President’s Message

By Carlos Ortiz, P.E., T.E., PTOE, ITE Western District President

Since June, I have traveled to various conferences throughout the United States. Our ITE Western District Annual Meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota had a great turnout and was well represented by members/professionals from the Western District and Mid-Western District. I was amazed to see how many of us traveled to a beautiful state to meet old friends and new friends, and enjoyed great technical sessions and social activities. It was a pleasure to visit Mt. Rushmore. Thank you to the Local Arrangements Committee for a job well done!

In July, I attended the Automated Vehicles Symposium in San Francisco, California. This summit was sponsored by Transportation Research Board and Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International. This summit was one of the best conferences that I attended in my career. It provided some great presentations on autonomous/automated/connected vehicles. This conference was well attended by over 550 professionals throughout the world. I got a chance to meet professionals from automakers, technology and engineering industries, and public agencies and academia.

In July, I also attended the International, Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association Summit on All Electronic Tolling, Managed lanes, and Interoperability in San Diego, California.

(continued on page 2)

Annual Meeting Best Paper

Smart Transportation Planning Opens the Door to Value-Driven Recommendations

By Yuri Mereszczak, P.E. (Kittelson & Associates, Inc.) and Andrew Cibor, P.E., PTOE (Ada County Highway District)

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

Implementation of the Smart Transportation Planning Process

Ada County Highway District (ACHD) and the City of Eagle partnered to employ the process and principles of Smart Transportation Planning, which fosters an effective means of collaboration founded upon a process in which a multi-disciplinary team considers a wide range of context-sensitive solutions and works closely with the community to determine the best transportation solutions (Reference 1).

An 11-person Project Management Team (PMT) comprised of staff representatives from ACHD and the City of Eagle served to evaluate alternatives and make recommendations to the elected officials of the City of Eagle and ACHD. The PMT worked closely with a 17-person Stakeholder Committee (SC), comprised of local citizens, agency representatives, and local officials, to understand the political, social, financial, and physical “landscapes” within the community and gather feedback on alternatives. The PMT and the SC served to implement the principles of Smart Transportation Planning on this project, balancing competing interests and needs against various options for improvement. The foundation of this balance was a commitment to the process, which was strengthened and supported by past visions for the area (e.g., Downtown Eagle Plan) and an open, honest, and transparent decision-making public involvement process.

Benefits were realized, most notably through the extensive and continuous feedback received throughout the course of the project. In total, well over 100 different people provided input to guide the recommendations of the project. The project recommendations were informed by both the implementation of Smart Transportation Planning and the stakeholder and

(continued on page 4)
Save the Date for the 2015 Annual Meeting in Fabulous Las Vegas, NV!

The Las Vegas Local Arrangements Committee is currently accepting abstracts for the 2015 Western District ITE Annual Meeting to be held July 19-22, 2015 at Planet Hollywood Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada. Presenting at the Western District Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to share your knowledge and expertise with your peers. The abstract submittal deadline is February 19, 2015. If you are interested in exhibiting and/or sponsoring for the 2015 Western District Annual Meeting, please contact Alyssa Reynolds, Exhibit/Vendor Coordinator, at reynoldsa@cityofnorthlasvegas.com or (702) 633-1224.

Cyber security of our ITS/Toll infrastructures was a major topic. We had a computer hacker as a speaker. Over 500 professionals attended this conference.

In early August, I was invited to present at the Intelligent Transportation Society Pennsylvania Annual Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on a major high-level ITS project that I’m working for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

In mid-August, I attended the ITE International Conference is Seattle, Washington. ITE and the LAC did a great job hosting another well attended conference. Unofficially, I’ve heard that we had over 1,000 attendees. We had sessions on roundabouts, bicycle facilities and operations, connected/autonomous vehicles, and Active Traffic Management. I was invited to attend the Elected Leadership Forum. We discussed key ITE topics including upcoming changes to students, young professionals, and public agencies registration fees. In addition, ITE is planning to update their website.

In September, I attended the ITS World Congress in Detroit, Michigan. Over 10,000 professionals from all over the world attended this conference. There were over 100 exhibitors, 200 sessions, and 30 live connected vehicle/automated vehicle/self-parking vehicle demonstrations. This is the show where new technologies are displayed and major announcements are present-
ed by keynote speakers. Ms. Mary Barra, General Motors CEO, indicated that General Motors will debut a 2017 Cadillac CTS with standard technology capable of talking to other vehicles and roadway infrastructure. GM also will roll out advanced driver-assist technology that will allow a vehicle to drive itself on highways at full speed or in stop-and-go traffic; the feature called Super Cruise will debut on a different 2017 Cadillac. Another major announcement was provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation, who will be partnering with GM, Ford Motor Co., and the University of Michigan Mobility Transformation Center consortium to add vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) communication to more than 120 miles. It’s expected to be the largest deployment of V2I technology in the United States when fully completed. Now I’m getting ready to attend the ITS California Annual Conference in Santa Clara, California (October 14 – 16) where Dr. Chris Urmonson, Google’s Director, Self-Driving Cars accepted my personal invitation to present on their Autonomous Vehicle Program. Overall, it is great to see that many of our colleagues from the private industry, public agencies, and academia are attending conferences. I was impressed by the large number of attendees at each conference. It provided me an opportunity to meet new friends and potential new clients; and to learn about many great projects and emerging technologies.

