

# Westernite

Official Publication of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, Western District

May - June 2010 Vol. 64, No. 1

## Western District Candidates for Office

The following slate of candidates for District officers was approved at the mid-year Board meeting held on February 6, 2009:

*President:* **Edgar Perez**

*Vice President:* **Alyssa Reynolds**

*Secretary-Treasurer:*

**Doug Smith , Walter Okitsu**

*International Director:*

**Nate Larson , Jennifer Rosales**

Statements for each of these individuals are presented in this issue.

### Candidate for President

**Edgar Perez, PE, RTE, FITE**

As President of the Western District I pledge to dedicate the necessary time to continually make ITE the professional organization of choice for existing and new members. I commit to dedicate my efforts to the betterment and growth of the Western District at all levels.



I have been a member of ITE for 22 years and thank you for the privilege to serve this past year as your Vice-President for the District. Prior to serving at the District level, I served at the local level including: Newsletter Chair, Student Scholarship Chair, Student Chapter Liaison, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President, President and Past President of the San Diego Section and as Student Endowment Fund Liaison.

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## See You in San Francisco ITE Western District 2010 Annual Meeting San Francisco, CA June 27-30, 2010



## International Director's Report

**Dalene J. Whitlock, PE, PTOE**  
Whitlock & Weinberger Transp, Inc.



ITE's International Board of Direction met in Savannah, Georgia on March 12 and 13 in advance of the Technical Conference. The Western District was represented by Zaki Mustafa, Ken Ackeret and Dalene Whitlock. Following are highlights of the topics covered during the two-day meeting.

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**Financial Report:** Executive Director Tom Brahm provided an overview of current economic conditions globally and for the Institute. Vice-President Robert Wunderlich presented the financial report for 2009, noting that the Institute had a \$400,000 loss for the year. He indicated that expenses were cut by about \$100,000, but this was not enough to offset a decline in income of about \$500,000. He reported that we are currently maintaining our reserves at 75

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# Consideration of Congestion Pricing and Managed Lanes in Metropolitan

By William R. Loudon, DKS Associates

*The following is an excerpt of a paper to be presented at the ITE Western District 2010 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, June 27-30, 2010. The full paper will be published in the 2010 Compendium of Technical Papers.*



## Overview

Under the Federal Highway Administration's sponsorship, DKS Associates conducted a national scan of how agencies in major metropolitan areas are developing plans for congestion pricing and managed lanes that involve pricing. Staff members from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the State Departments of Transportation (State DOT) in ten metropolitan areas were surveyed to find out how they are considering these types of projects in their metropolitan planning process and in the development of their Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) for the region. In addition, the study team identified the projects that are already in operation in each region, those that are already in the MTP, and those that are being considered. Figure 1 identifies all of the congestion pricing and managed lane projects in the U.S. at the time of the study and the ten case-study locations.

**Figure 1 Location of Congestion Pricing and Managed Lanes**



## Projects and Case Studies

### Results of the Scan

The scan indicated that most congestion pricing or managed lanes projects are initiated and advocated for by agencies within the metropolitan area and are incorporated into the MTP and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by the MPO as updates of these documents occur. Most of the projects already implemented had not been initiated by the MTP-development process itself. Projects were most often initiated by the State DOT, but in some cases it was a public or private consortium as in Virginia or the County Congestion Management Agency (CMA). This is the case for many new California projects.

The scan also demonstrated that there is growing interest in using congestion pricing as both a revenue-generating and congestion management tool. Regional studies have already been initiated in five of the metropolitan areas surveyed, including San

Francisco, Oakland and San Jose, where a HOT lane network is also being included in the MTP.

### Lessons Learned

The ten metropolitan areas surveyed provided many useful lessons:

#### Evaluation of Congestion Pricing and Managed Lanes Options

Congestion management benefits were ultimately at least as important as revenue generation.

Congestion pricing and managed lanes projects should be evaluated from a systems perspective.

#### Incorporation into the Metropolitan Planning process

Developing successful projects may require some policy tradeoffs.

The metropolitan planning process should allow for projects to emerge individually as a result of corridor studies, but also regionally coordinated in a network approach.

Managed lanes projects that cross several State DOT districts and/or MPOs create extra management and communication challenges with respect to allocation of toll revenues.

#### Involving the Private Sector as a Partner

Public-private partnerships may be important to the financial viability of congestion pricing or managed lanes projects, but the complexity of the partnerships can be challenging.

There can be so much enthusiasm for the revenue generation that public agencies are willing to give away too much in negotiation of public-private ventures.

Private consortia do not necessarily have to take network effects into account. There needs to be public-sector regional oversight to make sure that these effects are taken into account.

The reported lessons learned from the agencies surveyed indicate that continued support for the assessment of congestion pricing and managed lanes projects in a multi-modal and network context will be important for continued consideration and implementation of these projects in the U.S. The support can come in the form of additional encouragement through guidance documents and descriptions of exemplary practices and also in the form of recommendations as part of the MPO certification reviews. Support could also be in the form of grants to aid regional planning for congestion pricing and managed lanes projects. The Value Pricing Pilot Program has been a valuable program for encouraging a regional approach. There should be continued support for the enhancement of the modeling tools maintained by MPOs to improve their sensitivity to congestion pricing.



August 8-11, 2010

# President's Message

Michael Sanderson, P.E., PTOE

Western District Members,

Recently the Western District Board of Directors held its mid-year meeting in Las Vegas. I want to thank all of the board members, committee chairs, and section and chapter leaders that attended for all of your hard work and dedication. We had a very productive meeting conducting the business of the Western District.



During the meeting, the Board approved the slate of candidates for the 2010-2011 year. Current officers Edgar Perez and Alyssa Reynolds were each nominated for their next step up the ladder. The board nominated Walter Okitsu and Doug Smith to run for Secretary-Treasurer. The board also nominated Jennifer Rosales and Nate Larson to run for a 3-year term as International Director. The District is in good hands when we can put forth a quality slate of dedicated ITE members such as this. Congratulations to you all and good luck.

In conjunction with the board meeting, the Western District executive board held a meeting to discuss and update the District's strategic plan. Many of you responded to a survey that we circulated to the membership a few months back. The survey asked

you to comment on the District's current strategic priorities. Thanks to all that responded to the survey, your thoughtful input was helpful and will be instrumental in shaping our priorities for the future. The fact that the survey has closed should not discourage you from voicing your opinion about the District's strategic direction. Please email me at [msanderson@sandersonstewart.com](mailto:msanderson@sandersonstewart.com) and let me know if you have suggestions or concerns. I welcome your comments.

I want to remind everyone to mark your calendars for June 27-30. The Western District annual meeting in San Francisco is shaping up to be a great meeting. The MiteY Race will be a new and exciting event on Sunday, June 27 that you won't want to miss. Monday's family night event will include an ITE tailgate party and tickets to the Giants vs. Dodgers game at AT&T Park. Check out the meeting website for more information. Thank you to the San Francisco local arrangements committee for all of its effort. See you in San Francisco!



## New Publications Through [www.ite.org](http://www.ite.org)

### Highway Safety Manual

The Highway Safety Manual (HSM) was developed to help measurably reduce the frequency and severity of crashes on American roadways by providing tools for considering safety in the project development process.

This publication is available for presale. Use discount code **FRSHIP** at checkout to receive free shipping on domestic orders prior to June 1st. Ships in June.



### Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach: An ITE Recommended Practice

This report has been developed in response to widespread interest for improving both mobility choices and community character through a commitment to creating and enhancing walkable communities. This document was produced in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency and in partnership with the Congress for the New Urbanism.



### Neighborhood Street Design Guidelines: An ITE Recommended Practice

The purpose of this ITE recommended practice is to provide guidance in the overall layout and design of transportation elements for new neighborhood developments, where neighborhoods can be composed of both residential and mixed residential/commercial subdivision development.



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I have enjoyed serving ITE and have actively participated with the local sections where my employment assignments have taken me including the following Sections: Salt Lake City, Utah; Riverside/San Bernardino, Southern California and San Diego Sections.

I am currently an Engineering Manager with Parsons with a base office in San Diego, CA supporting five Southern California offices.

As a family man, I enjoy the full support of my wife and kids to take on the duties and responsibilities pertaining to this position.

I am honored to be nominated to continue serving the Western District and would appreciate your vote.

### Candidate for Vice President



**Alyssa Reynolds, P.E.**

As Western District Vice President, I pledge my time and effort to maintaining the excellent service, programs, and outreach Western District members have come to expect of our leaders. I also pledge to continue the innovation and progressive nature that has been the hallmark of our District.

During these challenging times, fiscal responsibility should be a primary consideration of the District. District funds should be used efficiently and prudently, while maximizing relevancy to members. The District should provide training, services and information exchange that are useful to the average member while keeping costs affordable. Efficient and regular communication through appropriate and accessible mediums can assist in this effort. Extra communication effort should be focused on outreach to students, younger members, and agency members to ensure connectedness and continuity within the Institute.

I have been a member of ITE since my undergraduate years at Montana State University where I served as the student chapter president in 2000/2001. Shortly after arriving in Nevada, I was elected to the Nevada Chapter Board, and following my service in Nevada, I was elected to the Intermountain Section Board. The geography and structure of our section is unique to the District, which affords extra years of ITE experience as well as experience dealing with both local and region-wide ITE issues. In addition to serving as an officer, I was appointed to be the District 6 Student and Faculty Initiatives Chair in 2005, which has allowed me to continue my contact with students and young professionals. During my service with ITE, I have had the good fortune to attend ITE conferences at the Section, District and International levels and to learn firsthand how positive and beneficial those experiences can be for all members.

I am currently employed with the City of Henderson, a progressive and customer-service oriented agency. My primary duties include traffic engineering studies, asset management, safe routes to school, and citizen interaction. Prior to joining the City I worked for Orth-Rodgers & Associates performing a variety of duties from travel demand forecasting to traffic signal design. My employer fully supports and encourages ITE participation.

I am honored to be selected as a candidate for Western District Vice President. ITE has meant much to me both professionally and personally, and I value every opportunity to give back to the organization.

### Candidates for Secretary-Treasurer

**Douglas E Smith, P.E. (M)**  
Vice President, URS Corporation,  
Santa Ana, CA



I am honored to have been selected as a candidate for Secretary-Treasurer of Western District. It provides me with the opportunity to continue serving my profession and working with people I respect and enjoy through ITE. As your representative at the district level, I bring over 27 years of professional experience obtained while serving in many different elected or appointed positions within ITE Southern California and the Western District. I believe that ITE is the best professional organization available to planners and engineers. I will work to represent our district membership and improve the organization. In the past, I have served in many roles within ITE. On the local level, I have worked my way through the Southern California section from Technical Chairman to President. I served as the Technical Co-Chair for the 2002 Annual Meeting in Palm Desert. Most recently, my experience as WesternITE Managing Editor provides me with knowledge of the district and how it functions that I will use to guide my actions as Secretary-Treasurer. I have attended most of the Western District Annual Meetings between 1991 and present and have acted as a Paper presenter/Speaker/Moderator for Western District Annual Meetings in 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, and 2004. Our district is a great organization. I want to continue the strong initiatives that have been supported by previous officers. In addition to supporting ITE's Mega Issues, I have five primary goals in the role as Secretary-Treasurer.

- Continue to support and fund the successful Student Endowment Fund while expanding it to insure that those students find jobs through an entry level job bank
- Provide members with solid programs that are *affordable* and family friendly
- Control spending to insure our financial stability in this economy
- Encourage volunteerism by finding new roles for members to become involved in ITE at the District level
- Finally, work with the state and local sections to educate our political leaders on why we should continue to fund local transportation programs that fuel the economy

With the fiscal constraints that challenge our industry, keeping our eye on long term goals is very important. As Secretary-Treasurer, my goal will be to think and act in the best long term interests of the ITE Western District. I look forward to your support in these efforts.

**Walter J. Okitsu, PE, PTOE, PTP (Fellow)**  
**Managing Director, Crain & Associates, Los Angeles, CA**

Thank you for the honor of being nominated as a candidate. I believe my work experience in the public, private, and educational sectors, my business management expertise, and my years of service to ITE provide me with excellent qualifications to serve as the Western District Secretary-Treasurer.



**ITE Service**

UC Berkeley Student Chapter, 1980, original founding member  
 Southern California Section President, 1997-1998  
 Southern California Section Engineering Registration Liaison 1995-2007  
 Southern California Section Legislative Chair, 2007-present  
 Western District California Traffic Engineering Registration Chair 1998-2007  
 Western District Licensing & Certification Chair 2007-present  
 2006 Honolulu District 6 Annual Meeting Technical Chairman  
 2008 Anaheim ITE Annual Meeting LAC Member  
 UCLA Student Chapter Asst. Faculty Advisor 2007-present  
 Awarded in 1998 the first Individual Achievement Award given by the Western District (then District 6)

**Other Affiliations**

Registered Traffic Engineers of America, founder of an organization dedicated to preserving and promoting state licensing of traffic engineers.

**Registration & Certification**

Professional Engineer, Traffic, Cal 1406  
 Professional Engineer, Civil, Cal 52655  
 Professional Traffic Operations Engineer  
 Professional Transportation Planner

**Education**

B.S. Mathematics-Computer Science, UCLA, 1979  
 M.S. Transportation Engineering, UC Berkeley, 1981  
 B.S. Civil Engineering, Cal State Los Angeles 1994

**Work Experience**

City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Associate Transportation Engineer, working in traffic investigations, impact studies, and traffic signal timing. Served at the start-up of the City's first automated traffic control system for the 1984 Summer Olympics.

Katz, Okitsu & Associates, now known as KOA Corporation, co-founder and past president of a firm that has become one of the largest transportation engineering firms in Southern California, with 100 employees.

Currently serving as Managing Director of Crain & Associates, a subsidiary of KOA Corporation, providing expertise in site planning, traffic and parking studies, signal timing, rail grade crossing analysis, signal and lighting design, bikeway design, and the implementation of traffic control devices.

UCLA, Civil & Environmental Engineering Dept., lecturer.

**Why Walter?**

30 years of active service in ITE, including 12 years at the District level.

Proven experience in business management.

Devoted to educating university students in the field of transportation engineering.

Dedicated to promoting registration of traffic engineers.  
 Motivated to keep Western District as the best in ITE.

**Candidates for International Director**

**Nate Larson, PE, PTOE (M)**  
**Senior Transportation Engineer, URS, Seattle, WA**



I am honored to be a candidate for ITE Western District office, and welcome the opportunity to continue serving the Institute. In the nearly 20 years I've been a member, I've been privileged to benefit from ITE's programs, publications, and meetings. In the past eight years, I've held ITE leadership positions that have helped prepare me for these roles, and been an active participant in District board meetings. Being both a servant and a beneficiary of the ITE Western District has given me a strong sense of what the institute needs to do to be successful.

