



NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS



September 2007

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer, be it going on vacations, doing some work around the house, or maybe just hanging around town. The Illinois Section has been busy over the past few months nonetheless. This year, the Midwestern District Conference was held in St. Louis, Missouri on June 13th - 15th. Although I was not able to attend, I understand that the conference went well. Next year, the Illinois Section will be hosting the Midwestern District Conference in Chicago on July 6th - 8th at the Hard Rock Hotel. I think the planning committee is arranging a great conference with interesting and timely presentation topics, worthwhile technical tours, and a great location and atmosphere in downtown Chicago along Michigan Avenue and near the lake-front. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details. I hope to see you there.

We continued our summer activities with the Section's June Luncheon. As we have in recent years, the June luncheon was held in conjunction with ASCE in at Maggiano's in Oak Brook, Illinois. Thank you to **Randy Blankenhorn** for joining us to speak about Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning's (CMAP) role in improving transportation in Illinois.

Although no Section luncheons were held in July and August due to the vacations and activities we all have throughout the summer season, a number of ITE events did take place. The annual Illinois Section Golf Outing was held on July 19th at Bloomingdale Golf Club in, you guessed it, Bloomingdale, Illinois. By all accounts, the event was a success for those who participated as well as for the Illinois Section's Scholarship Fund. Proceeds from this year's event raised \$500 for the Scholarship Fund and will go a long way to helping provide deserving two scholarships and a student paper award to three Illinois Section college students. Thank you to **Joel Christell**, the Activities Group, and all who participated in the event as golfers or as sponsors. I am looking forward to more successful golf outings in the years to come.

After the popularity of the HCS+ technical seminar in late May and the strong interest in the topic by those not able register for the first one before it filled up, the Technical Group set up an expanded second session on July 25th and 26th. Thank you to **Kim Kolody** and **Michael Pompili** for putting everything together and continuing to look into other potential opportunities. I attended the July 26th session and thought everything went very well. Please stay tuned for other technical seminar opportunities sponsored by the Section in coming the months as the Technical Group is currently looking into arranging a third event of the year.

I was fortunate enough to attend the ITE Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this past

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**SEPTEMBER JOINT
LUNCHEON**

Join us for a joint luncheon with the ISPE DuKane Chapter at the Holiday Inn Select, 1801 North Naperville Blvd, Naperville, IL

Date: September 20, 2007

Time: Reception - 11:30 A.M.

Luncheon - 12:00 P.M.

Cost: \$40 private sector members
\$15 public sector members
\$12 Students

Speaker: Rosemarie Andolino

Topic: O'Hare Expansion and the Role of OMP



ILLINOIS STUDENT BEST PAPER—\$1,000 AWARD

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Illinois Section is seeking papers from students who were members of ITE during the period between April 2007 and December 2007 and enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in Illinois. The award consists of \$1,000 and a plaque presented at the ITE—Illinois Section Annual Dinner Banquet in January, 2008.

In order to be eligible for the award the student must have completed the work that provides the basis for the paper while a student member of ITE and must be the only author. Co-authors are not permitted.

The manuscript must address a transportation engineering subject and be submitted in English. The maximum length of the manuscript is 15 double-spaced, typed pages. The page limit also includes title page, table of contents and any attachments; the pages must be equal to or less

than 15. The title page must have the title of the paper plus the author's name, ITE District Number (District 4), and mailing address where you can be contacted between December 2007 and January 2008. Evaluation criteria consists of Originality – 20%, Significance – 20%, Scope and Format – 20%, Validity – 20%, and Applicability – 20%.

The deadline for submittal is midnight, Friday, November 30, 2007. Manuscripts should be submitted to:

Sara Disney, Illinois ITE Scholarship Chair
c/o Metro Transportation Group, Inc.
3100 West Higgins Road, Suite 100
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169
(630) 213-1000

Or e-mail your submittal to:
sjd@metrotransportation.com

APPLY FOR NOW ILLINOIS SECTION SCHOLARSHIPS

Application are now being taken for two ITE Illinois Section Scholarship Awards. The Scholarship is an award of \$2,000 each, which is to be used to offset education costs. Applications must be received by midnight Central Standard Time, Friday, November 30, 2007. The award is presented annually to encourage students to consider transportation engineering or transportation planning in their studies and career aspiration, and to provide partial financial support to students who have demonstrated an interest and are likely to work in the transportation field. To be eligible for a scholarship, you must be a full-time undergraduate sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student in an Illinois College or University, with course work and career goal emphasis on Transportation Engineering or Transportation Planning. Candidates will be evaluated on the basis of academic performance, education plans, career goals, activities, and record of leadership. Final evaluation will be made on the basis of a complete application, a statement of career objectives and past accomplishments, and two let-

ters of recommendation (at least one from a Transportation or Planning faculty member). The Scholarship is for one academic year and is not renewable. Only one scholarship will be awarded to each winner. The winners of the Scholarships will be presented their awards and introduced at the January 2008 meeting of the Illinois Section to be held in the Chicago region. The recipient must make arrangements to attend this meeting. The scholarship check will be issued at that time upon verification of enrollment in a full-time program conforming to stated educational objectives. To apply for this scholarship contact:

Sara Disney, Illinois ITE Scholarship Chair
c/o Metro Transportation Group, Inc.
3100 West Higgins Road, Suite 100
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169
(630) 213-1000
sjd@metrotransportation.com

Additional information is also available on the web at <http://www.ilite.org/studentaffairs/scholarshipinfo.htm>

ITEms is the official publication of the Illinois Section Institute of Transportation Engineers. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect official Institute or Illinois Section policy unless so stated. Advertisements do not constitute endorsements of products or services. Submissions of articles, comments, or letters to the editor are encouraged and appreciated.



DECEMBER NETWORKING AND HOLIDAY PARTY

BENEFITING THE ILLINOIS SECTION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The second annual after business hours networking event is scheduled for the December 2007 meeting. This holiday get together is scheduled for Thursday, December 13 at Bella Bacino's, 75 East Wacker Drive just east of Michigan Avenue in Chicago. The goal is twofold: have fun and obtain early contributions for the scholarship silent and live auctions. While the auctions are conducted during the awards banquet (this year to be held January 11, 2008) and past support has been strong, donating early will provide organizer's more opportunities to recognize donors. So while you are out doing your holiday shopping remember to add an auction item to your holiday shopping list, and stop in for some holiday cheer at the event! Donations of all forms are accepted, both new and gently used.

As a guide, the banquet committee has developed the following categories which can be used to guide your shopping:

- **Toy Factory: gifts children will appreciate**
- **Technology: DVD players, i-Pods, jump-drives**
- **Just For Her: jewelry, scarves, day spa packages**
- **Sports: memorabilia, tickets, equipment**
- **Get-a-ways: hotel or cottage weekend packages**
- **Holiday Cheer: wine and food baskets, decor**
- **Tools of the Trade: things an engineer will like**
- **This and That: gently used items, books, videos**

Cash donations are also welcome. Donors who contribute cash or items in excess of \$75 by January 4, 2008 will be acknowledged in print during the banquet. Watch your e-mail for more details.

2007 ITE/IRISH AMERICAN ENGINEERS GOLF OUTING

By **Joel Christell** of Civiltech Engineering, Inc. The 2007 ITE - Illinois Section Golf Outing was held July 19th at Bloomingdale Golf Club. We joined the Irish Engineers this year for an afternoon of fun and a lot of golf. Although it looked for a moment that the skies would open up and we would have a rain-out, the sun shined and 22 of ITE's finest golfers took to the links. We had eight sponsorships this year, and they included **CH2M Hill, Christopher Burke Engineering, Civiltech Engineering, HNTB, Lin Engineering, Metro Transportation Group, Regina Webster and Associates, and Traffic Control Corporation**. We gave away prizes for the winning teams, the teams with the highest score, longest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt and also for the person with the longest name.

The golfers for Winning Team #1 were **Brian Burkhard** and **Russ Bautch** from HNTB and **Gerry Tumbali** from RTA and Winning Team #2 were **Steve Corcoran** and **Drew Pickens** from

Land Strategies, **Mike Phan** and **Tom Hein** from Entran. We also had a tie for the team with the highest score. The first team consisted of **Tim Sjogren, Sara Disney** of Metro, and **Frank Passaglia** and **Rob Cerrado** from Lennar. The other team with the highest score were **Ron Rude, Peter Wojtkiewicz, Jeff Meindl** of Metro and **Juan Lopez**.

Sara Disney of Metro won the longest drive, Juan Lopez won closest to the pin and Jim Woods from Civiltech won longest putt. Peter Wojtkiewicz won a prize for having the longest name participating in the golf outing.

After golf, ITE and the Irish Engineers joined together to eat BBQ ribs, chicken and lots of other food.

Thank you to all who participated, sponsored or helped out with this event. Because of all your efforts, we raised over \$400 for the scholarship fund.

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS FOR 2008 BANQUET

Start planning now for donations at next banquet. Could you donate a week or weekend at your summer cottage? Have a favorite restaurant or country club you frequent that might be willing donors? If so contact **Dan Nowak** chair of the Student Activities committee via e-mail at dan.nowak@CH2M.com or by telephone at 773.693.3809.



ELECTION RESULTS

Election results are in. A listing of the winning candidates by position and a summary of their goals statements follows.