Attending conferences, monthly lunch meetings and seminars can provide us with the latest information that will help us make better decisions in our careers. I hope that our members start planning ahead to attend monthly Section/Chapter meetings, Student Chapter meetings, our upcoming 2015 ITE Western District Annual Meeting in Las Vegas (July 19 – 22), the 2015 ITE International Annual Meeting and Exhibit in Hollywood, Florida (August 2 – 5), and ITE Technical Conference in Tucson, Arizona (October 28 – 31). As your elected Western District President, I’m already planning to attend some Section/Chapter meetings throughout the Western District. Hope to see you at these meetings!

Call for Candidates

The Western District Board is seeking nominations of qualified candidates for Secretary-Treasurer and International Director to run in the July 2015 election. Secretary-Treasurer nominations will be accepted for individuals residing outside of California, while International Director nominations are sought for individuals residing in California. Anyone who would like to submit a nominee for consideration, or who would like more information about the election process, should contact Western District Past President Karen Aspelin at (719) 661-4127 or kaspelin@parametrix.com. Nominations will be accepted until December 1, 2014.

We are also requesting nominations for Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards. Award information is available at www.westernite.org. If you plan on recommending someone for either award, please fill out the nomination form as completely as possible. Nominations for the Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards are due November 1, 2014.

Obituary – John Logan

Longtime Western District member John Joseph Logan passed peacefully, Saturday, September 6, 2014, with his family at his bedside.

He was born in Seattle on January 10, 1942 to Edward and Georgette Logan. John is survived by his wife Barbara G. Logan, sister-in-law Joyce (brother Edward Jr. RIP), brother Frank D. (Jackie), son John Joseph Logan, Jr. (Linda), Katherine B. Logan, Scott J. Stidell and Kimberley K. Stidell (Michael). He is also survived by 4 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 5 nieces and nephews, and extended family that he loved dearly.

John was a Road and Traffic Engineer for King County for 30 years, retiring in 1992. He then opened his own consulting business as an expert witness, instructor and engineering consultant and served on several national civil engineering boards and committees. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus for over 50 years and Past Grand Knight KoC - Council 676. In his semi-retirement he owned and raced horses for the last 10 years at Emerald Downs with his partner in crime Dino.

With a sunny disposition and a zest for life, a brilliant smile and those bright blue Irish eyes, he always rooted for the underdog. Two of his favorite sayings were “You would know that if you read the newspaper!” and “Silence is golden!”

Student Leadership Summit

We are pleased to announce that the ITE Student Chapter at Sacramento State has been selected to host the 2nd Annual ITE Student Leadership Summit (ITE SLS).

As an organization, ITE is committed to promoting the advancement of transportation and traffic engineering by connecting the student organization with professionals in these fields. At the ITE SLS, student members will be provided numerous opportunities to enhance professional skills and knowledge, network with transportation professionals, and gain valuable leadership experience. This conference will be held on Friday, February 13th - Sunday, February 15th, 2015 at the Sacramento State University campus.

To make this event a great success, we need your help! We anticipate over 150 ITE members including students and professionals from multiple states within the Western District. Our Planning Committee has been working hard over the last few months to develop a schedule of activities for the conference.

The 2015 ITE SLS will continue to provide students with skills and resources desired in future careers in transportation. Currently, we have set a preliminary budget of $30,000 to cover all conference costs including, but not limited to, Summit materials, meals, and venue fees. We anticipate a much larger audience this year at the 2015 ITE SLS and hope to accommodate all attendees as hospitably as possible. **We ask that you please consider sponsoring this important event.** Additional sponsorship information is on page 18. Should you have any questions at all, please contact us via e-mail at 2015itesls@gmail.com. You may also visit our website for additional information: www.sacstateite.com.

Reaa Ali & Spencer Ord
Co-Chairs, 2015 ITE Student Leadership Summit
public feedback. Evidence of this is demonstrated through the fact the PMT and SC were able to develop solutions beyond the Eagle Road/State Street intersection itself.

The context of the Eagle/State Intersection Concept Study was initially described through the various components of the Smart Transportation Planning Ideal as outlined in the graphic. Each component’s relevance to the project context is summarized below.

- **Financial**
  - One of the primary needs of this study was to establish transportation priorities within downtown Eagle to work toward programming and funding improvement projects.

- **Community**
  - From the Downtown Eagle Plan, the community desired solutions promoting a mix of land uses, walkability, and active streets.

- **Land Use**
  - Many of the properties in the vicinity of the Eagle Road/State Street intersection are vacant or underdeveloped and have yet to realize the full potential of the land use vision for downtown Eagle.
  - Future land use plans for significant development to the north of downtown will create increasing demand on the downtown transportation system.

- **Transportation**
  - The aspects of mobility, safety, and access at and within the vicinity of the Eagle/State intersection must each be addressed and prioritized.

- **Environment**
  - The desire for a welcoming, pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly downtown competes directly with providing mobility on Eagle Road and State Street.

*Source: Smart Transportation Planning Guidebook (Reference 1)*

**Intersection Alternatives**

Intersection evaluation criteria were established through the ideal of the Smart Transportation Planning process early on in the project in collaboration with the PMT and SC. Members of the PMT and SC ranked the importance of the evaluation criteria from one to six as follows: 1) Safety, 2) Physical Impacts, 3) Land Use Compatibility, 4) Traffic Operations, 5) Non-Motorized Travel, and 6) Implementation. The ranking of the criteria helped frame decisions moving forward and distinguish those alternatives with better assessments under the higher priority criteria.

