



items

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June Luncheon

Join Us at Maggiano's

Date: June 28, 2001
Time: Reception - 11:30 A.M.
 Luncheon - 12:00 P.M.
Speaker: Chris Krueger
 Chicago Department of Transportation
Topic: LED Signal Feasibility & Implementation Study
Location: Maggiano's
 516 N. Clark
 Chicago, Illinois

For reservations or further information, contact Joe Emry or Joel Christell at 630.773.3900 on or before June 26, 2000.

Cost: \$25 per person
 (\$12 for students)

Next Month: No July or August Luncheon. Join us for the Illinois Section September Luncheon at Maggiano's in downtown Chicago on Thursday, September 20, 2001.

President's Message

There is a lot taking place during the next three months that belies the notion that summer is a time to take it easy. ITE has long been recognized as supporting the advancement of the field of traffic engineering and planning through research and dissemination of information. The quality and magnitude of seminars, conferences, books, publications and magazines available to our membership has solidified ITE as one the leading professional societies in the world. During this summer you can take advantage of many of these technical opportunities, and also have a good time with fellow professionals.

The first and probably most important is to help transportation students gather "real world" engineering and planning experience. The Transportation Research Board (TRB) and other professional organizations report that the shortage of qualified transportation professionals is a problem we all need to address. As part of the Section's efforts to attract young people to the profession, **Craig Moore** at 312-930-5224 is collecting summer job openings for college students interested in transportation. Craig is compiling a list of the job openings and sending them to schools in the area. They will also be posted on the Section's web site at www.ilite.org. We hope that maybe someone your organization hires may become a future transportation professional and employee!

Events sponsored or co-hosted by the Illinois Section this summer that you need to pay special attention to are:

- **June 21-22:** District IV Annual Meeting at Wisconsin Dells. ITE District 4 consists of the following sections: Illinois, Wisconsin, North Central (Minnesota, North and South Dakota), and the Missouri Valley (Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska,

Oklahoma, and Kansas). There will be over 100 people in attendance at the Annual Meeting. There is a very comprehensive technical program, excellent spouse and social programs, and an extensive exhibit area of traffic equipment suppliers and consultants. Contact **David Dryer** at (608) 266-4761.



- **June 28:** Illinois Section's next luncheon and last one until September is at Maggiano's in Chicago. The speaker will be Mr. Chris Krueger of Chicago DOT; and, his talk will be about a LED Signal Investigation in the City of Chicago. Contact **Joel Christell** or **Joe Emry** at (630) 773-3900.

- **August 19-22:** ITE 2001 Annual Meeting and Exhibit will be held at Hyatt Regency Chicago. You should have received a registration packet and program by now. If not, contact ITE's **Donna Ford** at (202) 289-0222 x140, and/or **John LaPlante** (773) 792-8335 or **James Morton** (847) 776-7200.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

- **September (Date to be Announced):** Section will hold its Annual Golf Outing. Last year it was held at the Fresh Meadow Golf Course in Hillside. Several team and individual prizes will be awarded. Keep this event in mind, and look for a post card from the Section and the next issue of ITEMS for details. Contact is **Reid Fellows** at (630) 213-1000.

Please contact me if you need information about any of the above activities of the Sec-

tion. We hope to see you at one or more of these events. Have an enjoyable summer.

Your President,

Dominick J. Gatto
 Wilbur Smith Associates
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Transportation @ ITEMS

"Caught In The Web"

Now that *ITEMS* has changed from a monthly publication to a quarterly publication, "Website of the Month" doesn't quite work anymore. With a couple of months between issues, *ITEMS* will try to feature a topic with a few websites providing relative information.

This issue's featured topic is Transportation Demand Management (TDM). The following four websites provide information and statistics about programs to increase the efficiency of travel demand on our transportation system.

- <http://www.nctr.usf.edu/clearinghouse>

This website provides vast amounts of information including TDM topics in the news, database of statistics for transportation management associations, and methods for businesses and agencies to implement TDM programs.

- <http://ntl.bts.gov/DOCS/273.html>

In a basic report format, this page provides technical information on the TDM topic. The report summarizes TDM, lists TDM alternatives/strategies, myths/realities, and some of the methodology needed to implement a TDM program.