KENNETH H. VOIGT, P.E. (F)

ITE INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT

Ken identified four main areas are critical to our profession's growth:

1. **Core Technical Excellence.** We must enhance our technical leadership in transportation through the ITE Journal, Webinars and urban forums, and sponsored publications.
2. **Membership (Project 20,000).** Grow locally and internationally by focusing on increasing government agency memberships, creating appeal for academic members through a "University Page" in every issue of *ITE Journal*, a peer review program that qualifies for tenure consideration, a national student competition that energizes university chapters and provides national media recognition for ITE, and reaching out to planners and designers.
3. **International Membership.** Improve ITE's international role through communication, co-sponsor international symposiums, an "International Activities Page" in every issue of *ITE Journal*, sponsoring an ITE international reception during TRB when many

members are in the United States, by e-membership, and creating international regions for transportation communication in regions such as Europe, Asia and South America.

4. **Enhancing Our Image.** Communities and universities are dropping transportation engineering departments and programs. We need to recognize our profession as well as its outstanding achievements through national awards, by establishing a local elected officials briefing on transportation issues similar to ITE's monthly *Executive Digest*, and by create an ITE gear shop, with logo clothing, portfolios and other items to show our pride in ITE and promote our organization.

ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT SECRETARY-TREASURER

Ballots for the Midwestern District Secretary Treasurer election are scheduled to be tabulated in early September. Candidates **John Crawford** of SRF Consulting Group and **Mike Spack** of Traffic Data Inc. are both from the North-Central Section. Watch for the re-instated Midwestern District semi-annual newsletter (due out October 1, 2007) or check the District website (also soon to be re-vamped) at <http://www.midwesternite.org/> for results.



Kenneth H. Voigt, P.E. (F)
International Vice President Elect,
Institute of Transportation Engineers

ITE EXPERIENCE

2004–2006 International Director; 2006 International Annual Meeting Co-Chair; 2005 Transportation Achievement Award Committee Chair; District 4 Annual Meeting Chair; Wisconsin Member Program for Growth Chair; Traffic Engineering for Small Communities Workshop Founder; Technical Council Department Chair; District 4 Vice Chair; Wisconsin Section President; Multiplex Theater Trip Generation Task Force Chair; Nominations Committee; Smart Growth Task Force; Elected Leadership Task Force; Consultants Council Executive Committee.

2007 IDOT EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS

This year marked IDOT's 14th annual consultant awards program to recognize consultants providing exceptional service to the Illinois Department of Transportation in their performance of Phase I, II and III projects. Judging Criteria included Timeliness, Innovation, Constructability, Aesthetics and Performance. The following awards were presented on Friday, June 15, 2007:

- The Urban Highway Project - Phase I award

was presented to **Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc.** for the completion of the US20/McLean Blvd. interchange in the City of Elgin.

- The Urban Highway Project - Phase II award was presented to the consultant team of **Alfred Benesch & Company, American Surveying Consultants, Bloom Consultants, Parsons Transportation Group, STS Consultants, Hanson Professional Services, Homer L. Chastain,**

(Continued on page 10)



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY RECEIVES NATIONAL ITE TRANSPORTATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ITE Press release forwarded by **Amy Kay** of Hanson Professional Services Inc. AUGUST 5, 2007, WASHINGTON, DC—The Illinois Tollway received the Transportation Achievement Award for Facilities at the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) 2007 Annual Meeting and Exhibit, being held August 5-8, 2007 in Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

The Illinois Tollway received the award in recognition of the South Tri-State Tollway Reconstruction Project.

Part of the Congestion-Relief Program—the widening and reconstructing of approximately 3.6 miles of the South Tri-State Tollway from IL-394 to the Markham Railroad Yard was one of the largest design efforts for reconstruction ever undertaken by the Illinois Tollway.

The Transportation Achievement Award for Facilities recognizes significant and outstanding transportation achievements by entities concerned with transportation, such as government agencies, legislative bodies, consulting firms, industry and other private-sector organizations.

Winner of the Transportation Achievement Award for Operations was T-REX (Transportation Expansion Project) due to the fact that the Denver, Colorado project is an example of a highly successful public/private partnership, completed using a fast-track, design-build approach. The project went from initial concept development through design, systems engineering and construction and opened for operation in less than five years.



Crews follow the paving train to smooth out the new concrete on the southbound lanes of the South Extension near 127th Street.

TRANSPORTATION-INVEST IN OUR FUTURE

Congress created the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission to examine "future surface transportation system needs, expected demographic and economic changes that will shape traffic demand, the future of the Interstate System, and the potential for expansion, upgrades, and other changes to the surface transportation system to meet the nation's needs."

AASHTO is publishing a series of reports to assist the Commission. Each report reviews and makes recommendations in a critical area of America's transportation infrastructure system. Each is available as a free download from an AASHTO E-Affiliate account at <https://bookstore.transportation.org> or from <http://www.transportationfuture.org>

TRANSPORTATION---INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: FUTURE NEEDS OF THE U.S. SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Download Item Code: TIF1-1-OL

This report is a comprehensive assessment of

transportation needs today and in the future. It looks at the demographic and economic changes that will challenge transportation planners.

TRANSPORTATION---INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: SURFACE TRANSPORTATION POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION POLICY AND REVENUE STUDY COMMISSION

Download Item Code: TIF2-1-OL

This report contains the comprehensive recommendations approved by the AASHTO Board of Directors regarding actions needed to address the nation's future transportation needs.