Five intersection alternatives were developed at a sketch-level and evaluated in conjunction with input from the citizens of Eagle, the SC, the PMT, Eagle City Council, and the ACHD Commission. The alternatives included the **No-Build Alternative (not illustrated)** and the following:

(continued on page 5)
Quadrant Alternative

Each alternative was assessed qualitatively relative to the six intersection evaluation criteria on a “good,” “fair,” or “poor” basis, as summarized in Table 1. A preliminary cost estimate, also shown in Table 1, was developed for each alternative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Criteria</th>
<th>No-Build</th>
<th>Expanded Signal</th>
<th>Quadrant</th>
<th>Roundabout</th>
<th>One-Way Couplet</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Compatibility</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Operations</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Motorized Travel</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Impacts</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost Estimates</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$3.5M - $4.6M</td>
<td>$2.9M - $3.8M</td>
<td>$3.6M - $4.6M</td>
<td>$5.8M - $7.6M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following were identified when comparing the evaluation of intersection alternatives:

- **Land Use Compatibility** - The quadrant and one-way couplet best support the land use vision for downtown Eagle.
- **Traffic Operations** - All four build alternatives improve traffic operations compared to the no-build alternative. The roundabout results in the best overall traffic operations for the intersection and minimizes vehicle spill back to other nearby intersections.
- **Safety** - The roundabout and one-way couplet are expected to provide the best overall safety performance of the five alternatives.
- **Non-Motorized Travel** - The one-way couplet is projected to provide the best environment for pedestrian and bicycle travel.
- **Physical Impacts** - The no-build and quadrant alternative have the least significant physical impacts.
- **Implementation** - Of the four build alternatives, the expanded signal and quadrant are expected to be the easiest to implement and construct.

Public Feedback on Intersection Alternatives

Public feedback played a significant role in the project, guiding the development and refinement of alternatives. At a property owner and tenant meeting and public open house, the general public and stakeholders were asked to rank alternatives for the Eagle Road/State Street intersection in order of most preferred (rank of 1) to least preferred (rank of 5) and provide comments towards their rankings. The rankings were used to calculate a weighted average rank, with the lowest average being the most supported alternative. Table 2 provides a summary of all of the rankings received from the general public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Ranking of Alternative</th>
<th>Number of Rankings</th>
<th>Weighted Average Rank</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One-Way Couplet</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanded Signal</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quadrant</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in Table 2, the weighted average rank of all the alternatives was very close, with the difference between the most preferred alternative and the least preferred alternative being only 0.6 to 3.1. Following the general public meetings, the SC was asked to rank the intersection alternatives in the same manner as the general public. Table 3 provides a summary of the SC rankings.
2014 Annual Board Meeting Highlights

By Cathy Leong, P.E., ITE Western District Vice President

On June 29, 2014, Western District Board members, committee chairs, section leaders and guests met at the Holiday Inn Rapid City-Rushmore Plaza in Rapid City, South Dakota, for the ITE Western District 2014 Annual Board Meeting.

President Karen Aspelin announced the appointment of Michael Sanderson to the Advisory Committee and reported that she had presented a Presidential Proclamation to Erik Ruehr of the San Diego Section in March for his work as chair of the California SB 743 Task Force.

Secretary-Treasurer Cathy Leong reported on the District’s year-to-date income (for the period of October 2013 – June 2014). Year-to-date income of $101,154.47 included surpluses from the Phoenix meeting and WesternITE advertising. Year-to-date expenses totaled $56,468.54 with the assets of the District at $176,486.23 as of June 20, 2014. The draft FY 2014-2015 budget included anticipated increased target income for WesternITE advertising, $500 for the Public Relations Committee to obtain a media contacts list, $4,250 for support of International Vice President candidates from the Western District, and an increase of $2,500 for accounting expenses to retain a CPA to assist with the District’s Articles of Incorporation. Board amendments to the proposed budget included a $3,000 advance for the 2015 Las Vegas LAC, $1,000 contribution to the 2015 Student Leadership Summit, and up to a $3,000 contribution to LeadershipITE (dependent on the final accounting of the 2014 Rapid City Annual Meeting). The budgeted net increase of reserves for FY 2014-2015 would be $455.

Past President Walter Okitsu provided a draft of the “Nomination Policies for Officer and International Director Candidates” and the “Candidate’s Guide for Elections.” These documents were adopted by the Board after several amendments.

The District’s three International Directors, Monica Suter, Jenny Grote, and Jennifer Rosales, provided summaries of their recent activities. During her report, Jennifer Rosales announced that the International Board of Direction had voted to invite Thomas Deen and Weston Pringle, Jr. to be Honorary Members, and posthumously voted Richard T. Romer an Honorary Member.

District Administrator Rory Grindley provided a summary of the Western District elections and his recommendations regarding the sharing of election results with the candidates. Based on his recommendations and general discussion, the Board decided that the Teller’s Committee would verify the results of the election and then reveal the results to the candidates prior to their announcement during the Business Luncheon.

WesternITE Managing Editor Joey Paskey indicated that WesternITE circulation is at approximately 3,500.

WesternITE Advertising Manager Robert Sweeting reported that the District has 33 advertisers in the Professional Services Directory with 25 Positions Available advertisements this fiscal year and five sponsorships.

Website Manager Justin Link reported that the District website had been updated to incorporate the new Western District logo.

Membership Chair Joe De La Garza reported that in the short-term, District membership has decreased, but in the long-term District membership has increased.

Legislative Committee Chair Tom Mericle reported he had created a Legislative Update page on the District’s website.

Richard T. Romer Student Enowment Fund Committee Chair Kimberly Leung announced that the Endowment Fund balance was over $390,000. A total of $950 was collected from the MitEY Race held on June 28th.

