



# items

November 1999  
Vol. 38 No. 10

**The Official Publication of the Illinois Section Institute of Transportation Engineers**

Visit us on the Web at <http://www.ilite.org>

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A couple of years ago, at the Engineer's Week Banquet, the guest speaker spoke about the absence of engineers in the political decision making process. He cited statistics that the vast majority of our representatives are lawyers and only a handful were engineers. The main point of his speech was that technical decisions were being made by non-technical people.

Over the last month or so, this lack of technical input has been evident regarding the future of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (ISTHA). The first issue is related to the raising of the tolls, which have not changed for a number of years. Inflation affects salaries, cost of materials, and other items for all of us and ISTHA is not immune. This should be a fact of life that prices increase. It appears that the toll increase will not happen.

Another issue is that "The tollways were paid for long ago and should be made free." I do not disagree that the toll users have paid for the original system. However, we would still be driving on a four lane I-294 Tri-State. Additional toll revenue has funded major changes in the system including widening projects to keep up with the increases in travel demand. They helped pay for the widening of I-294 to six and eight lanes.

An idea has been proposed to merge ISTHA with IDOT to provide coordinated transportation services in a more cost-effective manner. Again, I don't doubt that cost efficiencies could be attained but I have not heard of a way to pay off the bondholders or replace the loss of \$373 million dollars in annual revenue.

I sat at a village board meeting last month where they expressed frustration over the lack of progress on the extension of Route 53 North. They are bearing the brunt of the traffic congestion on their streets that the extension would help relieve. We need to make our technical voices heard so that the public benefits from our knowledge.

Your President

**Stephen B. Corcoran**  
Metro Transportation Group

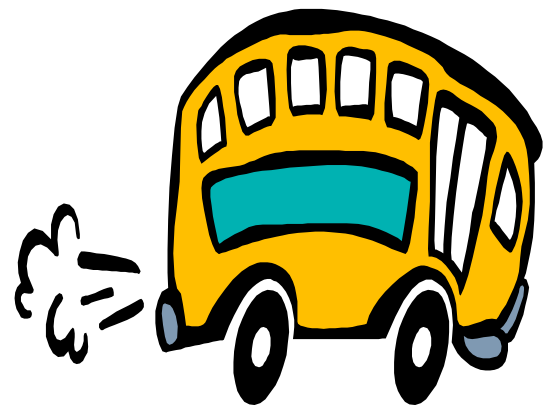
Phone: (630) 213-1000  
[sbc@metrotransportation.com](mailto:sbc@metrotransportation.com)

## ITE Workshop on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in Transit & November Section Meeting

**Date: Thursday, November 18, 1999**

**Please Join Us at the Holiday Inn in  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois**

**See Page 3 of this month's issue of  
ITEMS for more details**



**Next Meeting:** December Luncheon  
Thursday, December 16, 1999  
Maggianno's on Clark



---

## TO BID OR NOT TO BID DESIGN/BUILD AND THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

---

For almost 10 years, three professional design organizations, the Consulting Engineers Council of Illinois, the American Institute of Architects-Illinois Council, and the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, have sought to educate public clients on the benefits of Qualifications Based Selection (QBS). This is the preferred alternative to bidding professional design services, as recommended by the American Public Works Association. In the public sector, certain laws prohibit the use of bidding design professional services. The Brooks Law mandates this at the Federal level, the Qualifications Based Selection Act and the Illinois Procurement Code applies to State agencies, and the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act applies to local government. The last named act exempts Home Rule communities and those local governments with populations greater than 3,000,000. All other local entities including school districts, sanitary districts, library districts, etc. are covered by the local government act.

As part of the educational efforts, licensed professionals employed by government at all levels have been alerted to the potential jeopardy they place themselves by requesting bids for engineering, architectural or land surveying services. Some three years ago, the legal counsel for the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation pointed out that the Department could, "take action against those licensees who enter into contracts in violation of the provisions of the State or Local Act." This admonition applies to either the engineer, architect or land surveyor who solicits the bid as well as the licensed design professional who responds to the invitation to bid.