TRANSPORTATION---INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: AMERICA'S FREIGHT CHALLENGE

Download Item Code: TIF3-1-OL

(Continued on page 6)



The Gateway Arch viewed from the MetroLink LRT Arch-Laclede's Station platform in Saint Louis, host of the 2007 Midwestern District Conference



TRANSPORTATION-INVEST IN OUR FUTURE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 5)

As the world grows more competitive, America's freight network grows more congested. Staggering increases in freight traffic are looming over the next three decades. This report addresses the needs of highways, rail, and water freight transportation, as well as intermodal connections, and makes recommendations to address the freight challenge facing the nation.

TRANSPORTATION-INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: REVENUE SOURCES TO FUND THE NEEDS OF THE U.S. SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Download Item Code: TIF4-1-OL

To keep the U.S. competitive in the global economy, surface transportation investment must be substantially increased. This examines the revenue crisis congress will have to address in 2009, short-term federal revenue options for the Highway Trust Fund and outside the Highway Trust Fund, state and local government options, and long-term federal revenue options.

TRANSPORTATION-INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: A NEW VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Download Item Code: TIF5-1-OL

During a series of hearings across the country, National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission members have called for the development of a "bold national vision" for transportation. AASHTO, in collaboration with several industry partners, has developed a national transportation vision which seeks to do just that. Calling upon the foremost transportation experts in the country, AASHTO and partner associations convened topic panels and a visioning summit to bring forward key issues and solutions. Jointly they have compiled comprehensive recommendations that will enable the United States to achieve the transportation vision described.

TRANSPORTATION-INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: STATE DOT PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS: SELECT EXAMPLES

Download Item Code: TIF6S-1-OL

State transportation agencies successfully use performance measurement to solve complex management challenges. This report is illustrative of the use of performance-based management approaches in state DOTs. All state departments of transportation track asset condition and safety data and the majority of states provide comprehensive performance data to decision-makers to both increase accountability to customers and achieve the best possible transportation system performance with current investment programs. The primary challenge for many agencies is the lack of funding to maintain and expand the current transportation system. However, by using a performance-based management approach, DOTs can maximize existing resources and justify recommendations for additional funding.

TRANSPORTATION-INVEST IN OUR FUTURE: ACCELERATING PROJECT DELIVERY

Download Item Code: TIF7-1-OL

In today's world, businesses cannot wait a decade for transportation solutions. States lose credibility with the public and fail to meet national needs with a protracted project delivery process. Achieving compliance with the complex array of Federal laws and regulations is daunting. The business world does not operate that way and neither should government. The Federal government should set a goal of cutting the current project delivery time in half, achieving in five to seven years what now takes 10 to 15. This report contains recommendations and case studies that demonstrate that such a goal is achievable.

AASHTO BOOKSTORE

Many AASHTO publications are now available for download through the AASHTO online bookstore – many of which are available at no cost and a sampling are listed below. To access these publications you must be registered as an AASHTO E-Affiliate on AASHTO's bookstore (<https://bookstore.transportation.org>). There is no fee for becoming an E-Affiliate.

- **2006 Salary Survey, item code SS-6-OL**
- **21st Century Asset Management, 2nd Edition, item code AM-2-OL**
- **Security Funding Resources: A Reference Guide for State Transportation Agencies, item code SFR-1-OL**
- **A Transportation Executive's Guide to Organizational Improvement, item code TEGOI-1-OL**
- **AASHTO: The Safety Journey, item code ATSJ-1-OL**
- **2006 CEO Leadership Forum: Advancing Practice in State DOTs from Good to Great, A Summary Report, item code CLF-2-OL**
- **Comparing State DOTs' Construction Project Cost and Schedule Performance—28 Best Practices from 9 States, item code CSDCPC-1-OL**



CONDOLENCES

DENNIS IZRAL

We are all saddened to learn of the August 2nd passing of Dennis Izral, husband of IDOT Region One Engineer Diane O'Keefe, father of three beautiful daughters, and President of Ray Edwards Contractors Inc. in Joliet for 30 years. Dennis fought a long and painful battle with cancer and all the time displayed grace, courage and an unbelievable patience. The wake was held Monday, August 6, 2007 at Tezak Funeral Home 1211 Plainfield Road, Joliet, IL, phone (815) 722-0254. Please remember Diane, his daughters and the legion of his friends in your prayers. Contributions to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated.

RICHARD WALONS

It is with regret that I also inform you of the death of Richard Walons. Richard was President of the Illinois Section in 1968. Peter Lemmon, Illinois Section ITE President forwarded the following obituary sent to him by Richard's daughter Laurie. Our condolences were sent to the family and we will miss Richard.