**ITE Experience and Recognition**

- Western District Advertising Coordinator, 2007-Present
  - Western District Annual Meeting Co-Chair, 2009 (Denver)
  - Western District WesternITE Technical Editor, 2004-2007
  - Colorado/Wyoming Section President, 2004-2005
  - Colorado/Wyoming Section Vice President, 2003-2004
  - Western District's Wayne T. Van Wagoner Award, 2003
  - Colorado/Wyoming Section Secretary/Treasurer, 2002-2003
  - Colorado/Wyoming Section's Transportation Professional of the Year Award, 2001
  - Colorado/Wyoming Section Continuing Education Committee Chair, 2000-2002
- Western District's Outstanding Student Chapter Award as President of the University of Washington Student Chapter, 1994

Here are three primary goals I would work toward as your next Western District International Director:

**Encourage More Engineering Students to Join ITE.** It is crucial that the Western District leadership team maintain and build on the District's recent success in fostering the growth of student participation in networking and professional development activities like the annual meeting. In addition to promoting the growth of the District's Student Endowment Fund, I would reach beyond transportation and civil engineering programs to encourage more college students to consider careers in transportation planning, engineering, and operations.

**Engage More Members with Continuing Education Offerings.** Web seminar offerings by ITE International should be offered to all ITE members, not just those receiving the ITE Journal.

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Local section members who are not international members also stand to benefit from these courses, and meetings at all levels should be expanded to include more continuing education offerings.

**Expand Recognition Programs.** Awards are not the reason that we transportation professionals get out of bed in the morning, but there are far too many great projects and individual contributions that go unrecognized.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions ([natesonit@gmail.com](mailto:natesonit@gmail.com)), and thanks for being a member of ITE. Remember to Vote!

**Jennifer Rosales, P.E., FITE**  
Principal Engineer, PB, Portland, OR

<http://www.jen4ite.com/>

#### Biography

Jennifer Rosales is a Principal Engineer and Senior Professional Associate at PB with extensive experience in traffic engineering and transportation planning. Jennifer is PB's Coordinator of the Traffic Engineering Practice Area Network. She developed a comprehensive practitioner's guidebook called *Road Diet Handbook: Setting Trends for Livable Streets*.



Jennifer Rosales received the 2007 Past Presidents' Award for Merit in Transportation Engineering from ITE. She was named to the "2007 Trendsetters List" of Public Works magazine.

#### ITE leadership

Western District President, 2007-08  
Western District Elected Board, 2005-09  
Western District Career Guidance Chair, 2002-05  
Western District Advisory Committee Chair, 2009-10  
ITE Standing Committee on Ethics Issues - Chair, 2009-12  
ITE Pedestrian and Bicycle Council, Executive Committee, 2004-09  
Oregon Section Elected Board, 1998-2002 (President 2000-01)  
Oregon Section Student Chapter Liaison Chair and Legislative Chair  
Student Chapter President, Oregon State University

#### Leadership Priorities

As an officer of the Western District, I focused my priorities in four areas:

- Mentor and train younger members and students to meet future transportation challenges.
- Support student initiatives programs at District, Section and Chapter levels.
- Attract members to District meetings by keeping annual meetings affordable and expanding technical programs and training to the membership.

Expand use of information technology to share information and tools.

Significant progress has been completed in these areas with commitment of District volunteers. The mentoring program has grown, and young members and their employers recognized. The Endowment Fund for Student Initiatives is over \$200,000. The District expanded the use of the web to provide on-line registration for Annual Meetings, on-line member surveys, Facebook page, electronic voting, and electronic WesternITE.

As an International Director, my priorities will include:

- Represent a strong and loud voice for the Western District at the International level
- Attract emerging professionals to ITE meetings and activities.
- Expand and enhance professional development for our members through continued expansion of accessible and cost-effective training through webinars.
- Continue to support successful student initiatives and research opportunities.
- Keep annual meetings affordable and expand technical programs and training.
- Expand use of information technology including e-learning and e-publishing opportunities.

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for International Director. It is my privilege to serve the District, and I welcome your comments and ideas: [rosales@pbworld.com](mailto:rosales@pbworld.com) or 503-478-2347.



## ITE Collegiate Traffic Bowl

ITE is assembling a database of questions to be used by ITE International, districts, and sections in conducting student traffic bowl competitions. In the coming years, ITE is planning on conducting an Institute-wide competition among the student chapters, culminating with a competition among the district winning student chapters. Individual members, companies and student chapters may submit questions. Please visit [www.ite.org](http://www.ite.org) for additional information.

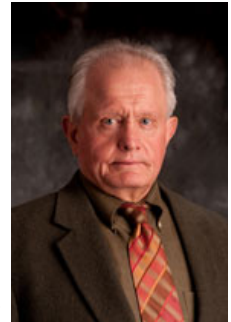
## Candidates for International Vice President

### Troy A. Peoples, P.E., FITE

Vice President-Transportation, Stantec Inc., Raleigh, NC

Throughout Troy's 39 years of transportation experience, first as North Carolina State Traffic Engineer for the Department of Transportation and now as Stantec's Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering Practice leader, he has been committed to mentoring all ages, developing sustainable engineering practices and implementing policies to ensure the safety of the traveling public. Troy has also served on a variety of councils, committees and task forces for industry associations such as the ITE, AASHTO and TRB. Troy is primed to lead ITE into the future.

As International Vice President, Troy will focus on three key initiatives. Foster multi-generational relationships. Enhance programs involving multi-generational groups to optimize past experience with new delivery methods and technologies. Improve collaboration amongst industry associations. Utilizing the strengths and resources of many, integrate various associations to foster cutting-edge techniques and sustainable solutions. For instance, conduct joint meetings with AASHTO and MPOs to share best practices between associations. Implement sustainability guidelines in the transportation industry. Identify sustainable practices and a value based criteria for professional certification. ITE should not only promote sustainable practices in transportation, but rather set the standards for design, implementation and recognition of these proven techniques.



### Rock E. Miller, P.E., PTOE, FITE

Principal, KOA Corporation, Orange, CA

Rock has over 30 years in the transportation profession as a Consultant, City Traffic Engineer and as an academic instructor. His professional expertise includes traffic signals, pedestrians, bicycles, roundabouts, railroad crossings and innovative solutions, for which Rock has received many awards. Rock has served on the ITE International Board, and as President of District 6 and the Southern California Section. Rock regularly attends and presents at all levels of ITE meetings.

Rock is honored to have been selected by the International Nominations Committee as a candidate for International Vice President. Rock has chosen "Transportation at the Crossroads" as his campaign theme. He believes sustainable transportation will require strong leadership in the profession and by ITE. ITE needs to be proactive with respect to the larger issues that face the transportation profession and communities; these include viable funding, solutions to congestion and improvements in safety. ITE can enhance the image and prestige of our profession, while improving the quality of life in the communities we serve. We also must face other important issues including energy, the environment, aging drivers and attracting the next generation of leaders to our profession. Rock is committed to helping ITE in shaping the future of transportation.



