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NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS



December 2007

VOLUME 46, ISSUE 4
WINTER ISSUE



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DECEMBER NETWORK- ING AND HOLIDAY GET TOGETHER

Join us at **Bella Bacino's**, 75 East
Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL
Telephone (312) 201-0013

Date: December 12, 2007

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 P.M.

Cost: Students— \$10
Members — \$20

Details: Join the Section and District
Boards for an end of the year cocktail
hour. One FREE drink ticket will be
provided. Donations for the 2008 Annual
Banquet auction to benefit the ITE Schol-
arship fund will be accepted at the
cocktail hour. Please see pages 2,4, and
5 for details.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, as 2007 is coming to an end, time feels like it's flown by. It has been a busy and exciting year for the Illinois Section. I've spent a number of years serving on the Illinois Section in various positions, but this past year has been a blur. It's been great to work with all of the current Officers and Directors, as well as coordinate with the Midwestern District Board. I would like to extend my thanks to **Amarpal Matharu** (Vice President), **Matt Letourneau** (Secretary), and **Tim Sjogren** (Treasurer) for helping to keep the Section running and moving forward. Good luck next year. Many thanks also to all of the Directors for their hard work and dedication, including **Joel Christell** (Activities), **Tom Hein** (Operations), **Govind Vadakpat** (Public Affairs), **Kevin O'Neill** (Student Affairs), and **Kim Kolody Silverman** (Technical). We've had a great year of luncheons in Chicago, Oak Brook, Naperville, and Rockford with a wide range of topics. We've kept everyone up to date with our newsletter (ITEMS), our website, and occasional e-mails to the membership on important dates and events. The Section has continued to encourage and promote active participation with our student members through events, opportunities to participate in Section activities and planning efforts, and offering of scholarships

and student paper awards. Finally, we've offered opportunities for enhanced technical knowledge through various training seminars. In addition, many thanks to the number of other dedicated members that donate time and effort to contribute to Section activities and programs.

Throughout much of 2007, I've represented the Illinois Section and the Midwestern District on the ITE International Vice President Nominating Committee. In October, I represented the District in Washington DC to help select the two candidates that will run for ITE Vice President in 2008. As these candidates make their rounds throughout the various Sections during their respective campaigns, I think you will see that both have a good vision for the future of ITE, lead our organization well, and positively promote the transportation engineering industry.

In November, the Section held its annual elections. I would like to congratulate all of those who will be serving on the Board in 2008, including our new officer, **Kim Kolody Silverman** as Treasurer, and **Mike Pompili** and **Chad Hammerl** as new Directors. Congratulations and good luck in the coming years.

Coming up on December 12, 2007, we will be hosting our 2nd Annual Section Cocktail Hour to wrap up the calendar year at Bella Bacino's in Chicago. This is an informal event without a guest speaker, so please join us for an hour or two to unwind and socialize in downtown Chicago. Last year, this was a successful event and offers a good change of pace from the year's other events. I look forward to seeing you there.

(Continued on page 15)



ILLINOIS SECTION ELECTION RESULTS

For the second year the Illinois Section conducted officer and board elections using on-line balloting. This year 100 ballots were cast, about 23% of Section membership, but 18 fewer votes than last year. **Amarpal S. Matharu** was elected to advance from Vice-President to Section President for 2008. Also advancing were **Matt Letourneau** (from Secretary to Vice-President) and **Tim Sjogren** (from Treasurer to Secretary). The race for Treasurer was close with **Kim Kolody-Silverman** being elected. Congratulations to all candidates, and many thanks to **Sagar Sonar** for running. A listing of the first time office holders by position and their biographical summaries follows.

TREASURER ELECT—KIMBERLY KOLODY SILVERMAN

Ms. Kolody Silverman, P.E., has worked for CH2M Hill for over 9 years. She is a Project Manager and engineer on a variety of projects, including transportation safety work with the

IDOT Bureau of Safety Engineering. She obtained her masters degree from Michigan State University.

DIRECTOR ELECT—CHAD HAMMERL

Mr. Chad Hammerl, P.E., P.T.O.E. is a Principal Transportation Engineer for Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Marquette University and University of Illinois Chicago, respectively. He has been a member of ITE since joining the Marquette student chapter in 1992 and is currently serving as Local Arrangements committee co-chair for the 2008 ITE Midwestern District Conference to be held in Chicago.