Breckenridge, CO was selected as the location for the 2018 Annual Meeting after a presentation by the Colorado-Wyoming Section. The Washington State Section withdrew its proposal to host the 2018 meeting.

Rapid City 2014 LAC Western District Co-Chair Randy McCourt provided an update on the 2014 Annual Meeting. Registration was currently at a total of 519 (full, student, one-day, and vendor registrations). Financially, the meeting would at least break even due to the registration numbers and the over $26,000 in sponsorships. The LAC anticipated returning the $2,500 advance provided by the District and any excess income from the meeting would be split based on the previous agreement between the Western and Midwestern districts.

Las Vegas 2015 LAC Co-Chair Alyssa Reynolds reported that the LAC had selected a new Chair, Lindsay Sundberg.

Albuquerque 2016 LAC Co-Chair Jim Barrera requested an advance of $3,000 for the 2016 Annual Meeting.

San Diego 2017 LAC Chair Joe de la Garza indicated that the meeting dates were June 25-28, 2017, and the LAC was currently soliciting additional proposals from hotels for the meeting.

Student Leadership Summit Task Force Chair Kaylinn Roseman provided a report on the Student Leadership Summit held at Cal Poly SLO in February and some of the lessons learned. She then introduced Reaa Ali, Chair of the Task Force for the next Student Leadership Summit. The next summit will be held at Sacramento State February 13-15, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm. The next board meeting will be held on January 23, 2015, in Oakland, CA.
International Director’s Report

By Jenny L. Grote, P.E., PTOE, ITE Western District International Director

Prior to the Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington, the International Board of Direction (IBD) met at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel on Friday and Saturday, August 8 & 9, 2014. President W. Hibbett Neel, Jr. presided over the meeting as International President, assisted by John J. Kennedy, International Vice President and Past President Zaki Mustafa. I was joined by the other two International Directors, Monica M. Suter and Jennifer Rosales, who represent the Western District, along with Steve Colman who serves as Chair of the Coordinating Council and Eva Lerner-Lam who serves as the China Representative.

Financial Prognosis

President Neel has reinstituted the formation of a Budget/Finance committee that will meet via conference call throughout the year to review the Institute’s finances and budget prior to each Board meeting and report their findings to the Board. Under the new Chief Financial Officer James Estes, who replaces Pete Frenz, ITE Headquarters will transition to a new accounting system as one of the financial goals by the end of the year. The Transportation Professional Certification Board also will be transitioning to the same system, which will allow certification dues to be paid online and standardization of individual member accounts.

Sub-lease of Surplus ITE Headquarters Office Space - Executive Director Tom Brahms advised the Board that two leases of open ITE office space are pending and subject to approval by the owner of ITE’s office building. Prospective tenants are: Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) and OWL, the voice of women +40. Two other offices remain vacant and continue to be viewed by prospective renters.

Membership Services and Programs

President Neel discussed the e-library and ITE’s updated website components. Executive Director Brahms expounded on the extensive search capacity of the e-library, which will be discoverable to both ITE members and non-members. Items will be free and available to all paid members and downloadable for a fee to non-members. The database search should be available before the next Board meeting in November in Washington, DC. Other changes to member benefits will be enacted by the end of 2014, such as an improved website and an increase in webinars.

International Director’s Farewell

By Monica Suter, P.E., PTOE, ITE Western District International Director

To our Western District (WD) members, it has been an honor to serve as an International Director (ID) since 2012 and to have been appointed as Co-Chair of the Advocacy Committee in January 2014. It has also been invigorating to see the faster pace with which the International Board of Direction has implemented new ideas and needed actions. Since 2012 when my term began, I have seen a marked difference. While there is much more work to be done, it has been productive to collaborate with our colleagues within our region as well as our partners around the country and internationally. Particularly this year, we have had very dynamic boards of direction (regionally and internationally) that have been relentless in working within the existing system to yield some very important and necessary changes.

To all our members and future International Directors, it is possible to fade into the group mindset given the size of the IBD. A good friend once said “do not underestimate the power of one.” When part of a larger Board, it is important to feel empowered to ask the questions others may be too shy to ask but which our members would expect us to raise on behalf of their interests. Also, by encouraging other Directors from outside our region to also bring up important questions, issues and ideas, more good can occur. With diplomacy and by establishing positive working relationships with other leaders beyond our region, being proactive and encouraging other representatives to do the same, more can be achieved for the good of all of our members.

I look forward to a continuation of our strong WD leaders and continuing progress each year at the international level! The IBD and ITE as a whole has been becoming more nimble, and more progress will occur. I look forward to additional dynamic movement of our important organization going forward! Congratulations to all our future WD IDs in advance and to Alyssa Reynolds as she begins her term in January 2015!
The Board approved a motion to offer public agencies two options for paying member dues: a new flat rate for Governmental Agency members based on the jurisdiction’s population, or the traditional option of paying dues based on number of members. A description of the two options can be found at www.ite.org/membership/Agency/MembershipBrochure.pdf.

President Committee

President Neele gave updates on his four new committees: Student Chapter Committee; Young Member Committee; Advocacy Committee, and; Professional Development Committee. I serve as a liaison to the Board for the Young Member Committee. Director Monica Suter serves as the Co-Chair for the Advocacy Committee. Both of these Committees are making great progress and plan to build on these accomplishments to date.