### Ray Davis, P.E., PTOE, FITE

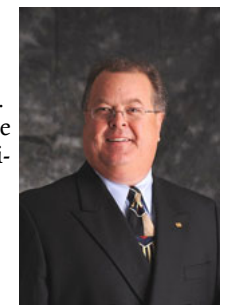
President, RED3 Consulting, Emeryville, CA

"I believe that we work in the best profession in life. We are making the transportation system safer for all users. We improve the quality of life in our local communities through context sensitive design and traffic calming. We embrace climate change and sustainability through signal optimization, TDM, ITS, bicycle and pedestrian applications. We affect the lives of every man, woman and child every day. We should all be proud that we are making our world a better place to live."

Vision for making the best profession in life, even better

- A New Involvement Paradigm that will use current technology to allow any member to participate in technical committees without leaving their desks.
- Create an On-Demand Electronic ITE Library to enable all transportation professionals to have access to the best information available.
- Life Long Professional Development and Mentoring programs for younger and mid-level professionals to grow within, and eventually lead, the organization where they work.
- Embracing all Transportation Professionals to reflect ITE's Strategic Plan.
- Enhanced Advocacy to reduce driver distractions to improve roadway safety.

Visit [www.ray4ite.com](http://www.ray4ite.com) for more on how Ray is going to work with you to make the best profession in life, even better.



## 2009 Mid Year Board Meeting Highlights

Alyssa Reynolds PE,  
Western District Secretary-Treasurer



On February 5, 2010, Western District Board members, committee chairs, section leaders and honored guests met at the Tuscany Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada for the 2010 Western District Mid-Year meeting. The normally sunny Las Vegas weather was overcast and unseasonably rainy, keeping the 27 attendees indoors and working hard during the day-long meeting. International Past President Ken Voigt was also able to attend the meeting and provided International ITE's perspective on the state of the Institute and transportation.

President Michael Sanderson opened the meeting by thanking all members in attendance, discussing the past meeting minutes, and introducing the items on the consent agenda. His report included recent committee appointments and section travel. His primary discussion; however, centered on a newly revitalized strategic planning effort. A recent member survey provided insight on members' needs and desires in relation to District services and programs. Part of the Board's focus over the remainder of this term will be to align the District's goals and committee organization with the needs of the membership.

Much of the Board's discussion centered on the WesternITE and communication mediums in general. WesternITE Managing Editor and International Director, Zaki Mustafa, discussed the transition to electronic format, changing roles within the WesternITE structure, and the need to balance duties to create a sustainable operating unit. Changes to the website hosting mechanism and file storage capabilities were the focus of Webmaster France Campbell's report, but he also discussed the integration of the website with the electronic newsletter. Regarding WesternITE revenue, Nate Larson, the Advertising Manager, discussed the changing paradigm for advertising and a potential pricing structure change.

Vice-President Edgar Perez and Secretary-Treasurer Alyssa Reynolds provided updates on the current state of the Western District budget. Mr. Perez summarized the 2008-2009 fiscal year and related tax return, while Ms. Reynolds summarized the current budget situation. The Board voted to include support for the Western District candidates for International Vice-President and the International ITE 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund.

A discussion followed regarding the financial state of the Endowment Fund, which is nearing \$220,000. Endowment Fund Committee Chair, Cathy Leong, and International Director, Dalene Whitlock, provided a three step process for moving the fund into a long-term investment plan. First, the Committee will identify a professional investment advisor. Next, the Committee will develop an investment policy with advisor, and upon its completion finalize the investments at the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The Board directed the committee to proceed and President Sanderson created a task force to oversee the fund's investments.

The current slate of candidates was announced and accepted during Past President Monica Suter's report. Candidates are as follows:

President: Edgar Perez  
Vice-President: Alyssa Reynolds  
Secretary-Treasurer:  
Doug Smith  
Walter Okitsu  
International Director:  
Nate Larson  
Jennifer Rosales

Ms. Suter also presented the nominations for the Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards. Winners will be announced at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

The District's three International Directors Zaki Mustafa, Ken Ackret, and Dalene Whitlock, provided summaries of their activities over the intervening months between Board meetings. Together, the International Directors were able to visit seven Sections and Chapters and four Student Chapters.

During District Administrator's report, Jenny Grote submitted the revised bylaws for the Riverside-San Bernadino Section, which were unanimously approved by the board. Ms. Grote encouraged everyone in attendance to remind their local sections and chapters that the bylaw template is complete, and a change is necessary to enact electronic voting. Ms. Grote also discussed the "Western District" name transition, and the challenges of storing numerous District and Section documents. She will be working with Webmaster Campbell to utilize the District's new on-line storage capabilities.

Based on comments from members, President Sanderson elected to create a Traffic Bowl committee. The task force will be responsible for developing the traffic bowl questions and ensuring the accuracy of the answers. The task force will also be assisting the Student and Faculty Initiatives Chair, Danielle Scharf, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Student Traffic Bowl.

In other committee news, Advisory Committee Chair, Jennifer Rosales, summarized her research into the Board and Committee hierarchy. Karen Aspelin summarized the activities of the Technical Committee including the winners of the Student Data Collection RFP. Gary Hansen, Chair of the Membership Committee, reported a significant increase in student membership. The legislative forum provided a summary of numerous legislative actions, and a full report is provided on-line. Licensing and Certification Chair, Walter Okitsu, received direction from the President to monitor continuing education credits in each of the Western District States. Career Guidance news, provided by Chair Patty Camacho de Cano, included a mentoring program status report and proposed deadlines for the Committee's awards.

Four Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) Chairs provided reports to the board. Nate Larson, Denver LAC Chair, tallied the final attendance numbers for the Denver meeting and provided a financial report. San Francisco LAC Chair, Mark Spencer, outlined the registration cost matrix for the 2010 Annual Meeting and announced several exciting features of the meeting including the mITEy Race. Anne Brooks, Alaska LAC, and Tom Mericle, Santa Barbara LAC, provided status reports and proposed features for their upcoming meetings. Attendees concluded the meeting on time and under-budget, resolving to meet again in San Francisco!



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### **International Director's Report**

percent of the operating budget, partially due to the fact that the budget has decreased. International collects dues for Districts, Sections and Chapters, and is paying the fee levied by the credit card companies when members pay using a credit cards. It was noted that consideration should be given to pushing these costs out to the Districts, Sections, and Chapters.

**Headquarters Relocation:** A lease was recently signed for new office space to house ITE staff, and plans for the new space were presented. The new Headquarters is being designed to take advantage of current technology, making on-line meetings and presentations easier. The relocation will affect finances, so getting donations to the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund is essential. At their Board meeting in February the Western District Board voted to make a [donation](#).

**Strategic Plan:** Tom Brahms noted that there has been progress made on the action items developed in 2009 despite the reduction in staff. It was noted that we need to update our plan to ensure that we retain younger members and continue to attract students to the profession. ITE should be seen as the premier organization for transportation, taking the lead role on transportation issues and getting our message out to the public. We need to become more visible at the District and Section levels. A desire was expressed to reach out more to policymakers, perhaps through the National League of Cities. Traffic engineers need to ask the policymakers what they are looking for that they are not getting from their traffic engineers. We need to show technical competence to the policy makers and workshops were noted as one way to do this.

The Board discussed at length the need to structure the Strategic Plan to raise safety and sustainability to the level of being goals. Three goals under the "Quality of Life" to address safety, sustainability and efficiency were adopted after much discussion and committees were assigned to work on the objectives and strategies for each of the three goals.