Richard "Dick" Walons, P.E., past president of the Illinois Section of ITE (1968), passed away on July 14, 2007, at the age of 78. Dick spent his entire 36-year career as engineer for the City of Chicago, primarily in traffic operations. He was an ITE delegate to the National Joint Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (1965-70) that developed the 1970 MUTCD, served on the National Advisory Committee representing NLC (1972-76), and chaired ITE's Membership Admissions Committee; in the late '80s, he was a member of ITE's Historical Devices Collection Committee. For the Illinois Section of ITE, he served as secretary-treasurer and vice president in 1966 and 1967, respectively, prior to becoming president in 1968. A member of ITE since 1951, he achieved the status of life member in 1994.

Dick's many contributions significantly enhanced the efficiency of Chicago's traffic flow and operation from the 1950s through the 1980s. He was responsible for the Central Business District Traffic Control System, the development of new signal placement standards, signal improvement prioritizing and programming, city-wide signal coordination, lane control signal standards, signal visibility studies and radio-controlled signal system; also, the conversion to symbolic signs, sign inventory, one-way street systems, and programs for handicapped parking, right-turn-on-red and residential parking; and snowplowable pavement marking reflector standards. He made several technical presentations at local and national traffic engineering conferences throughout his career, and published articles in Traffic Engineering. He also served as expert witness and prepared career service exams.

A Chicago native, Dick graduated from Austin High School in 1945. He headed out to Yale University on a full scholarship at age 16, graduating with a degree in civil engineering in 1949, and returned to Chicago to begin his career with the City. He served in the Army Reserves in the 1950s. After his retirement in 1986, he taught Defensive Driving for Seniors at the North Shore Senior Center through most of the '90s. Dick was a long-time resident of Wilmette, and also spent several years in Glenview and Arlington Heights. He was an avid golfer, curler, and bridge player who could never resist a challenge. Dick was a true gentleman who will be remembered for his ready smile, his generosity, high standards and ethics, and tenacity. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, a daughter, and two grandsons.

Donations may be made to the Rush Memory and Aging Project (attention: Traci Colvin), 600 S. Paulina Street, Suite 1038, Chicago, IL 60612.



Richard Walons, P.E. Past President of the Illinois Section ITE and former traffic operations engineer for the City of Chicago.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES WORKSHOP

Monday and Tuesday, September 17 & 18, 2007. Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, 1801 Maple Avenue, Evanston, IL. Phone (847) 491-5476 or visit http://nucps.northwestern.edu/course/course_more.asp?id=1089. CDT Credits 15 PDH/1.5 CEUs Price: \$500

ITE WEB SEMINARS

Registration for the ITE web seminars listed below closes 3 days prior to course date. Visit <http://www.ite.org/education/webinars.asp> to register. A copy of the presentation and a student supplement are provided two days prior to the web seminar.

INTERSECTION SAFETY AND GEOMETRIC DESIGN - SIGHT DISTANCE

Thursday, September 13, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

SIGNAL TIMING FUNDAMENTALS

Thursday, October 4, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

ENGINEERING INTERSECTIONS TO REDUCE RED LIGHT RUNNING

Tuesday, October 9, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

APPLICATION OF THE NATIONAL UNIFIED GOAL FOR TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Wednesday, November 28, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Price: \$100

ACEC-IL IDOT SEMINAR

Registration forms for all American Consulting Engineers Council of Illinois (ACEC-IL) seminars are available from ACEC-IL by calling 217/529-7430 or e-mailing acec-il@acec-il.org. A seminar planned for the Chicago area includes:

FHWA HIGHWAY TRAFFIC NOISE ABATEMENT

Tuesday to Thursday, September 18 to 20, 2007~ Hilton Hotel, Lisle, IL.

REFER A FRIEND

The Illinois Section will send a complementary issue of ITEMS to your friend or business acquaintance who may be interested in joining ITE. E-mail the contact information to your ITEMS editor at: mrinnan@ekmail.com or fax the information to 312.251.3015. The contact will be provided membership information and acknowledgement of your referral.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

August 6th - 8th. In addition to attending a variety of excellent technical presentations, the conference also provided the opportunity to discuss issues and experiences with elected representatives of other ITE Sections and represent the Midwestern District on the International Vice President Nominations Committee.

As we head towards the end of summer and into fall, we will continue with our regularly scheduled monthly luncheons. In September we will hold our event in Naperville, back to

Chicago in October along with our student chapters, to Rockford in November, and finally back to Chicago in December for an after-work happy hour event. I hope you all can find the time to attend at least one of the upcoming Section events and I look forward to seeing you there.

Peter Lemmon, P.E., PTOE, President,
Illinois Section, ITE



CONFERENCE CALL

A list of conferences is provided for your consideration:

TRB 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Sunday to Wednesday, September 9-12, at the Hyatt Regency Newport Beach Hotel, Irvine, California. For more information visit http://www.trb.org/news/blur_b_detail.asp?id=7679

IDOT FALL PLANNING CONFERENCE

Thursday and Friday, September 13 & 14, at the Clock Tower Resort and Conference Center, Rockford, Illinois. For more information phone Betsy Tracy at 217-785-2368 or e-mail Elizabeth.Tracy@illinois.gov.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday to Monday, September 27 to October 1, at the Midwest Airlines Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For more information visit <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/business/engrserv/aashto-index.htm> or phone Hanna Whitney at 202-624-5800 or e-mail hwhitney@aaashto.org.