Over the period that the professional societies have recommended the QBS method, most design selections have not been bid. During that same time, the emphasis has been on the benefits of QBS rather than the legal prohibitions on bidding. But that era of "good old boy" fellowship may be ending. Within the last year at least three complaints have been filed with the Department of Professional Regulation concerning architects who either solicited, or responded to, bid requests. Those cases are pending, but it is interesting that only architects are involved. Are the engineers waiting to see which way the wind blows?

Which brings me to the intent of this article: to inform you, most of whom are employees of service providers and many of whom have been employed 10 years or

less, that you could potentially suffer the loss of your license to practice, be fined, or reprimanded if you bid on engineering or architectural projects involving government funds. So protect yourself and become familiar with the laws in Illinois. The Department's legal counsel recommends that you, "...read both Acts, (State and Local) and, if possible, in their entirety discuss them with private counsel." In this case private counsel would probably be your corporate attorney. "Ignorance of the law is no excuse," is especially true in this instance.

Finally, does Design/Build circumvent the QBS process and open the door to bidding? Insofar as public projects are concerned, no! As pointed out by a member of the Illinois Architecture Licensing Board in a 1998 AIA-Illinois newsletter, "Statutory requirements render design/build very questionable as a legal process for municipal, county, school district, or other governmental projects." The author goes on to say that, "any contract for services or work on a project executed in violation of the provisions of any laws could result in the contract being declared null and void..." In summary, it appears that major changes in Illinois statutes would be required if a public entity chose to use design/build.

If you have any questions regarding any of these matters or want further information, contact:

The Consulting Engineers Council of Illinois  
5221 South Sixth Street Road  
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Phone: (217) 529-7430

or

Visit the Council's website at <http://www.cec-il.org>.

**Mike Hartigan**  
QBS Facilitator Program

(About the author: Mike Hartigan is a retired professional engineer with government and private sector experience, currently serving as a volunteer QBS Facilitator. The QBS Facilitator Program is a free public service offered to assist persons in establishing a professional selection procedure.)



**Workshop on:  
Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in Transit &  
November Section Meeting**

Thursday November 18  
Holiday Inn, Glen Ellyn

The Illinois ITE Section is sponsoring a half-day workshop on *ITS in Transit*, followed by the regular section meeting considering the local perspective. The workshop will provide a broad ITS overview, then focus on potential ITS roles, functions and technologies in transit (*APTS*, Advanced Public Transportation Systems). Sample applications to be discussed include global position satellite tracking of transit vehicles for bus management and traveler information ("When's that bus going to be here?"), fully automated fare collection, and bus priority operations. The instructor will be Carol Schweiger, who works with the Volpe Transportation Center in Cambridge, MA on ITS transit projects and training. The workshop is intended to provide an overview, but with ample opportunity to ask questions about specific applications and technologies.

Following the workshop will be the November Section Meeting, a panel discussion of local transit agency perspectives on ITS and *APTS*. After brief presentations covering on-going and planned activities, there will be discussion of key issues and audience questions. The likely line-up will be representatives of the RTA, CTA, and either Metra or Pace (Suburban) Bus.

**Date:** Thursday, November 18, 1999

**Time:** Workshop - 8 a.m. to noon  
Registration opens at 7:30 a.m.,  
Continental Breakfast at 7:45 a.m.

Cash (Beer) Bar open noon - 12:30 p.m.

Buffet Lunch - 12:30 p.m.  
& Section Meeting

**Location:** Holiday Inn, Glen Ellyn  
1250 Roosevelt Rd.  
(NW corner of Roosevelt Rd. & Finley Rd. ~ 1/2 mi. east of I-355)

**Cost:** *see below*

-----  
Mail check to:

**Michael Garrow  
PTG Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc.  
300 W. Washington, #610  
Chicago, IL 60606**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one:)

Workshop & Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ \$40 if mailed on or before Nov. 5, \$50 after

Workshop Only \_\_\_\_\_ \$25

Lunch Only \_\_\_\_\_ \$25

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The Illinois Section is please to welcome the following new members to the Section:

**Hugo Holmes** Chicago Department of Transportation

**Sharmila Mukherjee** Barton-Aschman Associates, Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.

The following applications are currently being reviewed:

**Peter Wojtkiewicz** Metro Transportation Group, Inc.

**Terry Short, Jr.** T.Y. Lin International/BASCOR, Inc.


Congratulations to our new members of the Illinois Section! Please feel free to join any standing committees (see the back of the *ITEMS* for phone numbers) or if you want to create your own committee, call **Rolf Kilian** at (630) 213-1000.