The Safety Goal set by the Board is to be on the forefront to reduce fatalities, with an overall goal of zero deaths. It was recognized that there is much more to be done to achieve lower fatalities than just making the roads safer, as driver behavior has a large impact on the number of fatalities. It was emphasized that we cannot confine ourselves to consider only the street, and social mores must be changed before we can achieve the kind of improvement to eliminate fatalities.

**Coordinating Council:** Chair Pat Noyes noted that the Coordinating Council will be working to ensure that their activities are in line with the Strategic Plan. The Council is also exploring ways to improve communication between the local chapters and International.

**Annual Meeting Taskforce Report:** Chair Peter McCombs highlighted some of the taskforce's findings, including the potential to use outside organizers, the need to have places for people to sit when eating lunch, the need to keep activities in the vendor area, reinstating the Banquet, and the desire to reduce walking distance between hotel and meeting rooms. The social effects of the meals and the need for this networking were discussed. It was noted that having meetings at a conference center increases the cost, and there are higher transportation costs associated with traveling to smaller

cities. The hotel and travel costs are where we can have the most impact, and as such are where we need to focus. It is difficult to get sponsorships for the International meeting as is done at the District level. The need to balance participation against income is critical. Tom Brahms asked for guidance on the handling of the Annual Banquet. There was discussion about the Spring Technical Conference being in conflict with the Annual Meeting, but since it is usually topic specific and attracts non-members, this seemed not to be an issue. The Board expressed a desire to scale back the Tech Conference to make it more affordable.

**Sustainability Advisory Committee Report:** Ken Ackeret presented the status of the Advisory Committee on Sustainability's work on defining "sustainable transportation." A definition that encompasses the triple bottom line (social, economic, and natural environments) was adopted and the name of the Mega Issue of "Nexus of Energy, Environment and the Economy" was changed to encompass sustainability.

**Honorary Membership:** The Board was pleased to offer Honorary Membership to Dennis Christiansen. He was inducted on March 26 during a ceremony at the Texas Transportation Institute, where he is the Director.

## Editor's Corner



By now we are hopefully all aware of our new newsletter format. We will only have two printed issues this year that will be mailed to you, but we are updating our newsletter web site on a weekly basis. Please take a look at it and let me know how we can make improvements. Our upcoming issue will be published after our annual meeting in September of this year. I would like to thank all of the sections and chapters for submitting your section reports. I would like to receive your section reports on a regular basis so that we can upload them on our online newsletter. I will be working on our Annual Special Edition newsletter for our Annual Meeting next month and I am looking for any photos that you may have for your section officers and any activities that you would want to share with all of us. I would need to have all of the photos by May 27th. I hope to see you all at our Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

Together we are the BEST !!

*Zaki Mustafa*

## ITE Western District 2010 Annual Meeting



On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Area Section, your Western District leadership, and the San Francisco Palace Hotel, we invite you and your family to the Bay Area and hope that you, “Leave Your Heart and Find Solutions” at the historic Palace Hotel in San Francisco from June 27-30, 2010, at the ITE Western District 2010 Annual Meeting. More than just a stunning landscape in the country’s most beautiful city, San Francisco is blessed with unparalleled transportation and innovation.

### Why Attend?

Professional development is important, now more than ever, to help advance your career. The Annual Meeting will provide new knowledge and opportunities that you can apply immediately. Your participation will ultimately benefit you, your employer, and your community.



### Training provided by an innovative practices Technical Program

With the diverse assortment of technical sessions, you can learn about the various projects, people, and programs in the transportation planning and engineering profession. In addition to over 100 technical sessions in a four-track technical program, we will offer extended training sessions on Transportation Modeling, Curve Advisory Speed Categories, and Multi-Modal Level of Service.

The paper presentations and technical sessions will include updates on the 2010 HCM and MUTCD. You can earn PDH credits needed to maintain your professional registration.

### Learning through Real World Technical Tours

The San Francisco Bay Area provides a rich transportation environment. We will offer several technical tours that will complement your Annual Meeting experience. Be sure to include at least one of these in your program: the Golden Gate Bridge Tour, Bay Bridge Eastern Span Tour, San Francisco Bicycle Tour, San Francisco Airport Tour, the Central

LRT Subway Tour, and a San Francisco Walking/SFgo Tour. There is enough variety to suit everyone’s transportation interests!



### Increasing knowledge from state of the art Exhibitors

The newest products, software, and services will be on display in the vendors exhibit hall from Sunday through Tuesday afternoon. Stop by the exhibit hall to see the latest products and innovations in transportation. There are still spaces available for exhibitors; contact Steve Fitzsimons at (510) 440-8127 or [sfztzsimons@republicits.com](mailto:sfztzsimons@republicits.com) for more information and to reserve your space.

### San Francisco!

San Francisco is the #1 rated destination in the United States year after year! To round out your Annual Meeting experience, there are several networking events planned including the inaugural **James H. Kell MiteY Race** on Sunday afternoon, modeled after the hit television series “The Amazing Race.” Other events include a transit-oriented Pub Crawl by the Bay, Family night at AT&T Park, the annual Traffic Bowl featuring a Jeopardy-style competition, and numerous events organized specifically for ITE student members. The theme of this year’s Annual Awards Banquet is “The Gold Rush of 1849!”

The Local Arrangements Committee and the San Francisco Bay Area Section worked hard to make this affordable for ITE members and their families. There are many low budget airlines that fly into San Francisco and Oakland. BART trains from either airport can take you right to the hotel, and the LAC has arranged for **free Muni passes for full and spouse registrants** that allow you to take cable cars, buses, and light rail for free all week. You will not need a rental car!

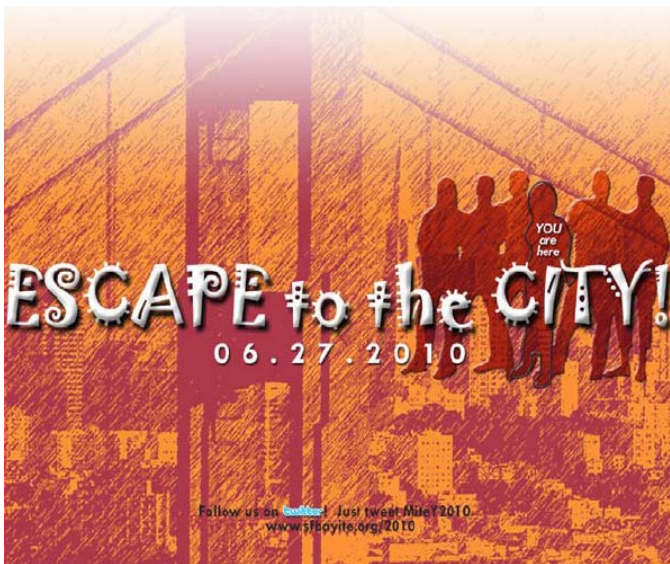




You can walk or take transit to all the famous sites. Union Square is a few blocks away. Fisherman's Wharf and Ghirardelli Square are easy to get to - just take a cable car ride over one of San Francisco's hills. The Family Night event will be at AT&T Park, where the Giants and Dodgers will see who can hit the most homers into San Francisco Bay! There are also a number of free things you can do that will keep you and your family busy for a week: stroll across the Golden Gate Bridge, enjoy Golden Gate Park, visit the historic Cable Car Museum and Ferry Building, enjoy the spectacular waterfront, and head to the hotel to take a dip in the Palace Hotel's indoor pool (one of the very few in San Francisco)!