DIRECTOR ELECT—MIKE POMPILI

Mr. Michael Pompili works for CH2M Hill specializing in transportation planning, modeling, and traffic operations analysis. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Cooper Union. He is currently serving as chair of the Technical Seminars committee.

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 **Wednesday, December 12** at Bella Bacino's, 75 East Wacker Drive just east of Michigan Avenue in Chicago. The goal is two-fold: 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 25, 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 11, 2008 will be acknowledge in print during the banquet. Watch your e-mail for more details.



CONDOLENCES

It is with great sadness that we (at Northwestern University) report David Schulz passed away on the evening of October 7th after an extended illness.

Dave was founding Executive Director of the NU's Infrastructure Technology Institute and adjunct professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Through his leadership of ITI he facilitated its people, giving them the freedom to discover, achieve, and excel.

He graduated from Purdue University in Civil Engineering, and then earned an MBA in Public Management from Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. His work experience in transportation planning and public management was both broad and deep. He worked with CATS, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

He was Deputy Public Works Commissioner for Chicago's Major Jane Byrne, and Budget Director for Mayor Harold Washington. He later became Fiscal and Budget Administrator and then Parks Commissioner for Milwaukee County. He completed his career in the public sector in a four year term as elected County Executive of Milwaukee County.

Dave's passing is a significant loss for ITI, the transportation community, but most importantly for those of us who knew him well as a friend, a supporter, a mentor, and sometimes a debating partner.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The following abbreviated summary of legislation passed by the Illinois General Assembly in 2007 was provided by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois (ACEC-IL). The entire report with links to copies of particular bills can also be found on the ACEC-IL website at http://www.acec-il.org/leg_report.cfm.

Note: HB = House Bill; SB = Senate Bill; and PA = Public Act.

AIRPORTS

HB 4/PA 95-641: Adds a member to the Springfield Airport Authority Board.

SB 263/PA 95-365: Creates the Greater Metropolitan Airport Authority in Peoria County, and the Crawford County Airport Authority.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

HB 1355/PA 95-101: Requires CDB to give preference to historic properties for state facilities.

DBE ISSUES

SB 336/PA 95-344: Amends the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females and Persons with Disabilities Act allowing certification on a per contract basis.

DESIGN/BUILD

HB 3490/PA 95-595: Amends the Public Building Commission Act authorizing limited use of design/build starting in June, 2008.

EMINENT DOMAIN

SB 1042/PA 95-611: Authorizes quick take

eminent domain to the City and County of Champaign and Savoy for a particular road project.

ENVIRONMENTAL

HB 496/PA 95-121: Amends the Environmental Protection Act affecting the reclamation of asphalt pavement waste.

HIGHWAYS

SB 308/PA 95-271: Requires IDOT to fund and repair within the highway right-of-way entrances to public schools.

SB 314/PA 95-665: Requires IDOT to include bicycle and pedestrian ways in certain cases.

PLANNING AGENCIES

SB 1201/PA 95-677: Creates the Comprehensive Regional Planning Fund, authorizing formula grants for local planning agencies, and making various other changes.

RAIL

HB 4/PA 95-641: Provides for the creation of a Rail Authority by the Winnebago County Airport Authority.

HB 566/PA 95-122: Creates the Southwest Suburban Railroad Redevelopment Authority in the counties of Bloom, Thornton, Calumet, Bremen, Orland, Worth and Palos.

TRAILS

SB 627/PA 95-670: Amends the Recreational Trails of Illinois Act providing for disbursement of funds.



At the October luncheon Ray Murphy of the Federal Highway Administration explains career paths and FHWA Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) initiatives to students .

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.