**H. W. LOCHNER, INC.,** (312) 372-7346  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND PLANNERS FAX (312) 372-8208  
20 NORTH WACKER DRIVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606



500 PARK BOULEVARD • SUITE 250 • ITASCA, IL 60143  
(630) 773-3900 • FAX (630) 773-3975



Champaign, IL (217) 373-8900  
Evansville, IN (812) 471-4802  
Chicago, IL (312) 648-9900  
Indianapolis, IN (317) 259-4644  
Kenosha, WI (414) 657-1550


ENVIRONMENTAL • TRANSPORTATION  
MECHANICAL • ELECTRICAL  
STRUCTURAL • CONSTRUCTION MGT.



Transportation Solutions...  
...that Meet the Test of Time

8501 West Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631  
773.399.0112  
773.399.0170 FAX  
www.gasai.com

also Milwaukee • Green Bay • Madison, Wisconsin



Tom McGlynn  
Sales Development Manager  
708-338-5425

Kari Jerich Brunn  
Sales Representative  
800-949-2196

3M Traffic Control Materials Division  
Suite 300  
Four Westbrook Corporate Center  
Westchester, IL 60154-5707



TRAFFIC ENGINEERING  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING  
SIGNAL SYSTEMS/DESIGN

**METRO TRANSPORTATION GROUP, INC.**

CORPORATE OFFICE:  
1300 GREENBROOK BOULEVARD  
HANOVER PARK, IL 60103-5495  
TELEPHONE 630 213-1000 FAX 630 213-3227

70 E. LAKE STREET, SUITE 815  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601  
TELEPHONE 312 853-0820 FAX 312 853-0836

www.metrotransportation.com

OTHER OFFICES:  
FT. MYERS, FL



## ITE Illinois Section Annual Banquet

---

Please join us for the Y2K ITE Annual Banquet.

---

This year's banquet will be held at the **Wellington**, in Arlington Heights, IL. Details are as follows:

**Friday, January 21, 2000**

6:00 PM – Cash Bar

7:00 PM – Dinner

WELLINGTON OF ARLINGTON  
2121 South Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, Illinois  
(847) 439-6610

Cost: \$25 per person  
in advance or at the door

To make reservations, call Jeff Young at (630) 773-3900 or Javier Millan at (847) 518-9990. You can either mail your check or bring it to the door, but we must have all reservations in by Friday, January 13, 2000. The meal choices are:

- 1) Prime Rib with double baked potato, or
- 2) Chicken Ala Wellington, which is marinated in wine sauce and served on a bed of rice.

Both dinners include soup, salad, vegetable, roll baskets with butter, and Chocolate Mousse for dessert.

**Directions:** The Wellington is conveniently located just north of I-90 on the east side of Arlington Heights Road. Take I-90 to the Arlington Heights Road exit, and go north. Proceed through the Algonquin Road intersection and the restaurant will be on your right. Please refer to the map.



## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS IN TRANSPORTATION



The Illinois Section of ITE will be awarding a \$2000 scholarship to a full-time undergraduate sophomore, junior, or senior student in an Illinois College or University with course work and career goal emphasis on Transportation Engineering or Transportation Planning. The scholarship check will be presented at the Illinois Section's annual January dinner meeting.

If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please request a scholarship application. Applications are due by **Friday, December 10, 1999**.