Young Member Committee (YMC) - Katherine Kortum, PhD, Transportation Research Board, was appointed to chair this Committee and was an excellent choice since she is “young” and is also a member of the LeadershipITE class of 2014. She also serves as a liaison between the YMC and Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT) groups since they are trying to join forces and support the same goals. Katherine was at the Seattle conference and spoke to the Board on two initiatives that ITE could sponsor to attract and retain younger members: 1) have a graduated dues structure from college graduation through at least age 30, and 2) reduce the conference costs to mirror the fees for “Retired” members. The LeadershipITE class presented a formal proposal with details on how to restructure dues for younger members. The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion and reviewed the recommendations of LeadershipITE regarding younger member dues. Subsequently, the Board approved the LeadershipITE recommendation changes to the dues structure for young professionals – “$30 to 30 Membership Dues Structure” – with an evaluation after 12 months and with a goal of a 15 percent increase in membership per year in the age category 23-30. Secondly, registration fees were reduced for the Seattle conference for younger members; the same level as retired members.

Advocacy Committee (AC) - The Advocacy Committee has a special task force working with ITE HQ to identify longer term transportation funding which would propose sustainable transportation funding structures for new revenue sources to account for travel by alternatively energized modes beyond the existing gas tax. (See ITE Policies G-1 and G-2 regarding the Institute’s official positions on funding.) Following a recommendation from the AC, the Board took action to proactively support a federal transportation funding bill of the appropriate size. The AC is also in the process of preparing ITE Advocacy guidelines/advice for districts, sections, and chapters for upcoming Board approval. Through the AC, California Assembly Bill 1447, which would allow the use of greenhouse gas funds to be used for traffic signal synchronization projects that reduce these emissions, was supported by ITE International via a letter from President Hibbett Neele. Prior to this, consensus of the seven California Section Presidents was obtained. Other committee highlights include:

• Various Advocacy-related articles, success stories and advice have been in the ITE Journal and Advocacy Network on the ITE Community.
• Legislative Alerts are planned by ITE Headquarters with some information currently shared with the ITE Connect Electronic Newsletter.
• Advocacy Webinars have been provided: one complimentary and additional ones are being developed.
• The Board approved an updated ITE statement to include advocacy wording.

• Advocacy/legislative pressure, blogging, and media/legislation appear to be driving the direction of our profession more so than our volunteer efforts. We need to re-think how we operate and strengthen our advocacy skills as professionals and to become more nimble while advocating for ITE, our profession, safety, mobility, and our official policies.

LeadershipITE

Members of the LeadershipITE inaugural class were divided into groups and presented five excellent reports to the International Board. The topics included:

• Recruitment and Retention of Young Professionals
• How can ITE enable our Incoming Workforce to Meet Projected Needs of the Transportation Engineering and Planning Professions?
• Breaking the Trend of Auto Dependency
• Defining ITE’s Role in Transportation Advocacy
• ITE the “Go To” in Complete Streets

Michael Sanderson, Chair of the LeadershipITE Committee and visionary for this program, provided a brief overview on the success of the first year and graduating class of LeadershipITE by stating: “The inaugural class of LeadershipITE is representative of the best and brightest of our profession, and it is certain to be a unique and special experience for everyone involved. Through a process of self-discovery, idea sharing, and professional networking, the LeadershipITE experience is designed to create an environment where these up-and-coming leaders can share a once-in-a-career opportunity to stretch and grow. And I’m guessing that they’ll have a lot of fun, too.” He then stressed that the focus now needs to be on the next class, and the critical fund-raising efforts, to carry on the initial success of the LeadershipITE program.

Toward Zero Deaths

The Board approved a motion to support and implement the Toward Zero Deaths National Strategy on Highway Safety as its vision of a highway system free of fatalities. We will work to use the National Strategy to guide its highway safety efforts to the extent practical for the Association and for member departments with the understanding that not all members will adopt a zero-based goal or vision or the National Strategy, or implement every safety countermeasure or program discussed in the National Strategy. ITE’s staff, Councils and Committees will work with external partners to assist in implementing the Toward Zero Deaths vision.

Miscellaneous Items

ITE has developed a membership Payment Plan as an option to paying annually.

• Status of 2014 Professional Development Program - ITE continues to increase its number of web-based seminar offerings and will partner with the National Association of City Transportation Officials to offer a contract-supported series of Seattle and DC based seminars.
• Status of the Transportation Professional Certification Board Inc. - The certification renewal rate for the PTOE stands at 93 percent and 68 percent for the PTP.
• Use of a New E-Balloting Company - A new company was used for International e-balloting for the 2015 officer election. Headquarters staff is very pleased with their capabilities and the western District,
International Director’s Report (continued from page 8)

and maybe Sections and Chapters, may want to pursue their services.

• Fall 2015 conference at the Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson, Arizona, October 28-31 - This meeting will replace the traditional ITE spring technical conference & exhibit. Events at this meeting will include a golf tournament to support the Educational Foundation.

• Under Immediate Past President Zaki Mustafa’s leadership as Chair of the Officers’ Nominations Committee, I will be serving on this Committee to select candidates for the office of International Vice President in 2016.

Upcoming International Meetings

I am already more than half-way through my three-year term on the International Board representing the Western District, along with my co-Directors and friends; Monica Suter and Jennifer Rosales. I look forward to having Alyssa Reynolds join the Board in January and continuing the progress of those who have served the International Board in prior years.

Congratulations to the successful candidates for the 2015 Executive Committee: John Kennedy, President, and Paula Benway, Vice President. I know Ray Davis will continue to be an enthusiastic supporter of ITE and an ambassador for future generations of transportation professionals.

Together, we are the BEST….because we make a difference!