- <http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/...CDD/envirotrans/tdm/index.html>

This featured site provides information and links for the City of Cambridge, MA Trans-

portation Demand Management Programs. The site lists items such as general announcements, participating business awards, reports, resources, and descriptions of some programs (Bicycle Parking, Alternative modes for city employees, and Business Outreach Programs).



- http://eco.pdc.cornell.edu/Green_Programs/TDMP.htm

The final website highlights a TDM program at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY to reduce congestion, need for parking spaces on campus, emissions, and preserve campus character. The site provides an overview, options for participants, programs, benefits, awards, and links to more information.

Did you know?

Every bus load of people transported down the freeway at 55 miles per hour, eliminates 1/2 mile of traffic.

Roundabout Committee Is Off And Running... In A Circle

The first ever meeting of the prestigious Illinois Section's Roundabout Committee took place after the April, 2001 regular ITE luncheon meeting. In attendance were the following:

Tony Khawaja	Lake County DOT
Kevin Bischel	Village of Hoffman Estates
June Druckman	Village of Schaumburg
John Sauter	Lake County DOT
Dorin Fera	Metro Transportation Group

The meeting got off to a great start, as I had originally had commitments from two other people, besides myself, and then one of those had to bow out due to work overload. But instead, as luck would have it, three brave new colleagues joined the tour. What a stroke of good fortune...ehh.

It now appears that during and after the National meeting in Nashville last year, roundabouts have become a hot ticket item. They've actually been around for a long time in one form or another, as we heard during the luncheon presentation.

So, the first point of business was to basically choose an official name and discuss the purpose of our existence. But since no one was really sure how to do this, and since I had left the bylaws at home, we settled on the fact that we needed to form this committee before the AIA's and JD's of this community started one of their own.

Our second and final point of business was to

discuss amongst ourselves potential applications of roundabouts in the Midwest. And, while we all agreed that roundabouts are a very useful intersection traffic control and design tool, we do not wish to see roundabouts on every corner. So, the big focus/purpose of this committee, as I see it, is to become a warehouse of local, national, and international roundabout information. And then, to share that with the various local agencies, municipalities, and associations, so that roundabout applications are effectively, purposefully, strategically investigated, and designed. We've got enough dumb drivers... Let's surprise them with some smart roads.

Our next actions are to try to attend the Roundabout Design Workshop on June 18th – 20th in advance of the District IV Meeting in the Wisconsin Dells. And our next meeting will likely take place at the Dells, depending on how many from this committee attend. A suburban meeting for this committee is also in the works to show some video footage that I have taken of a local roundabout in Rochester Hills, MI.

In the meantime, the US roundabout production is up to 0.85 roundabouts per month. So, what are you waiting for... Join the ITE Illinois Section Roundabout Committee and get in on the fun.

Dorin Fera
Roundabout Committee Chair
df@metrotransportation.com



Transportation Trivia

Question:

In 1914, the first traffic signal in the united states was installed in what city?

Answer: See page 8

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Illinois Section Student Scholarship Fund Donation

On May 17, 2000, a friend and colleague, Gerald E. Lindgren passed away. Jerry was a co-founder of Kenig, Lindgren, O'Hara, Aboona, Inc. (KLOA, Inc.), which he helped establish in, May 1995. As everyone who knew or worked with him, Jerry was a true professional and a great friend that has been greatly missed by his friends and family.

"It has been a year since you left us and we still find ourselves talking to you, constantly seeking your advice as if you were here with us today. We miss you. May God rest your soul in peace."

In memory of Jerry Lindgren, KLOA, Inc. is donating \$1,000.00 to the ITE's Illinois section student scholarship fund.

Employment Opportunities

Would you like TWENTY-SIX 3-DAY WEEK-ENDS 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. has openings for Entry Level Traffic Engineers in their Hanover Park, IL (Chicago Area) office. Growth at Metro calls for a B.S.C.E. or related field. Duties would include conducting traffic engineering/planning studies. A good understanding and use of transportation related software is desirable.