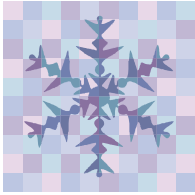
OCTOBER STUDENT LUNCHEON

The Illinois Section ITE and the University of Illinois Circle teamed to host the 3rd annual student luncheon. Presenters included **Rob Schickel** of Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey, who presented on career paths and typical projects within engineering consulting firms; **Ray Murphy** of the Federal Highway Administration who spoke on career paths in the public sector and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) initiatives currently being deployed or still under

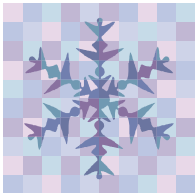
development; and by Dr. **Kouros Mohammadian**, of the University of Illinois, Chicago, who highlighted research and teaching career paths available for those considering a career in academia . The students were provided lunch, and opportunity to meet representatives of the industry, and the opportunity to introduce themselves to prospective employers and highlight their academic pursuits.



A UIC Students at the October Luncheon include; (l to r) Dave Miller, Wenjing Pu, Marat Goldenberg, Taha Rashidi, Frank Zurek, Dina Muller, (Professor) Kouros Mohammadian, Minyan Ruan, Mahmoud Jauanmardi, Amir Samimi, Amrita Ranjan and Sara Niahav.



**SILENT AND LIVE
AUCTION:**



ILLINOIS SECTION

Institute of Transportation Engineers

Auction Donation

In order to raise money for the ITE scholarship fund, a silent and live auction will be held during the 2008 Annual Banquet. If you have any items you would like to donate, please contact Dan Nowak at:

Phone: (773) 693-3809, Fax: (773) 693-3823

E-mail: Dan.Nowak@CH2M.com

Donated items could include:

- **Entertainment (Tickets to plays, Music Concerts, etc.)**
- **Gift Certificates (Area Stores, Hotels, Restaurants, and Museums, etc.)**
- **Sports (Signed Memorabilia, Tickets to Sox, Bears, Fire, Cubs, etc.)**
- **Technology (I-Pod, MP3 players, DVDs, etc.)**
- **Toys and Games (PS3, X-Box 360, Wii, Disney items, etc.)**
- **Gifts for Him or Her (Purses, Brief Cases, PDA's, Apparel Items, Gift Baskets, etc.)**

Please no old controllers or street signs. The higher value items donated will be part of the live auction.

Cash donations are also welcome. Please make checks payable to ITE Illinois Section.

ITE is a non-profit organization. The section's FEIN number is 03-3237057. All donations are fully tax deductible and support the student scholarship fund.

Thank you.

ITEM DONATED:

NAME/COMPANY:

PHONE NUMBER/E-MAIL:

APPROXIMATE VALUE OF ITEM (OPTIONAL):



Annual Banquet Reservation Form

Yes. I will attend the 2008 ITE Illinois Section Annual Banquet.

I will be bringing _____ guests. RSVP by January 18, 2008.

Name	Chicken Breast/ Prime Rib Combo	Vegetarian *	Price
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	@ \$40.00
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	@ \$40.00
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	@ \$40.00
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	@ \$40.00
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	@ \$40.00
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	@ \$40.00

* Request at time of Reservation

Total \$ _____

My check is enclosed for the total amount of \$ _____

☼ Please make checks payable to: ITE Illinois Section

☼ Mail checks & reservations to: Brian DeSalle bdesalle@civiltechinc.com

c/o Civiltech Engineering 450 E. Devon Ave., Suite 300 Itasca, IL 60143 (630) 773-3900