NATIONAL RURAL ITS CONFERENCE

Sunday to Wednesday, October 7-10, at the Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, Michigan. For more information visit <http://www.nritsconference.org/index.html> or call toll free 866-MEET-110 or e-mail info@nritsconference.org.

AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday to Wednesday, October 7-10, at the Hilton Charlotte Center City and Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, North Carolina. For more information visit http://www.apta.com/conferences_calendar/annual/index.cfm or phone Anitha Atkins at 202-496-4839 or e-mail aatkins@apta.com.

LAND USE LAW: ZONING, REVITALIZATION & PUBLIC FINANCE

Thursday and Friday, October 18&19, at the Fairmont Hotel, 200 North Columbus Drive, Chicago, Illinois. For more information visit www.cle.com or phone 800-873-7130.

56TH ANNUAL TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND SAFETY CONFERENCE

Thursday and Friday, October 25&26, at the University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign, Urbana, Illinois. For more information visit <http://www.conferences.uiuc.edu/conferences/conference.asp?ID=151> or e-mail trafficsafety@ad.uiuc.edu or phone Ray Benekohal at 217-244-6288.

RAIL-VOLUTION 2007

Wednesday to Saturday, October 31 to November 3, at the Lowe's Miami Beach Hotel, Miami, Florida. For more information visit <http://www.railvolution.com/> or e-mail info@railvolution.com.

AMERICAN TRAFFIC SAFETY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Wednesday to Saturday, October 31 to November 3, at the Ernst N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, Louisiana. For more information visit <http://www.atssa.com/cs/atssa-2008-traffic-expo> or call (800) 272-8772.



SAVE THE DATE!

The 2008 Midwest District Conference will be held July 6 to 8, 2008 at the Hard Rock Hotel in Chicago. A call for abstracts is scheduled to be released in late 2007. For program information call Vonu Thakuriah at the University of Illinois—Chicago, (312) 355-0447 or e-mail vonu-pt@uic.edu. For general information contact Mark Rinnan at 312.424-5419 e-mail Mark.Rinnan@jacobs.com.





2007 IDOT EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 4)

URS Corporation, and Foth Infrastructure & Environment for the improvement of the I-74 Corridor from the west of edge of Peoria, through the city of Peoria, and ending the east edge of East Peoria.

- The Highway Structure - Phase II award was presented to **Teng and Associates** for the Kingery project which consisted of the improvement of the complex structure supporting the urban interchange for IL 83 (Torrence Avenue

over I-80/94 (Kingery Expressway).

- The Urban Construction Engineering - Phase III award was presented to **Burns & McDonnell** for the supervision and coordination of the construction projects throughout the Dan Ryan Project.

- The **Harry R. Hanley Award** was presented to **Teng & Associates** for outstanding service in its design of Single Point Urban Interchange for Torrence Avenue over the Kingery Expressway.

FHWA ANNOUNCES 5TH CLARUS INITIATIVE COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has a day and a half scheduled full of presentations, information exchange and networking. Some highlights from the draft agenda include:

- **Reports from the three Clarus Regional Demonstration teams**
- **Updates on the Clarus Connection Incentive Program (CIP) for transportation agencies**
- **Explanation of final phase of the Regional Demonstration; implementation**
- **Panel and group discussions on user issues and dissemination policies**
- **Status on the convergence of Clarus and similar efforts at NOAA**
- **An update on Vehicle Infrastructure Initiative (VII) activities**
- **Web-based training for Clarus contributors and users**

Where: National Weather Service Training Center, Kansas City, Missouri

When: Thursday, Sept 20 and until mid afternoon Friday, Sept 21, 2007

Reimbursement for travel expenses for one State DOT representative per state is author-

ized and will be handled by Noblis, Inc. (formerly Mitretek Systems)

The Clarus ICC meeting immediately follows the Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) meeting. Registration is now open for Clarus ICC Meeting #5. Please email Andy Stern at astern@noblis.org to register for the meeting. Please indicate your eligibility for reimbursement and your citizenship (required since we will be meeting in a Federal facility). Your response will include logistics instructions for the meeting. Andy can be reached at 703-610-1754 if you have questions that cannot be addressed via e-mail.

For your planning purposes, immediately preceding the Clarus ICC Meeting, the Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) Stakeholder Meeting will meet at the same facility on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept 18-19 2007. As with Clarus, travel reimbursement for one State DOT representative per state is also authorized to attend this meeting.