For more information about the Annual Meeting, please visit <http://www.westernite.org/annualmeetings/meeting.htm>.

*Come Leave Your Heart and Find Solutions with us in San Francisco!*



## Legislative Update



**Steve L. Eagan**  
Legislative Chair



**Roberta McLaughlin**  
Legislative Vice Chair

### President Obama Signs into Law the HIRE Act Which Extends SAFETEA-LU to December 31, 2010

(Adapted From AASHTO Article)

On Thursday, March 18, 2010 President Obama signed into law a bill known as the "HIRE Act" containing seven transportation provisions including an extension of authorization for federal highway and transit programs through December 31, 2010 as well as providing \$19.5 billion to the Highway Trust Fund. The law will:

- Extend surface transportation authorization until the end of this calendar year. The current extension of the 2005 surface transportation authorization law known as "SAFETEA-LU" was scheduled to expire March 28.
- Deposit \$19.5 billion into the Highway Trust Fund to reimburse the trust fund for interest payments not received since 1998. This will ensure the trust fund's solvency into next year.
- Restore in this fiscal year \$8.7 billion in highway contract authority to the states that had been rescinded at the end of Fiscal Year 2009.
- Fund the federal highway program's contract authority for FY 2010 at \$42 billion, up from \$30 billion, returning the program to its FY 2009 funding level.
- Provide \$4.6 billion in additional federal subsidies for Build America Bonds, a program created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The bonds allow states and municipalities to finance infrastructure projects with an interest subsidy from the federal government. State and local

governments have issued \$78 billion worth of Build America Bonds during the program's first year.

- Allow the Highway Trust Fund in the future to collect interest on its deposits, as all other federal trust funds are authorized to do.
- Restructure fuel-tax exemptions for government vehicles currently paid out of the Highway Trust Fund so future payments come out of the General Fund rather than the trust fund, increasing money available for highway and transit projects in future years.

### California

#### New Legislation Accelerates \$835 Million in Federal Economic Stimulus Funding For Transportation Projects

(Adapted from Caltrans Press Release)

On March 26, 2010, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law new legislation (AB x3-20) that will expedite the allocation of \$835 million for California regional transportation agencies for a total of \$1.6 billion in federal economic stimulus funds from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The new legislation modifies existing state law, providing greater delegation to regional transportation agencies for selecting projects and programming their dollars. Each region is developing their list of projects that could be funded by the \$1.6 billion pool of money.

"This is about getting the stimulus dollars out to projects quickly and providing jobs as soon as we can," said California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Director Will Kempton. "This legislation allows projects to start well ahead of schedule, which will put people back to work sooner."

The new law also gives Caltrans the flexibility to use \$310 million of federal economic stimulus funds, to move a number of Proposition 1B projects more quickly to construction. Caltrans will propose projects that provide construction jobs immediately and also provide the greatest long-term economic benefits for the state of California.

Caltrans has launched a new Web site (<http://www.dot.ca.gov/recovery>) designed to provide the public and the transportation industry with up-to-date information on the use of ARRA funds on transportation projects in California.

### FAA Extension Clears, But Highway Fight Continues

(Adapted from article by CQ Politics News)

After a dustup that left almost no one satisfied, the Senate, on Friday, March 26, 2010, cleared a one-month extension of Federal Aviation Administration programs, postponing a showdown on a highway funding issue that had become entangled with the FAA's fate.

Many lawmakers in both chambers wanted a three-month FAA extension that carried a "fix" to a highway funding allocation that governs distribution of certain highway money included in the Democrats' first job package this year. But Thursday night, senators whose states would lose highway money under the three-month FAA bill balked at passing it, forcing both chambers to scramble for a fix. It was not clear when the Senate will revisit the highway funding issue.

As for the FAA, the House on Thursday, March 25, took the necessary steps to prepare a long-term reauthorization bill for a House-Senate conference after the spring recess. But a one-month extension may not be long enough to allow negotiators to finish that bill and steer it through both chambers.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman James L. Oberstar, D-Minnesota, had held up the jobs legislation earlier this year over objections to the formula the Senate had drafted for distributing a portion of the bill's new highway spending.

He complained that the formula would steer most of the money to four states: California, Illinois, Louisiana and Washington — while giving 22 states nothing. Oberstar wanted to run the money through regular highway funding formulas, which would distribute it more evenly. But Democrats were anxious to clear the jobs legislation, so Oberstar relented after Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nevada, promised to enact the fix Oberstar wanted in later legislation. Reid will now try to do so in the next jobs package to move.



# Section and Chapter Activities

## Alaska



SocialITEs is a group started under the Alaska Section ITE with the mission of creating another networking medium for transportation professionals. This is accomplished through social gatherings held in relaxed, informal settings where members interact on a more personal level. Having the events be socially driven rather than technically driven gives a good contrast to the ITE Section luncheons, which are primarily technical presentations that do not allow much time for social interaction and networking. Another advantage to the open social atmosphere is that it is all inclusive. Although members of ITE are encouraged to join there will be no affiliation requirements to ITE in order to be a member of SocialITEs. This allows for individuals to engage transportation professionals from the private and public sector as well as individuals that are generally interested in the transportation field.

The inaugural SocialITEs event was held in March and was a success. The current and prospective SocialITEs members met at a local restaurant for food, drinks, and conversation. The event was well attended and brought together individuals from all facets of the transportation profession.

The future plans for SocialITEs include events that promise to be both social and educational. One of these events in planning is to take a tour of a construction site so design professionals can see a project through the eyes of the contractor. Other plans include going on a city tour using exclusively public transportation to get an idea of any improvements that could be made, and setting up round table discussions with important transportation decision makers.

These SocialITEs events will attempt to unite people of the transportation industry. This will create a multitude of positive outcomes. Not only will members have access to contacts in all areas of the profession, but they will have had face-to-face experiences with those contacts making working with them instantly more comfortable and productive. There will also be a unique advantage for members with projects similar to past projects of other members to draw on the experiences of those members and apply them to their

current projects. Also, with the variety of knowledge being brought to the table from the wide range of disciplines within SocialITEs members will be able to broaden their knowledge of transportation projects as a whole rather than just the aspect with which they are working. As SocialITEs grows, so will its benefits. With more members the experience and knowledge base will increase and therefore improve the quality of work of those involved and make it more enjoyable as well.



Karthik Murugesan  
*Secretary*

## Central Coast Section

The last meeting of 2009 was held at Acapulco Restaurant in Ventura. Our members came together to acknowledge Nazir Lalani for his contributions to the Central Coast Section, and to elect the 2010 Executive Committee. Nazir Lalani had recently retired from his position as Deputy Director of Public Works of Ventura County and has served ITE in many functions throughout his career. He is the recipient of several ITE awards as an acknowledgement to his extensive volunteering, which included the position of ITE International President and participation on various technical councils. Justin Link, the section's president, presented Nazir with the ITE Central Coast Section Achievement award. Several colleagues expressed their thanks to Nazir and recollected their interactions with him over the course of his service at the City of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County and Ventura County.

2010 Central Coast board election results were presented and Zaki Mustafa, the District International Director, was available to swear in the new 2010 Executive Committee. Justin Link was awarded the Presidential Award for his service as President in 2009.



Anthony Gallo,  
*Secretary*

## Colorado/Wyoming

The Colorado/Wyoming ITE Section held their Annual Vendor Show at the Arvada Center on January 22, 2010. Section President Ben Waldman presided over the meeting that was attended by 220 members and guests. Ben thanked Will Johnson for coordinating the event which showcased 21 vendors displaying their latest technology for the transportation industry.