Fall 2014 Annual Meeting Best Paper (continued from page 5)

Table 3: Summary of the Stakeholder Committee Alternatives Ranking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>#1</th>
<th>#2</th>
<th>#3</th>
<th>#4</th>
<th>#5</th>
<th>#6</th>
<th>#7</th>
<th>#8</th>
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<th>Rank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roundabout</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quadrot</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>3.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expanded Signal</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>No-Build</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As summarized in Table 3, the roundabout alternative was the most preferred intersection alternative (eight #1 rankings) among the SC members.

Downtown Circulation Alternatives

One of the primary objectives of the Eagle/State Intersection Concept Study was to explore circulation improvements within downtown that may extend the lifespan the Eagle Road/State Street intersection, address safety performance, and/or address gaps in the pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The Downtown Eagle Plan provided the basis for different circulation alternatives explored as a part of this study.

Members of the general public were asked to choose their top three circulation improvements from the Downtown Eagle Plan and provide feedback on their choices. Table 4 summarizes the number of votes each circulation improvement received.

Table 4: Summary of Public Feedback on Downtown Circulation Improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improvements</th>
<th>Number of Votes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A) Plaza Drive Extension</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C) Palmetto Avenue Extension across State Highway 44</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D) Idaho Street Extension</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B) Stierman Way Extension</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G) Aikens Street Extension</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E) 1st Street Pedestrian Mall</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F) Promote the creation/preservation of an urban grid</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the public feedback, discussions with the SC, and Eagle City Council and ACHD Commission support, the following projects were further developed as a part of this study:

• Plaza Drive Extension
• Aikens Street (East of Eagle Road) Extension
• Aikens Street (West of Eagle Road) and Olde Park Place (South of State Street) Widening/Streetscape
• Olde Park Place (North of State Street) Widening/Streetscape and Idaho Street extension from Eagle Road to Olde Park Place

Project Adoption Process

Following the Eagle/State Intersection Concept Study’s technical analysis, property owner and tenant meeting, public open house, and the last SC meeting, the PMT recommended the Eagle City Council and ACHD Commission endorse the roundabout alternative and the circulation projects developed as a part of the study. The Eagle City Council advertised and conducted the first public hearing on the project. At the public hearing the City Council heard a wide variety of input from the public and unanimously voted in favor of the circulation projects and the no-build alternative at the Eagle/
Western District Committee Updates

The following are updates from the Western District committees:

Legislative

By Tom Mericle, P.E., T.E., MPA, Legislative Committee Chair

The Legislative Committee monitors legislative bills being considered by State legislative bodies in the 13 western states that comprise the Western District, and shares those activities with both the District Board and the District members.

Over the past few months the committee has created a new webpage on the WesternITE website to show current status of active legislative activities and recently approved legislation that may be important to the members of ITE. Please take a look at the new page at: http://westernite.org/aboutus/legislation/

The biggest issue we are tracking this year is the implementation of legislation in California that will affect how California agencies will be evaluating project impacts through new level of service standards. It is likely that other states in the western region may also look to move to these new standards if successful in California. The Western District Board appointed a special task force to address this issue and appointed Eric Ruehr, with VRPA Technologies, Inc., to take the lead as chair. The SB 743 task force has been actively involved in collaborating with the State on implementation guidelines to ensure that they are realistic and can achieve the intended goals of the legislation, while not being overly burdensome to local agencies. ITE’s Western District and its California sections expressed support for this bill at the outset. You can find up-to-date information on the legislative webpage shown above.

The California legislature passed Assembly Bill 1447 that allows traffic signal synchronization to become eligible for greenhouse gas cap-and-trade funds if it is a component of a sustainable infrastructure project. We have also reserved a place on the webpage for interesting articles about transportation legislation. There are a few articles linked on the site and others will be added as appropriate. On April 28, Leo Lee, with Advantec, Inc. and Carlos Ortiz, with RBF/Michael Baker International and our current Western District President, were invited to testify in front of the State of California Assembly Transportation Committee in support of this bill.

If you have any legislative information, would like certain legislation to be tracked and reported, or have an interesting article related to transportation legislation please contact the Legislative Chair, Tom Mericle at tmericle@cityofventura.net. Thanks to Brian Gibson, Kevin Haas, Michelle DeRobertis, Ron Hibbard, Stephen Pouliot, Steve Eagan, and Martin Varona for their contributions as members of the committee, and of course Eric Ruehr for his excellent work on the SB 743 task force.

Public Relations

By Chuck Huffine, P.E., PTOE, AICP, Public Relations Committee Chair

The Public Relations committee is seeking to improve the flow of important information for us to potentially disseminate to people outside of our District. We need a representative from each section and chapter to serve as our liaison to transmit important information on member accomplishments to our committee on a monthly basis – sooner if it’s a really critical news item. Your Newsletter editor or Webmaster are likely candidates since they are already assembling important information to publish. We also need more people to serve on the Public Relations Committee – mainly to help make sure that this information keeps flowing. Contact Chuck at chuck.huffine@jacobs.com.

Richard T. Romer Student Endowment Fund Update

By Kimberly Leung, Richard T. Romer Student Endowment Fund Committee Chair

The purpose of the Student Endowment Fund is to provide a self-sustaining funding source for various student initiatives, which now includes the annual Student Leadership Summit to be hosted by California State University, Sacramento in February of next year. After the District Annual Meeting in Rapid City this summer, the Student Endowment Fund reached the $400,000 milestone! Thank you to all of those who have contributed to get us to this point. Also, a big thank you to all of those who participated in the Ice Bucket #SEFChallenge this summer by making their own ice bucket challenge videos, liking these videos, and making contributions to promote the Endowment Fund. This fundraiser raised more than $1,300. The Student Endowment Fund is getting closer and closer to its ultimate fundraising goal!