Please direct any questions about the Clarus or MDSS Stakeholder Meetings to Andy Stern (astern@noblis.org, 703-610-1754) or Paul Pisano (paul.pisano@dot.gov, 202-366-1301).

KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CURRENT...

...by using the Change of Personal Information Form on the Illinois Section website at <http://www.ilite.org/public/membership/ChgInfo.pdf>



Humor - Saint Louis style (You had to have been at the Midwestern District Conference)



CALL FOR PAPERS AND PROPOSALS

2008 ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH FORUM

Abstracts for the 2008 Forum are due October 15, 2007. The forum is hosted by the Texas Transportation Institute and the theme includes corridor planning, capacity management strategies, transportation funding, energy and the environment, and air cargo. The conference is to be held March 17 to 19, 2008 at the Hilton, Fort Worth, Texas. For more information visit <http://www.trforum.org/callpapers/?PHPSESSID=ef23522c41a93a35f56d875386a9e19e>

2008 NATIONAL COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM (NCHRP) PROJECTS

The Preliminary descriptions of projects expected to be undertaken as part of TRB's National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) fiscal year 2008 activities are available for review. These projects do not represent the entire NCHRP FY 2008 program, only those for which requests for proposals are expected to be issued during August and September of this year. Deadlines for proposals vary, but are generally in October and November. For more information visit http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_Announcement2008.pdf.

RFP: IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF MOVING LANE CLOSURES

A deadline extension for PROPOSALS is now DUE SEPTEMBER 12, 2007. Additional details can be found at http://www.trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=7824. TRB's National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) has issued a solicitation for consultant letters of interest on a synthesis to explore information from transportation agencies regarding their procedures and experiences with providing moving lane closures.

RFP: REAL-TIME TRAVELER INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

A deadline extension for PROPOSALS is now DUE SEPTEMBER 12, 2007. Additional details can be found at http://www.trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=7830. TRB's National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) has issued a solicitation for consultant letters of interest on a synthesis to explore affordable real-time traveler information message schemes and document those that are helpful to the public.

RFQ: TASK-ORDER SUPPORT FOR COMMERCIAL TRUCK AND BUS SAFETY SYNTHESIS PROGRAM FOR FY 2006 THROUGH FY 2012

Statement of Qualifications for this task order contract is DUE OCTOBER 12, 2007. Additional details can be found at http://www.trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=8016. TRB has issued a request for qualifications from consultants interested in preparing synthesis reports for the FY 2006 through FY 2012 Commercial Truck and Bus Safety Synthesis Program (CTBSSP). For the FY 2006 and 2007 program years, topics expected to be addressed include older drivers, chemical substance effects on driving and performance, and operator drug and alcohol testing. Also addressed during this period may be special safety concerns of school bus drivers. The CTBSSP initiates a number of synthesis studies annually that summarize existing practice in areas that address commercial truck and bus safety. Syntheses do not undertake new research, nor do they contain policy recommendations. Synthesis reports are most valuable when they are focused on issues or problems common to many organizations. The primary users of the reports are the practitioners who work on those issues or problems using diverse approaches in their individual settings. CTBSSP is administered by the Transportation Research Board in cooperation with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the sponsoring agency.

DO YOU HAVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

Advertise your job opening in *ITEMS*. For information contact:

William Eidson
847.823.0500
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SECTION CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2007

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
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OCTOBER 2007

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NOVEMBER 2007

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| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **September 19** – Transportation for Illinois Coalition (TFIC) Annual Meeting, Bolingbrook Golf Club, Bolingbrook, IL. For more information visit <http://www.tficillinois.org/annualmeeting2007.htm>
- **September 20** – Illinois Section Joint Luncheon with ISPE, Holiday Inn, Naperville, IL
- **October 10 to 12** – American Planning Association Illinois Chapter State Conference at Hotel Pere Marquette and The Peoria Convention Center, Peoria, IL. For more information visit www.ilapa.org/conf2007
- **October 18** – Illinois Section Student Welcome Back Luncheon at UIC, Chicago, IL
- **November 15** – Illinois Section Monthly Luncheon, Cliffbreakers, Rockford, IL
- **November 15**—ITEMS Deadline

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ILLINOIS SECTION '07-'08 PLANNER

Please note all dates, locations, and topics are tentative. Check the section calendar in future editions of ITEms or on line at www.ilite.org to verify details.

2007

December 12 Year End Event at Bella Bacino's, Downtown Chicago

2008

- January 25 Annual Awards Dinner at Wellington, Arlington Heights, IL
- February 22 Engineer's Week Washington Banquet
- March 20 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
- March 30 - April 2 ITE Technical Conference and Exhibit , Anaheim CA
- April 17 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
- May 22 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
- June 19 Suburban Maggiano's - Joint Meeting, ASCE (Tentative)
- July 6-8 ITE Midwestern District Annual Conference hosted by the Illinois Section
- July 17 Golf Outing - Joint Outing with the Irish Engineers Group
- July 24 Location TBA, Joint Meeting, WTS
- August 17-20 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit , Anaheim CA
- September 18 Holiday Inn, Naperville - Joint Meeting (Dinner), ISPE
- October 23 Student Day - IIT
- November 20 Monthly Luncheon at Cliffbreaker's, Rockford
- December 18 Year End Event at Bella Bacino's, Downtown Chicago

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INDUSTRY NEWS

NEW CITY OF CHICAGO APPOINTMENTS

Chicago, IL, August 14. Chicago **Mayor Richard M. Daley** has appointed new heads of the city's Planning and Development, Transportation and Environment departments, as well as a new deputy chief of staff.