The Colorado/Wyoming ITE Section is now on Facebook. A link has been posted on our Section's website.

The Wyoming Engineers Society Annual Meeting will be held February 4-5 in Laramie.

Andrea Drake was the newsletter's Puzzle Maniac contest winner. Andrea donated her \$25 prize to the Section's scholarship fund.

A Colorado/Wyoming Section ITE luncheon was held on Friday, March 5, 2010 at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Colorado Springs. Section President, Ben Waldman, presided over the meeting. Mr. Waldman called for nominations for the Section's Secretary/Treasurer position. The Spring Transportation Symposium was on held April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Pepsi Center. ACEC will be joining ITE, WTS, and Rocky Mountain ITS in hosting the event this year.



Kari McDowell,  
*Scribe, Newsletter Co-Editor*

## Northern California Section

The Northern California Section of ITE has had a busy first three months of 2010. The Section began the New Year with a January 21 luncheon meeting hosted by the City of Folsom. Mark Rackovan, Senior Engineer with the City gave us a presentation on the impacts of the Folsom Lake Crossing on traffic volumes in the City of Folsom. The Folsom Lake Crossing was completed in March 2009 as a replacement for the Folsom Dam Road, which was closed for security reasons after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The crossing reconnects a vital corridor

## Section and Chapter Activities

between Folsom and Placer County. Our February luncheon meeting was held at the City of Rancho Cordova on February 18 and was sponsored by Kimley-Horn and Associates. At this meeting, representatives of Thomas Enterprises and Kimley-Horn and Associates gave the group an update of the Sacramento Railyards project. The Railyards is a collaborative effort between the City of Sacramento and Thomas Enterprises. The 240-acre site is located just north of Sacramento's central business district and east of the Sacramento River. It is recognized as the largest urban infill site in this region and presents Sacramento with a significant opportunity to accommodate future growth utilizing sustainable and smart growth principles.

March was a busy month and included a luncheon meeting, as well as the Section's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Vendors Night event Roseville. The meeting was sponsored by Omni-Means and the speakers included Paul Miller of Omni-Means and Scott Gandler and Jason Shykowski of the City of Roseville, who all offered perspectives on closely locating roundabouts and signalized intersections at the Roseville Galleria regional shopping center. The recent 465,000 square foot (\$240 million) expansion of the Westfield Galleria at Roseville makes this retail center the largest in the Sacramento region. Omni-Means worked closely with Westfield and the City of Roseville to design all on-site and off-site transportation improvements required to keep traffic moving. Locating a modern multi-lane roundabout only 200 feet west of a high volume traffic signal on a six lane arterial is certainly not standard practice; however, that is exactly what was needed to solve the complex traffic flow issues. The roundabout opened on Black Friday November 2008 and has functions as planned ever since.

The Section's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Vendors Night event was held at Hutchins Street Square in Lodi on March 18. As in past years, this event drew a large crowd to see the products of nearly 30 vendors. The event included a product showcase during the day and a buffet dinner during the evening. Well over 100 people stayed for the dinner portion of the event. The Section also sold raffle tickets, the proceeds of which go to assist student initiatives in our region. We believe we set a record by selling over 1,300 raffle

tickets. Vendors provided a variety of raffle prizes, including the grand prize: a weekend getaway to Monterey. Upcoming events include our annual Golf Tournament, which is scheduled for Friday, May 14, 2010.

Our reduced luncheon cost of \$10 has proven very popular and we have received many compliments on the cost reduction. Many people would prefer to spend \$10 on a sandwich lunch over paying \$20 or more on a "fancy" lunch.



David Tokarski  
Section Past President

### Oregon Chapter

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Oregon ITE Golf Tournament was held on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the OGA Golf Course in Woodburn, Oregon. As an ITE-sponsored event, the tournament provided a unique opportunity for over 50 private consultants and public officials to engage in an open environment during a friendly game of golf. Key sponsors for the event included Kittelson & Associates, Inc., Quality Counts, CH2MHill, David Evans & Associates, Inc., DKS Associates, and Lancaster Engineering.

The Oregon Chapter of ITE hosted another Happy Hour/After Work Social on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at Kells Irish Pub in downtown Portland, Oregon. The happy hours are purely social events that provide a great opportunity to get together with fellow traffic engineers over a pint of ale and a bite to eat. These events have been well attended by students as well as professionals, and provide great networking opportunities.

The Oregon ITE October Section lunch was held on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Bridgeport Brewing in Portland, Oregon. Over 40 people turned out to listen to Ed Fischer from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) present on his recent Pedestrian/Bike Scan Tour of five European countries, including Denmark, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Ed

was Co-Chair of the AASHTO/FHWA/NCHRP International Technology Scanning Team that went to Europe in May 2009 looking at innovative bicycle and pedestrian treatments that may have some application in the U.S. The presentation focused primarily on various Engineering applications, as well as education programs, encouragement strategies, and enforcement practices in use throughout Europe.

Traffic day was held on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in conjunction with the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) NW Section Annual Meeting in Eugene, Oregon. Traffic Day provided three different tracks to choose from, including signals, signing and markings, and safety. The main portion of the IMSA meeting (outside of Traffic Day) was focused on advanced training sessions on wide range of topics, including traffic signals, signs and marking, lighting, and fiber optics. IMSA is a great resource that provides trainings on materials not often covered.

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual ITE Traffic Bowl was held on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at McMenemy's Edgefield in Troutdale, Oregon. This and future traffic bowls were officially renamed the William C. Kloos Traffic Bowl in honor of the late Bill Kloos, whose contribution to the transportation engineering profession extended well beyond his participation in ITE. A total of five schools participated in the event, including Portland State University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, University of Washington, and former traffic bowl champions, University of Portland. It was an exciting event that culminated in the victory of a new champion, Portland State University, and the presentation of a newly designed ITE Traffic Bowl trophy. The old trophy, with the previous 17 Traffic Bowl champions engraved, has been retired and is in the possession of the Oregon Section ITE group.

The annual Technical Workshop was held on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at ODOT Region 1 in Portland, Oregon. The workshop provided insight into current roundabout practice and informed participants of recent updates to several guidance and engineering documents typically used in the profession, noting key

## Section and Chapter Activities

changes or new information. We heard from a number of guest speakers including Ed Fischer from ODOT, Brian Walsh from Washington State DOT, Lee Rodegerdts and Scott Beaird from Kittelson & Associates, Inc., Robin Lewis from the City of Bend, OR, Brian Barnett from the City of Springfield, OR, and Vince Hall from Clackamas County.

The Oregon Chapter of ITE hosted another after work social on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at Kells Irish Pub in downtown Portland. The happy hours are purely social events and provide a great opportunity to together with fellow traffic engineers over a good pint of ale and a bite to eat. These events have been well attended by students as well as professionals, and provide great networking opportunities.

Our March Section meeting was held on Thursday, March 18 at Bridegeport Brewery in Portland, Oregon. The City of Portland Bicycle Coordinator, Roger Gellar, provided a presentation on the Portland Bicycle Plan. Portland's recently adopted Portland Bicycle Plan for 2030 focuses principally on policy, network and design improvements in support of a city where 25 percent of all trips will be made by bicycle. Roger discussed the plan's highlights as well as current efforts to advance its implementation.