Return Top Portion with Your Payment

Date and Directions

Friday, January 25, 2008

6:00 PM Cash Bar with Hor d'oerves

7:00 PM Dinner

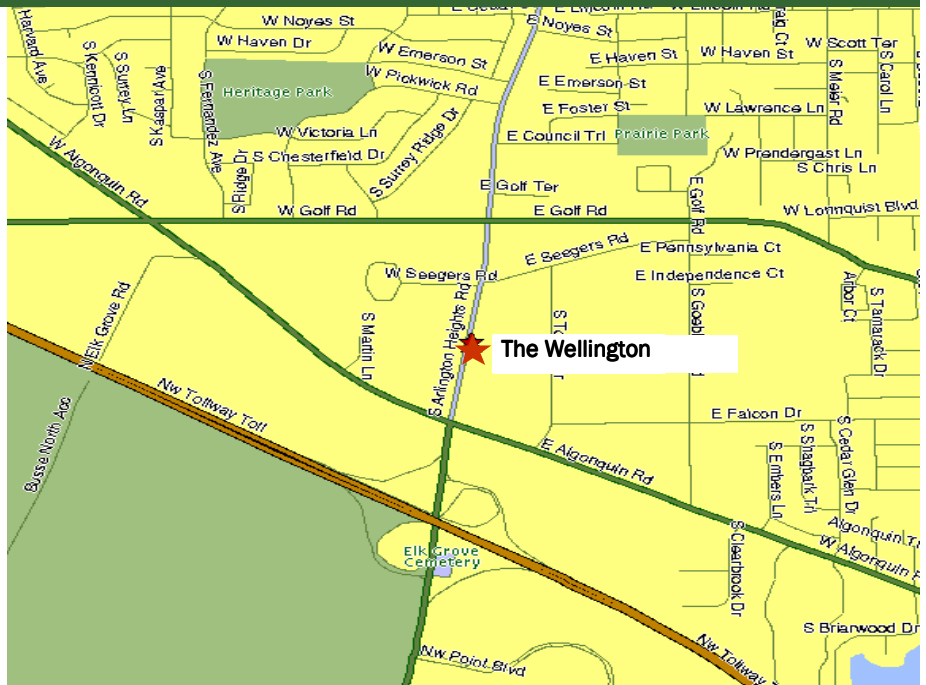
The Wellington

2121 South Arlington Heights Road

Arlington Heights, IL

847/439-6610

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.





FUTURE CITIES COMPETITION - CHICAGO REGION

IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

When an interstate bridge collapses during rush hour or broken levees destroy a major city, Americans are again reminded of the nation's crumbling infrastructure, but few people feel empowered to do anything about it. Beginning this fall, however, thousands of middle school students will tackle the issue of safety for the country's vast network of utilities, transportation, structures, and communications systems in the 2008 National Engineers Week Future City Competition™.

Sponsored by the nation's professional engineering community, Future City aims to stir interest in science, technology, math and engineering among young people. Starting with the new school year, the competition asks students to work in teams under the guidance of a teacher and a volunteer engineer mentor to design and build a city of tomorrow. They must also conduct research for an essay on a pressing social need. This year, the essay centers on an issue straight from the headlines: How to monitor safety for the structures and systems that affect virtually every part of every person's life.

The Illinois-Chicago Future City Competition will be held on Saturday, January 26 at the University of Illinois at Chicago campus. The first-place winners will join winning teams from 39 other regions across the country for an all-expense-paid trip to the 16th annual Future City National Finals in Washington, D.C., February 18-20, 2008 during Engineers Week. National grand prize is a trip to U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. More than 30,000 students from 1,100 middle schools are expected to participate nationwide.

In Future City, the nation's largest engineering education program and among the most popular, students first create cities on computers using SimCity 3000 software and then build three-dimensional, tabletop models to scale.

To ensure a level playing field, models must use recycled materials and can cost no more than \$100. Students also write brief abstracts describing their city and must present and defend their designs at the competition before a panel of engineer judges who test the depth of the teams' knowledge.

That knowledge is often astonishing, evidenced by the essays which require the 7th- and 8th-graders to explore complex challenges that most adults would consider out of their league. This year's topic, "Keeping Our City Infrastructure Healthy: Using Nanotechnology to Monitor City Structures and Systems," should prove particularly fruitful.

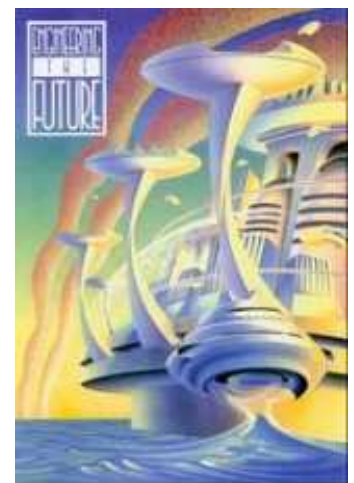
Engineers and researchers contend that nanotechnology, generally described as technology and devices operating at the molecular level, offers limitless potential. The essays must describe how built-in nanotechnology within a single component of their city's infrastructure, such as a tunnel or the water supply system, monitors for safety. Further, the monitoring system should include ways to resolve problems with a minimum of human intervention. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) is this year's Future City essay sponsor.