The appointments Mr. Daley announced Tuesday at a City Hall news conference are:

Arnold Randall, 40, to commissioner of the Department of Planning and Development. He's currently deputy chief of staff responsible for economic development.

Thomas G. Byrne, 58, to commissioner of the Department of Transportation. A 35-year police veteran, Mr. Byrne replaced retiring acting commissioner **Cheri Heramb** and was the manager

of audit and internal control in the city's Law Department.

Suzanne Malec-McKenna, 40, to commissioner of the Department of Environment. She's currently the department's deputy commissioner of natural resources and water quality.

Sadhu Johnston, 33, to deputy chief of staff, functioning as chief environmental officer in the mayor's office. Mr. Johnston has been commissioner of the Department of Environment for the last two years.

"They are all strong and dedicated leaders that will help move our city forward," Mr. Daley said.

Before assuming their posts, the three commissioners must be confirmed by the City Council.

Ms. Malec-McKenna's husband, patent attorney

(Continued on page 15)



MORE INDUSTRY NEWS

(Continued from page 14)

ney Michael McKenna, was killed last year when a gunman shot him and two others in a downtown law office. Ms. Malec-McKenna says she's received tremendous support from the mayor and her colleagues that's helped her get through "a terribly difficult year."

(Crain's Chicago Business and The Associated Press contributed to this report.)

CIVILTECH ENGINEERING

Civiltech Engineering, Inc. is pleased to welcome Mr. **Gregory J. Hatlestad**, S.E., P.E. to the team. Greg has joined Civiltech as the firm's Structural Engineering Department Head.

Mr. Hatlestad brings over 13 years of civil and structural engineering design and analysis to Civiltech. His experience includes structural design and plan preparation for highway and railroad structures, including bridges, culverts and retaining walls. Most recently, he has been involved with the Reconstruction and Widening of Algonquin Road, from IL Rte 47 to Randall Road, and the Reconstruction and Widening of the East-West Tollway (I-88), from IL Rte 59 to Washington Street.

Greg is a Licensed Structural Engineer and Professional Engineer, having received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his M.S. in Civil Engineering from University of Illinois at Chicago.

Of joining Civiltech, Greg says "I'm excited to be joining the highly qualified team of professionals at Civiltech in their ongoing efforts to assist clients with their transportation needs. In particular, I look forward to expanding the structural engineering services Civiltech offers its clients." Greg has joined his father, Otto, in the Civiltech commitment to strengthening and growing the Structural Department.

Civiltech Engineering also announced **Melissa F. Baker** recently obtained her Structural Engineer certificate. For information visit <http://>

www.civiltechinc.com, or contact: ljjudges@civiltechinc.com, phone: 630.773.3900.

HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Hanson Professional Services Inc. recently named **John Nelson**, P.E., as regional vice president of the company's Chicago regional office. Nelson joined Hanson in 1999 as a civil engineer and has served as project manager.

As regional vice president, Nelson will oversee business development and daily office operations. He has 23 years of experience in the engineering industry, serving in leadership capacities such as project manager and client liaison for roadway and tollway clients. In addition, he has served for 15 years as the village engineer in Hillside, Ill.

Nelson is a fellow of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois (1984). John Nelson can be contacted by phone: (630) 990-3800, ext. 242; fax: (630) 990-3801; or e-mail: jnelson@hanson-inc.com.

V3 COMPANIES

V3 Companies is pleased to announce that Mr. **Vincent Del Medico**, P.E. has joined the Transportation Group as a project manager. Mr. Del Medico has over 13 years of experience in municipal and transportation engineering. Mr. Del Medico's project experience includes the Chicago Department of Transportation US 41 Relocation Project, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) IL Route 59 Reconstruction Project, the IDOT construction of the IL Route 13 Relocation, and the IDOT reconstruction of Butterfield Road from Winfield Road to Naperville Road in Wheaton, Illinois.

Mr. Del Medico earned his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois in Champaign. He is a licensed professional engineer in Illinois.



John Nelson, Regional Vice President,
Hanson Professional Services

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| Awards | OPEN | | |

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THE EDITOR'S DESK

Section members and non-members alike are invited to submit articles relevant to the transportation profession, comments, or letters to the editor to Mark Rinnan, c/o Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey, One North Franklin, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60606 or by e-mail to mark.rinnan@jacobs.com