### *To Obtain Scholarship Applications:*

1. Contact Mr. Dorin Fera  
c/o Patrick Engineering Inc  
4985 Varsity Drive  
Lisle, IL 60532-4144  
Phone (630) 434-7050, Fax (630) 434-8400
2. e-mail: [dfera@patrickengineering.com](mailto:dfera@patrickengineering.com)
3. Download this Scholarship application from the Illinois Section ITE web site at:

<http://www.ilite.org/Scholarship>

Completed applications must be received by: **DECEMBER 10, 1999**



---

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

---

**Baxter & Woodman, Inc.**, a growing and progressive employee-owned civil/environmental consulting firm, is seeking qualified candidates for the following positions in our offices in *Crystal Lake, Oak Forest, and DeKalb Illinois, and Burlington, Wisconsin*:

➤ **Transportation Engineers**

Applicants must possess a B.S. in Civil Engineering or Master's degree with an emphasis in transportation engineering. Typical projects include studies and detailed design for street reconstruction, restoration and rehabilitation; pavement widening and resurfacing; storm water drainage; traffic signal installation; parking lots and bike paths; streetscapes and streetlighting. Opportunities are available for persons with various levels of experience. Positions for both project managers and project engineers are available. E.I.T. registration required as a minimum.

➤ **CAD Operator/Field Technician**

Applicants should have a minimum of 3 years experience in field surveys, CAD, and inspection of sewer, water, and/or transportation projects. Ideal candidate has proficiency in AutoCAD and SoftDesk for Water, Wastewater, and Highway design work. Good interpersonal skills are essential.

➤ **Construction Project Managers**

Applicants must have a minimum of 3 years experience in construction inspection of wastewater treatment plants, water treatment plants, sewer, water or transportation projects, and experience in construction stakeout work. Good interpersonal communication skills are essential.

Please mail, Fax or e-mail cover letter and resume to:

**Vice-President - Engineering Services Division**

Baxter & Woodman, Inc.  
8678 Ridgfield Road  
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60012

Phone: 815/459-1260  
FAX: 815/455-0450  
E-mail: [info@baxwood.com](mailto:info@baxwood.com)



E/O/E Smoke-Free Drug-Free M/F

---

---

Would you like **TWENTY-SIX 3-DAY WEEKENDS PER YEAR?** How about flexible working hours, a great working environment and other excellent benefits? If so, and you possess the skills we need, call us. We have immediate openings for the following positions:

➤ **Traffic Engineer**

**Metro Transportation Group, Inc. (Metro)** has an opening for a Traffic Engineer with a B.S.C.E. or related field with three to six years experience in conducting traffic engineering/planning studies. Duties call for experience in managing projects, budgets and directing others. A good understanding and use of HCS, Passer II & III, TEAPAC and other traffic engineering software is desirable.

Contact:

**Rolf P. Kilian**

Metro Transportation Group, Inc.  
1300 Greenbrook Blvd.  
Hanover Park, IL 60103-5459  
Phone: (630) 213-1000

➤ **Traffic Engineer & Design Engineer**

**Southwest Transportation Engineering, Inc. (SWTE)**, a Metro Transportation Group, Inc. Company, has openings for a Traffic Engineer and a Design Engineer in their Fort Myers, Florida Office. Growth at SWTE calls for a B.S.C.E. or related field with two to six years of experience in conducting traffic engineering/planning studies and/or preparing traffic signal design plans. Duties call for experience in managing projects, budgets, and directing others. A good understanding and use of HCS, PASSER II and III, TRANSYT-7F, TEAPAC and other traffic engineering software is desirable.

Contact:

**James Banks**

Southwest Transportation Engineering, Inc. (SWTE)  
1342 Colonial Blvd., Bldg. D - Suite 30,  
Ft. Myers, FL 33907-1008  
Phone: (941) 278-3090

or

**Rolf P. Kilian**

Metro Transportation Group, Inc.  
1300 Greenbrook Blvd.  
Hanover Park, IL 60103-5495  
Phone: (630) 213-1000

---



**ITE ILLINOIS SECTION CALENDAR**

November 18	ITE - Illinois Section Seminar on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in Transit and <b>November</b> Luncheon at the Holiday Inn in Glen Ellyn
November 24	Deadline for advertisements and articles for <b>December</b> issue of <i>ITEMS</i>
December 16	ITE - Illinois Section <b>December</b> Luncheon at Maggiano's
January 21	ITE - Illinois Section <b>Annual Banquet</b> at the Wellington in Arlington Heights

Events are always welcome for this calendar, please contact the *ITEMS* Editors.