Please submit resume, in confidence to:

Rolf P. Kilian
1300 Greenbrook Blvd.
Hanover Park, IL 60103-5495

Phone: (630) 213-1000
E-Mail: rp@metrotransportation.com
www.metrotransportation.com

Design Engineer

Metro Transportation Group Inc. has openings for a Design Engineer in their Fort Myers, Florida office. Candidate will be responsible for preparation of traffic signal design plans, traffic signal systems design, and street lighting plans. Minimum of 5 years experience. Florida P.E. preferred or ability to obtain within 6 months.

Do you have employment opportunities?

Advertise your job opening in *ITEMS*. Contact your *Items* editor for information.

Peter Lemmon
312.853.0820
pcl@metrotransportation.com



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A Request For Technical Articles

As many members know, ITEMS has now switched from a monthly newsletter to a seasonal publication. One of the various reasons for the change was the lack of content consistently presented in each issue. ITEMS has some features which appear in every issue including the President's Message, a featured website on transportation related topics, employment opportunities, and an Illinois Section calendar of events.

Some issues provide a technical article or an update of activities by an Illinois Section technical committee. Technical articles and committee updates were not regularly appearing in the monthly issues. Now that ITEMS is published every three months, each issue should contain more content. In order for this to occur, I encourage all members to submit technical articles they would like to share for publication. If you've presented at a transportation conference, consider creating a written version for ITEMS.

In addition to technical articles based on unique projects or research, I also encourage Illinois Section technical committee chairs to

update section members on the activities of their respective committees. I'd like to thank Dorin Fera and Joe Fazio for providing updates on their committee activities in this issue.



ITEMS is a great communicative tool and a source of pride for the Illinois Section. I thank you for your contributions to the Illinois Section ITE newsletter.

Peter Lemmon
ITEMS Editor
pcl@metrotransportation.com



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For further Information...

Please contact **joe fazio** at **fazio@iit.edu** to receive a handout for the traffic safety committee meeting and the traffic crash reporting system report.

Summary of The Traffic Safety Technical Committee Meeting

The Illinois Section ITE Traffic Safety Technical Committee had its meeting on March 28. Participants distributed and presented much material to the attendees.

At the beginning of the meeting, the committee chair reminded the attendees of the goal of the committee, i.e., to produce a white paper report on the City of Chicago's traffic crash reporting system and traffic crash statistics. The chair recapped the tasks formulated at the previous meeting and mentioned that the committee has completed them. With the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), the committee defined six sampling areas; each area was approximately one square mile. Each area represents a unique region of Chicago, as shown in Exhibit 1. To cross-check CDOT generated High Hazard Reports (HHRs) with hard copies of Chicago Police Department (CPD) accident report forms, CDOT generated the High Hazard Reports for the six sampling areas for 1996, 1997 and 1998. Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) students visited Chicago Police Department headquarters to get the necessary copies of accident report forms. Due to the vastness of crash data, the committee randomly selected the Northwest Side area to be the focus study area. Exhibit 2 describes the current database of the Traffic Safety Technical Committee. Also, an IIT student used CPD CD-ROM data for a senior project; the committee plans to incorporate some of his work into the final report.

Joe Fazio gave a half-hour presentation on the comparison of CDOT HHRs intersection crash reports to corresponding CPD accident reports that had diagrams or narratives. He distributed a summary of results during the meeting, as shown in Exhibit 3. He uncovered no significant difference between on-scene report and not on-scene report data sets so he combined the data sets to increase the sample size. Most discrepancies were insignificant. However, 12.5% of CDOT's intersection-related crash reports were not intersection-related according to the diagrams and narratives; this is significant. Approximately, 99% of the 12.5% were crashes that involved parked vehicles near the intersections; the remaining crash(es) dealt with

crashes that happened on parking lots near intersections. This finding suggests that some drivers and officers are confused on the definition of an intersection-related crash when they report the crash. Many jurisdictions define intersection-related crashes as any crash that happens within the intersection or within 100 feet on an approach that involves intersection traffic. One hundred feet roughly equals the width of three property lots (75 feet) plus the border width (sidewalk, planted strip, etc.). Further, traffic crashes that happen on intersection egresses are not intersection-related crashes.

