negotiating a contract for our 2028 meeting in San Diego and hope to announce details about that conference soon.

### *Student Funding & Initiatives Committee*

*By Kayla Fleske-Lane, PE, Committee Chair*

Several exciting student events have occurred over the past few months, with more to come at the ITE Annual Meeting in Long Beach. This winter, UCLA hosted the largest Student Leadership Summit EVER, with 200+ students and professionals converging on campus for 3 days of connecting, learning and growing the transportation profession. There, to a raucous crowd of students cheering them on, University of Washington won the student traffic bowl competition and will travel to New Orleans later this summer to represent the Western District in the Grand Championship event.

Reflecting back on my nearly 5 years as the SFIC Chair, one thing consistently stands out - the passion that Western District Student Chapters and students bring to our profession. Their energy is infectious and they continue to grow our ITE community in exciting ways. Their success is built on the incredible support of the District, local sections and professionals who volunteer their time and resources. Specifically from the District, the Student Endowment Fund provides over \$15,000 annually to support student chapter initiatives. To help continue this support for future generations of students, please consider donating to the Student Endowment Fund:

<https://westernite.org/student-endowment-fund/>

## Section and Chapter Updates

### *Southern California Section*

*by Saly Heng, Section Representative*

The Southern California Section got 2025 off to a hotter than expected start. In February, we held a well-attended ITS training centered around new standards developed by a joint effort of AASHTO, ITE, and NEMA. These new National Transportation Communications for Intelligent Transportation Systems (NTCIP) standards are helping shape and define protocols and data systems that govern various transportation devices such as ramp meters, signal controllers, and roadside detection units. Also in February, Langdon Teg, our STEM Outreach Chair held a successful event at Temple City High School and presented to TCHS students on what a day-in-a-life of a Transportation Engineer.

To increase membership engagement, we held a technical tour of Caltrans District 12 Traffic Management Center located in Irvine, CA as well as a joint Spring Social Mixer with Orange County Traffic Engineering Council (OCTEC). These were well attended events which allowed our members to learn about traffic operations and managements between State, County, and Local agencies along the state highway system. With mega events coming in the new future like the World Cup and Olympics, we held a virtual update meeting in April with LA28 and Brightline and get a sense of how the region is preparing for the upcoming games as well as the new high-speed rail coming through the desert.

Not too long after in May, we held our annual ITE Student Chapter Presentation Night at Knott's Berry Farm Hotel where our student chapters displayed their soft skills and technology on a transportation topic of their choice. We were also able to reunite with ITE San Diego and ITE Riverside-San Bernardino Sections with an in-person Joint Meeting held in San Juan Capistrano. Members of all three sections headed near beach-side to attend this tri-section meeting and learn how various agencies have implemented and evaluated traffic signal synchronization programs and other network and traffic management techniques.

# Section and Chapter Updates

## Hawaii Section

by Keoni Wasano, Section Past President

The Hawaii Section began the year with a virtual meeting focused on the City & County of Honolulu's Energy Emissions Reduction Plan. The presentation outlined long-term strategies for transitioning to sustainable transportation, including fleet electrification, parking pricing, EV infrastructure, and public engagement efforts aimed at achieving zero transportation emissions by 2045.

In February, members participated in a Technical Tour of Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. Highlights included visits to the Mauka Concourse, baggage handling systems, Ewa chiller room, CONRAC facility, and the new airport rail station, along with an overview of the airport's history and operations.



*Technical Tour of Daniel K. Inouye International Airport*

During Engineers Week, the Section took part in the Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies Outreach event. Our activity featured an interactive display showcasing multimodal roadway design in Hawaii, allowing participants to explore how different transportation modes can be integrated into the same corridor.

The 2025 Section Officers are **Keoni Wasano** (Past President), **Michelle Lindsey** (President), **Joel Thomas** (Vice-President), and **Joshua Ramelb** (Secretary-Treasurer).

## Washington Section

by LisaRene Schilperoort, Section Past President

The Washington Section has started off the year with some great events. We had our annual ITE/IMSA conference in February. We are excited to see it grow in attendance each year. We have had technical presentations, a trivia night full of transportation related questions, and even a tour of the Sound Transit Link Control Center. This year has also included events for our student chapter. In May we had our annual student award night where we honor our scholarship winners and students join with professionals in a game of Family Feud! Before we take our summer break, we have a final technical seminar on Signal Controller Programming and our annual ITE Golf tournament.

Our current officers are:

- President – **Lawrence Guan**
- Vice President – **Pratik Srivastava**
- Secretary/Treasurer – **Brian Kellogg**
- Immediate Past President – **LisaRene Schilperoort**

## Sponsors

**iteris<sup>®</sup>**



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL



## Positions Available

Viewed by over 4,000 engineers and vendors, WesternITE is an excellent means for advertising your company and positions available! Contact our Advertising Manager, Ryan Zellers at [ryan@zonetrafficeng.com](mailto:ryan@zonetrafficeng.com) for more information and pricing.



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**



**FEHR & PEERS**



## 2024-26 Western District Officers

### President

Pat Marnell, P.E.  
Q-Free  
[patrick.marnell@q-free.com](mailto:patrick.marnell@q-free.com)

### Vice President

Josh McNeill, PE, TE  
Iteris  
[JMcNeill@iteris.com](mailto:JMcNeill@iteris.com)

### Secretary-Treasurer

Cameron Shew, P.E., T.E.  
Sacramento County DOT  
[camshew@gmail.com](mailto:camshew@gmail.com)

### Past President

Doug Smith, P.E.  
HDR  
[douglas.smith@hdrinc.com](mailto:douglas.smith@hdrinc.com)

### District International Director

Kimberly Leung, P.E., T.E.  
SF Municipal Transportation Agency  
[kimberly.leung@sfmta.com](mailto:kimberly.leung@sfmta.com)

### District International Director

Peter Koonce P.E.  
City of Portland  
[peter.koonce@gmail.com](mailto:peter.koonce@gmail.com)

### District Administrator

Dalene J. Whitlock, P.E., PTOE  
W-Trans  
[dwhitlock@w-trans.com](mailto:dwhitlock@w-trans.com)

## Committee Chairs

### Career Guidance Chair

Henry Hammel  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
[hhammel@bayareametro.gov](mailto:hhammel@bayareametro.gov)

### District LAC Chair

Cathy Leong, PE  
Wilson Okamoto Corporation  
[cleong@wilsonokamoto.com](mailto:cleong@wilsonokamoto.com)

### Public Relations Chair

Giancarlo Ganddini, T.E., PTP  
Ganddini Group, Inc.  
[giancarlo@ganddini.com](mailto:giancarlo@ganddini.com)

### Student Funding and Initiatives Chair

Kayla Fleskes-Lane, P.E.  
DKS Associates  
[kayla.fleskes@dksassociates.com](mailto:kayla.fleskes@dksassociates.com)

### Technical Committee Chair

Edith Lopez Victoria  
WSP  
[Edith.LopezVictoria@wsp.com](mailto:Edith.LopezVictoria@wsp.com)

### Website Manager

Kezia Suwandhaputra  
Los Angeles Department of Transportation  
[ksuandhaputra@gmail.com](mailto:ksuandhaputra@gmail.com)

### Advertising Manager

Rayn Zellers, P.E., T.E.  
ZONE Traffic Engineering Consulting  
[ryan@zonetrafficeng.com](mailto:ryan@zonetrafficeng.com)

### Managing Editor

Samantha Baidy, P.E., T.E.  
CR Associates  
[sjebaidy@gmail.com](mailto:sjebaidy@gmail.com)