Matt Bell

### San Diego Section

San Diego ITE President Marc Mizuta kicked off the February meeting.

Jennifer Rosales, Principal Transportation Engineer of Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) from Portland, Oregon, gave a campaign speech for the position of International Director. Joel Freedman gave a presentation on the subject of The SANDAG Activity-Based Travel Model and its structure, benefits and use in transportation forecasting.

SoCal ITE President Arief Naftali kicked off the March meeting. "Improving Traffic Data Collection: Technology and Methodology Updates" Kevin Deal, Operations Manager, NDS Iteris representative gave an update on their end to end solutions for detection, communication, and data collection.

"Nevada State Highway 318: Closing a public highway for a land speed record & various ITE updates" Ken Ackeret, PH. D., PE, PTOE, Kimley-Horn and Associates, International Director, ITE District 6

"Current Trends and Pending Legislation in the Transportation Industry"  
Clark Fernon, PE, Senior Vice President, TY Lin International



Minjie Mei, P.E.

### SF Bay Area ITE Section

On February 18, 2010, the San Francisco Bay Area ITE Section (SFBayITE) held a joint meeting with the South Bay Traffic Officials Association (SBTOA) at Gordon Biersch Brewery and Restaurant in downtown San José. The featured speaker was Hans Larsen, Acting Director of Transportation for the City of San José, with the topic "Bike Lanes, Bullet Trains, Pod Cars and Potholes." This "State of City Transportation" address covered the City's bold new plans for a safe, sustainable, and multimodal transportation system. A total of 100 transportation professionals attended the meeting.

Rail is a key transportation mode for the City of San José. The City is working aggressively to secure federal and state funding for the initial segment of the planned California High Speed Rail (HSR) system, which is anticipated to serve San José and the Bay Area by 2017. Work continues to bring Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) to downtown San José. Construction for the BART Warm Springs Extension from Fremont has already begun, with expected completion by 2014 at a cost of \$840 million. The proposed 10-mile Warm Springs – Berryessa segment is expected to begin construction in 2011, with an expected cost of \$2 billion and completion by 2025. Expected completion for the final link from Berryessa to downtown San José's Diridon Station and Mineta San José Airport is in 2025. The City's vision is an intermodal Diridon Station that would include HSR, BART, regional Caltrain rail, and local Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) light rail, as well as (potentially) a new A's baseball stadium.

In November 2009, San José adopted the 2020 City Bicycle Plan, which looks to expand its current 250-mile network to 500 miles. The plan's goal is to increase bicycle mode share from one percent to five percent, which is close to the City of Portland's (Oregon) current national high of six percent.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission ranked San José 15th among Bay Area cities in pavement condition in 2008-09. Regional solutions being considered to raise revenue to improve roadways include increasing local gas taxes, developing a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) based user fee, toll roads, and high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes.

Traffic safety has improved significantly in San José over the last 20 years, which Mr. Larsen credited to the efforts of Jim Helmer, former City Director of Transportation. Over that time period, the City's collision rate has decreased from 7.6 to 3.0 injury crashes per thousand residents. This reduction was attributed to various engineering solutions, including traffic signals and traffic calming devices, as well as improved safety education, especially among local schoolchildren. San José will be installing its first red-light enforcement cameras this summer and is also looking at using cameras for speed enforcement.

San José has elicited interest from several international firms to develop a personal rapid transit (PRT) system, known as the Airport Transit Connector Project. This automated podcar system would link the Mineta San José Airport terminals with nearby Caltrain and VTA train stations located outside the airport. VTA has issued a \$4 million grant to study alternatives, with a goal of completing the system by the end of 2015 and a potential cost of \$500 million.



Andrew Kluter, P.E.

## Endowment Fund Spotlight

This Endowment Fund Spotlight was written by the University of Washington student chapter, which has benefitted from the generous support of the Washington Section, one of our newest Platinum Level group contributors.

The University of Washington ITE Student Chapter (UW ITE) provides students with a unique opportunity to meet professionals and to share questions, motivations, and visions about transportation engineering. UW ITE members have the opportunity to be involved with both the student chapter at the university and the Washington State Section of ITE. Involvement in the Washington ITE Section provides students the chance to meet professionals and learn more about local transportation issues. In addition to attending the professional meetings, the UW Student Chapter has organized gatherings where ITE professionals and students get to know each other in an informal and friendly environment and have the chance to freely exchange experiences.



WESTERN DISTRICT  
STUDENT  
ENDOWMENT  
FUND

Many activities were organized this year to expose and engage students at UW to the transportation industry. This fall we took a group of eight students to Eugene, Oregon for the "TransNow Region X conference." We had the chance to learn from other students' research and meet different ITE student members. And, Felipe Sandoval from the UW chapter was voted as having the best presentation at the conference! And just a week later, we also participated in the 2009 Traffic Bowl held in Portland, Oregon.

The UW ITE was awarded a District 6 Data Collection grant for a third year in a row. This year we choose to perform a parking demand and trip generation study at a high school in Seattle. This included scheduling more than 70 shifts for the data collection effort and organizing additional help to analyze the data and obtain conclusions.

Our student chapter recognizes the responsibility we have to improve transportation challenges affecting our community. This year we worked with the University of Washington's Transportation Services to help address the transportation needs of thousands of people going to/from the main campus and affiliated medical facilities every day. In addition to this effort, we are also looking to provide feedback to other UW student organizations addressing transportation issues.

We are happy to be involved in the unique opportunities that ITE brings to students and we look forward to future opportunities to be engaged in the transportation community.





## Professional Services Directory

To place your ad, e-mail it to:

**nate\_larson@urscorp.com**

Professional Services Directory listings in the WesternITE are available for a contract rate of one calendar year (6 issues). The rate is \$200.00 for the first 7 lines (minimum charge), and \$40/year for each additional line. Continuing customers are billed in the fall of each year. New advertisers may send a check (prorated for the remaining issues in the calendar year) with their advertisement text (in Word format). Advertising to appear on the westernite.org web site is also available and may be purchased separately. Please read the full details about advertising rates and schedules at:

[westernite.org/newsletters/advertising.htm](http://westernite.org/newsletters/advertising.htm)

## Together we are the BEST

*In order for our student chapters to prosper it is critical that we at the section level play a key role in mentoring the students and try to support the chapter financially.*

*The following is a letter from Cal Poly Pomona's Civil Engineering Department:*

Dear ITE Western District Board Members,

Cal Poly Pomona's ITE Student Chapter would like to thank the officers and members of Western ITE for their support. Recently, Dr. Xudong Jia contacted ITE Western District in dire need of purchasing a Vissim Software license for Cal Poly's Master's Program in Transportation. Currently, many local agencies are using the product for traffic analysis including the HOT lane traffic analysis. This program is vital in keeping the students abreast with relevant tools in the industry, but due to the financial hardship the school was facing, chances of getting the software without assistance were slim. Fortunately ITE Southern California Section President Ariel Naftali and Riverside San Bernardino Section President Dennis Acuna came to the rescue. Each section donated \$750 to Cal Poly Pomona for the software. Cal Poly Pomona's Student Chapter thanks ITE Western district for their continuing desire to give back to students.

Sincerely,  
 Student advisor Dr. Xudong Jia  
 Civil Engineering Dept. Chair Donald Coduto

Special Thanks To:

**Arief Naftali** and **Dennis Acuna**



CAL POLY POMONA

# PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

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Official Publication of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, Western District

May-June 2010 Vol. 64, No. 1

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