**Parsons  
Transportation  
Group**

- Traffic Engineering/Transportation Planning
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Civil/Traffic Signal Design
- Environmental Assessment/Landscape Architecture
- Parking Planning & Design

Offices Located Throughout the United States

---

- Barton-Aschman • Dr. Leuw, Cather • Steinman
- 300 West Washington Street, Suite 610
- Chicago, Illinois 60606-1720
- tel. 312.917.3000 • fax. 312.917.1329



www.internationaltraffic.com

**INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC CORPORATION**

**COUNTERS • CLASSIFIERS • WIM •  
TURNING MOVEMENT COUNTERS •  
REPAIRS • PARTS • UPGRADES •  
SENSORS • GROUT**

2402 Spring Ridge Dr. Suite E  
Spring Grove, IL 60081-8693

Ph (815) 675-1430  
Fax (815) 675-1530



**TRAFFIC CONTROL  
CORPORATION**

**MICHAEL WILLIAMS**  
VICE PRESIDENT

1-800-996-6511  
FAX: (630) 889-9419  
PAGER: 1-800-759-7243  
PIN #: 4199011

1040 N. MAIN ST.  
LOMBARD, IL 60148  
(630) 889-4444

Maynard Abuan / Peter Lemmon  
 c/o Metro Transportation Group, Inc.  
 1300 Greenbrook Blvd.  
 Hanover Park, IL 60103-5482

FIRST CLASS MAIL

---

**ILLINOIS ITE SECTION OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

---

<b>OFFICERS</b>		
President	Steve Corcoran	(630) 213-1000
Vice President	Rolf Kilian	(630) 213-1000
Secretary	Dominick Gatto	(312) 782-1255
Treasurer	Dawn Marincic	(847) 491-5040

<b>ACTIVITIES GROUP</b>		
Director	Jeff Young	(630) 773-3900
<b>Committees:</b>		
House	Mary Leising Javier Millan	(630) 213-1000 (847) 518-9990
Special Events	Todd Fagen	(773) 506-8498
Program	David Boyce Kim Kolody ext. 245	(312) 996-3430 (773) 693-3800
Awards	John Sauter	(847) 362-3950

<b>TECHNICAL GROUP</b>		
Director	Jim Powell	(312) 930-5165
<b>Committees:</b>		
Seminars	Michael Garrow	(312) 917-3000
Transportation Planning	Eric Russell	(312) 917-3032
ITS	Jim Powell	(312) 930-5165
Traffic Safety	Joe Fazio	(773) 282-2192

<b>STUDENT AFFAIRS GROUP</b>		
Director	Karen George	(312) 917-3025
<b>Committees:</b>		
Scholarship	Michael Zorn Dorin Fera	(312) 372-3011 (630) 434-7050
Student Internship	Marc Start	(312) 917-3000
Student Activities	Marcie Schatz	(630) 305-5992

<b>PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP</b>		
Director	Monte Chen	(312) 603-1661
<b>Committees:</b>		
Public Relations	Mark Rinnan	(312) 251-3000
Legislative Affairs	Dan Loftus	(312) 939-7704
Conference Coordi- nation	C. Kropidowski	(312) 744-4866

<b>OPERATIONS GROUP</b>		
Director	Chris Krueger	(312) 744-4685
<b>Committees:</b>		
Records & Mailing	Reid Fellows	(630) 213-1000
Ambassador	Tom Hein	(847) 697-6700
Web Site	YoungJae Ju	(312) 930-9119
Advertising	Jeff Pisha	(630) 213-1000
<b>ITEMS</b>	Maynard Abuan Peter Lemmon	(630) 213-1000 (630) 213-1000