Dick Raub gave the next half-hour presentation. He compared intersection-related crashes extracted from the CPD's CD-ROM for the Northwest Side sampling area in 1998 to the CDOT HHRs and confirmed his findings with hard copy CPD accident reports. He handed out the material summarized in Exhibit 4 to support his preliminary analyses. He presented that approximately 10% to 20% of the intersection-related crashes from the CD-ROM data for the Northwest Side sampling area were not listed in CDOT's HHRs. In other words, the software CDOT used in 1998 and may still be using to generate its HHRs is not picking-up all crashes that are coded as intersection related or at intersection with. CDOT software is consistently undercounting intersection-related crashes. Dick Raub elaborated further that it appears that as reported intersection crashes increase, the closer the undercount approaches 20%. As fewer reported-crashes happen at an intersection, the undercount approaches 10%. Dick Raub mentioned that this is his preliminary analysis; he will need more time to complete it.

The committee chair spoke about future tasks facing the committee. Once Dick Raub completes his analyses, the committee can begin incorporating the findings and statistics into a comprehensive whole for the final report. Dick Raub mentioned that he probably complete his tasks in June or July. With that, the committee chair adjourned the meeting.

(Continued on page 7)



Summary of The Traffic Safety Technical Committee Meeting

(Continued from page 6)

EXHIBIT 1

Descriptions of the six sample areas

1. LOOP

The area bounded by Randolph St. (150 N.) and State St. (1 E.) and Van Buren St. (400 S.) and Franklin St. (300 W.).

2. SOUTH SIDE

The area bounded by 103rd St. (10300 S.) and Wabash St. (45 E.) and 111th St. (11100 S.) and Halsted St. (800 W.).

3. SOUTHWEST SIDE

The area bounded by 47th St. (4700 S.) and Pulaski Rd. (4000 W.) and 55th St. (5500 S.) and Cicero Ave. (4800 W.).

4. NORTHWEST SIDE

The area bounded by Montrose Ave. (4400

N.) and Cicero Ave. (4800 W.) and Addison Ave. (3600 N.) and Central Ave. (5600 W.).

5. WEST SIDE

The area bounded by Roosevelt Rd. (1200 S.) and Kedzie Ave. (3200 W.) and Cermak Rd. (2200 S.) and Pulaski Rd. (4000 W.).

6. NORTH SIDE

The area bounded by Peterson Ave. (6000 N.) and Sheridan Rd. (1000 W.) and Foster Ave. (6200 N.) and Ravenswood Ave. (1800 W.).

Note: Each sample area is approximately one square mile.

Joe Fazio
Traffic Safety Committee Chair
fazio@iit.edu

2001 District IV Annual Meeting June 21-22 @ Wisconsin Dells

Includes:

Illinois Section
Wisconsin Section
North Central Section
Missouri Valley Section

Features:

Technical Presentations
Social Programs
Traffic Product/Service Exhibit Area

For Information, Please Contact:

David Dryer at (608) 266-4761



50th Annual

Illinois Traffic Engineering & Safety Conference

When: October 18th & 19th, 2001
Where: Holiday Inn
1101 Killarney Street
Urbana, Illinois

Transportation Trivia

Answer:
Cleveland, Ohio



For questions or additional information, please contact:

R.F. Benekahal
Conference Director
1201 Newmark Civil Engineering Laboratory (MC-250)
Urbana, Illinois 61801-2397
Phone: 217 . 244 . 6288
Fax: 217 . 333 . 9464

ITE Illinois Section Calendar

June 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Upcoming Dates

- June 21-22* ITE District 4
35th Annual Conference
Wisconsin Dells
- June 28* Illinois Section **June** Luncheon
Maggiano's (Chicago)
- August 19-22* ITE 2001 Annual Meeting & Exhibit
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
- August 30* Deadline for Advertisements &
Articles for the **September** issue of
ITEMS

Future Important Dates

- September 20* Illinois Section **September** Luncheon
Maggiano's (Chicago)
- October 18* University of Illinois at Champaign-
Urbana Traffic and Safety
Conference
- October 18* Illinois Section **October** Luncheon
U of I Traffic & Safety Conference



Please submit important dates for future ite events

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