Student Initiatives

By Danielle Scharf, P.E., PTOE, LEED AP, Student Initiatives Committee Chair

The following report provides a summary of the 2014 ITE Western District student award winners.

Student Chapter Award

The purpose of the Student Chapter Award is to recognize student chapters that have shown outstanding accomplishments and activities. The winner is selected by a committee that reviews all of the annual reports. This year we received annual reports from 19 student chapters, and the winner was Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. The winner received a plaque, $200 for the chapter’s general fund and $1,000 for travel reimbursement to attend the annual meeting. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo was also the winner of the international student chapter award! Honorable Mention went to Cal Poly Pomona and UCLA. Both of these student chapters received a certificate and $50 for the chapter’s general fund, in addition to the $100 that all student chapters receive for submitting an annual report.

Student Paper Award

The purpose of the Student Paper Award is to encourage student members of the District to conduct and report on independent research and investigation of transportation engineering subjects and to provide a means for recognizing outstanding accomplishment in this area. This year we received seven papers that were reviewed by a committee of

Carlos Ortiz and Leo Lee at the California State Capitol, testifying for AB 1447

(continued on page 11)
Current officers are: Robert DeVassie, President; Susan Melton-Acheson, Vice President; Erica Jensen, Treasurer; Danielle Fay, Secretary; and Nicole Knox, Past President. Elections are to be held in November; we are looking for nominations for Secretary.

- There are now over 100 members in the Alaska Section! To encourage membership, we announced that a gift card drawing would be held after meeting our 100 member goal, and Melissa Branch was the recipient of this drawing.
- The Alaska Section awarded three scholarships to Alaska engineering students at our September lunch meeting. All three of our recipients this year were from the University of Alaska Anchorage. Monica Estrada-Gonzalez was awarded a scholarship for $1,500, and Darya Hurskaya and Christine Meyn were both awarded $1,000 scholarships. The selection of the award recipients was headed by our Scholarship Chair, Dennis Linnell, with applications reviewed by Jason Kewin, Joann Mitchell, and Matt Stone.
- We had beautiful weather and a great turnout for our Annual Member Appreciation BBQ on June 3rd. The BBQ was planned and wonderfully executed by our Membership Chair, Kurt Meehleis, with assistance from Erik Gundersen.
Section and Chapter Reports (continued from page 11)

• Current officers are: **Yuri Mereszczak**, President; **Jeff Jones**, Vice President; **Cody Luper**, Secretary/Treasurer; and **Andrew Cibor**, Past President

• Terry Little of the Ada County Highway District was awarded the James L. Pline Award for outstanding lifetime service to ITE at the ITE Intermountain Section Meeting.

• **Andrew Cibor** of the Ada County Highway District graduated from the inaugural class of LeadershipITE.

• The Chapter sponsored seven students from **Boise State University** and one student from the **University of Idaho** to attend the Intermountain Section Meeting in Jackson, WY.

• The Chapter sponsored seven students from the **University of Idaho** to attend the ITE Annual Meeting & Exhibit in Seattle, WA.

• Professional development opportunities and events have been held regularly within the Section, including “Getting to ‘Yes’ For Traffic Safety” and the upcoming presentation on the I-80/ SR 65 project and Oktoberfest golf tournament in October.

• The NorCal ITE Section continues to make students a priority through our continuous support of the Student Endowment Fund ($1400 was contributed in 2014), and our support and interaction with three student chapters in our Section – Sacramento State University, U.C. Davis, and Chico State University. The Board provided a Student Award to sponsor a deserving student, **Alvin Lam** of UC Davis, with an all-expenses paid scholarship to attend this summer’s ITE Western/Midwestern Joint District meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota.

• The Section's Distinguished Graduate Student Award to sponsor a deserving student, **Mr. Zaki Mustafa**. He gave a brief synopsis of the many different Complete Streets projects he has completed and also has projected in the works.

• RSBITE has awarded the City of Rancho Cucamonga with the Complete Street Agency of the Year Award for their Route 66 Trailhead Project. The Complete Streets Student Scholarship Award recipient was **Bowen Yang**.

• RSBITE put together the Annual Student Presentation Meeting in May, allowing students to showcase their traffic and transportation related projects during the RSBITE professional meetings with opportunities to win cash prizes based on their projects and performance. Three local universities (Cal Poly Pomona, UCLA, and Cal Baptist University) entered the competition and were awarded cash prizes of various amounts.

• This year RSBITE has changed the way we receive sponsorships for the lunch meetings and other various events. Instead of selecting a different sponsor for each event multiple times throughout the year, we’ve allowed vendors to sponsor RSBITE’s events throughout the year by organizing a hierarchical sponsoring system where vendors can contribute at the gold, silver, and bronze level. In return, sponsors are given the opportunity of advertising their products and/or services throughout the year. We are hoping this adjustment will make it easier for both the vendors to sponsor and for us to find the needed contributors throughout the year.
MiteY Race Update

By Cathy Leong, P.E., MiteY Race Coordinator

Thank you to all of the teams that participated in the MiteY Race at the recent Joint Western & Midwestern Districts Annual Meeting in Rapid City, SD! We kicked off the meeting on Saturday with the 4th installment of the race with 9 family/friends and 10 student teams completing fun, but challenging tasks in Downtown Rapid City. The top family & friends teams were:

- 1st Place: Haulin’ Aspelins – Karen, Erik, Klara, and Neil Aspelin from the Western District
- 2nd Place: Mighty NCITErs – Kristi & Claire Sebastian, Steve Manhart, and Tom Campbell from the Midwestern District
- 3rd Place: MiteY Minions – Mark and Alex Spencer from the Western District

The top student teams were:

- 1st Place: J&N Associates – Nicolle Spann and Johnny Truong from Cal Poly Pomona
- 2nd Place: Bruins AlmITEy – Casey Le and Daniel Kim from UCLA
- 3rd Place: Cowboy Joes – Jaime Hepner and Dick Apronti from the University of Wyoming

All of the teams that finished the race were eligible for our Grand Prize drawing of 2 Roku 3 streaming media players. The Grand Prize winners were the Pistol Petes student team from the University of Wyoming.

Finally, thank you to our sponsors, Zaki Mustafa and Rock Miller, for their support of the Student Endowment Fund. Please visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/TheMiteYRace) for photos of this year’s race and updates about next year’s race in Las Vegas, NV!
involved and impacted is not happy with the decision, and in particular with the roundabout alternative. As a result of the project a new community organization has developed, and the City of Eagle and ACHD regularly receive comments and questions regarding the roundabout concept.

**Project Summary**

Implementation of the downtown circulation projects, in conjunction with the roundabout alternative, supports the following goals within the Downtown Eagle Plan (Reference 2):

- Preserve, design, develop, and promote downtown Eagle as the “Heart of Eagle”;
- Make downtown easy to get to for all modes of transportation and all generations – seek to expand and develop an interconnected street and pathway system; and,
- Maintain downtown Eagle as the heart of the community, with pedestrian-friendly streetscapes and ample parking.

The downtown circulation projects also align with the three points of focus in transportation planning within the Downtown Eagle Plan (Reference 2):

- Emphasize and enhance downtown as a destination;
- Give priority to pedestrians, bicyclists, and future transit; and,
- Improve connectivity between downtown Eagle and the rest of the city and surrounding area.

The following benefits are expected with implementation of the downtown circulation projects:

- Small reductions in traffic through the Eagle Road/State Street intersection;
- Improved network connectivity for multiple modes of travel;
- Separated facilities for vehicles and pedestrians, and in some cases bicyclists;
- Alternate routes and/or improved connections for emergency services response;
- An increase in economic development within downtown Eagle with better access to existing businesses and undeveloped or underdeveloped land.

The following benefits are expected with implementation of the roundabout alternative:

- Adequate traffic flow and mobility through the Eagle Road/State Street intersection and reductions in the blocking of nearby intersections;
- Improved safety at the intersection based on national research statistics (Reference 3);
- Improved aesthetics and furthering of a sense of place within downtown Eagle;
- Safety benefits in the vicinity of the intersection due to increased access management reducing the number of conflict points.

**Conclusions**

The Eagle/State Intersection Concept Study accomplished its primary purpose of identifying and prioritizing recommendations for the Eagle Road/State Street intersection and the City of Eagle downtown core. The recommended roundabout alternative for the Eagle/State intersection is expected to provide safety benefits for all modes of travel, improve traffic operations, and enhance the character of downtown Eagle. Programming of the roundabout alternative in ACHD’s Capital Improvement Plan and Integrated Five-Year Work Program (IFYWP) is expected to occur in the near future, which will allow for design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction funding to be applied toward the project.

The recommended downtown circulation projects provide improved network connectivity, street and sidewalk facilities for multiple modes, and support economic development in downtown. The Plaza Drive Extension and Aikens Street (East of Eagle Road) Extension projects have already been programmed within the Economic Development Program in ACHD’s IFYWP. The Economic Development Program is a new addition to ACHD’s IFYWP, allowing funding to be allocated toward projects not normally built through other programs (i.e., roadways, intersections, and community programs), but deemed by ACHD and its partner agencies to provide a positive contribution to both the transportation system and the local economy. The Economic Development program allows for innovative transportation investment in Ada County’s communities to create or directly contribute to a ‘Sense-of-Place’, coordinate previous investments or current commitments, demonstrate effective partnerships for “non transportation” elements of the project, support business growth, expansion and vitality, and create foundations for future community investments according to adopted plans, codes and policies (Reference 4). Through the recommendations of this study, the City of Eagle will also be able to submit applications for the other recommended downtown circulation projects, which would have relied solely on private development funding without ACHD’s new Economic Development Program.

**References**

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B.S. /B.A. Degree in Civil Engineering, Planning, or Computer Science, 5-10 years direct experience in Traffic Operations and/or Intelligent Transportation Systems Project Management consulting, 3-5 years’ experience with ITS Marketing and Business Development efforts, at least 5 years’ experience within the Intelligent Transportation Systems, transit and traffic monitoring, or user information systems.

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Effective project management experience, including all aspects of process development and execution. Strong presentation, communication and negotiations skills. Based anywhere in the United States. Travel is required for customer and sales department meetings, workshops and seminar.

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**Design:** Team leader for traffic engineering design work, including traffic signal design, pavement delineation and roadside signs, traffic control, and roadway design.

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**Field Investigations:** Will be required to perform field investigations for electrical equipment and pavement delineation and roadside sign inventories, as well as for geometric evaluations and radar speed surveys.

**Proposal Preparation:** Assists in the preparation of written proposals for engineering projects, including development of work scopes and cost estimates.

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**Additional Qualifications:**

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