Combining up-to-date findings on a cutting-edge technology with the eager minds of students as young as 12 can result in some eye-opening approaches, says Future City National Director Carol Rieg. "Engineers who have worked in their field for years often look at these essays and come away amazed at the advanced concepts," says Rieg.

For more information on entering or volunteering in the Illinois-Chicago Future City Competition, contact regional coordinator Don Wittmer at (312) 930-9119 or dwittmer@hntb.com, visit www.futurecitychicago.org, or call 1-877-636-9578.

INFORMATION FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

The Center for Transportation Research and Education at Iowa State University has released the latest issue of Go! magazine. Go! is an online magazine for teens and young adults that explores the world of transportation and careers they can find there. The magazine can be found on the internet at <http://www.go-explore-trans.org/>





VETERANS MEMORIAL TOLLWAY (I-355 SOUTH EXTENSION) GRAND OPENING

On Sunday, November 11th, 2007 the Illinois Tollway opened the I-355 South Extension. The Grand Opening Celebration included the dedication of the new roadway and its honorary title of Veterans Memorial Tollway. Activities throughout the day included: the Roll the Tollway 20-Mile Bike Ride, and SALUTE, Inc.'s Veterans Memorial 5K Run-Walk-Roll.

The celebration also featured family-oriented community festivals including Touch-a-Truck exhibits with construction equipment, Illinois State Police demonstrations, Blackhawk Military fly-over, and environmental agency displays. This celebration drew thousands from surrounding communities who participated in a once in a lifetime tribute to our nation's veterans and the first new toll road opening in 20 years.

The new 12.5 miles of the Veterans Memorial Tollway opened to traffic on Nov. 12. The \$730

million construction project began in late 2004 and will be completed on budget and ahead of schedule. Extending I-355 from its current terminus at I-55, south to I-80 through DuPage, Will and southern Cook County, the new road promises residents immediate reductions in travel time.

"The new I-355 South Extension is connecting Will County to jobs and providing opportunity for new development," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director **Brian McPartlin**. "But most importantly it will take people where they want to go quickly and efficiently and help people get back time – time to spend with their families and time to do things that are important to them."

The entire region is expected to benefit from mobility improvements that will more efficiently move goods, services and employees between I-55 and I-80 and beyond.



Roll the Tollway bike ride start line at the new I-355 South Extension interchange at 127th Street in Lockport.



IDOT PRESENTED 2007 SAFETY LEADERSHIP AWARD

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) presented its 2007 Safety Leadership Awards to the Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri departments of transportation as the Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety continued work to heighten awareness to safety issues.

The awards were presented to the three agencies October 1 during the AASHTO Annual Meeting in Milwaukee. They were presented by committee Vice Chair Susan Martinovich, the director of the Nevada Department of Transportation.

The Safety Leadership Awards were initiated in 2005 to recognize AASHTO member states that have demonstrated themselves to be safety champions through actions that result in reduced serious injuries and fatalities.

Criteria for winning included leadership, working cooperatively with safety stakeholders, having or developing a comprehensive Strategic

Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), having a vigorous Highway Safety Improvement Plan, active participation in/on AASHTO, the Transportation Research Board National Cooperative Highway Research Program or U.S. Department of Transportation safety-related committees, panels or programs and a reduction in fatalities and/or serious injuries over a three-year period.

The Illinois DOT joined in Gov. Rod Blagojevich's emphasis on public safety by setting out to reduce highway fatalities and injuries. In 2004, IDOT established the position of State Safety Engineer and a Bureau of Safety Engineering, which serves as the primary point of contact for all IDOT safety engineering efforts. IDOT works closely with the Division of Traffic Safety as part of the SHSP and over the last five years, Illinois highway deaths have decreased from 1,420 in 2002 to 1,254 in 2006. It was the lowest number of fatalities since and 1924 and the department is trying to fulfill its goal of reducing fatalities to 1,000 or fewer by 2008.



A dedicated bicyclist and mans best friend brave a chilly Sunday morning to play tribute to war veterans and do a once in a lifetime bike ride.





MOVING THE REGION IN A NEW DIRECTION

At "Moving the Region in a New Direction: the Inaugural William O. Lipinski Symposium on Transportation Policy," on Monday, Oct. 15, at the W Hotel in downtown Chicago, global, national and regional transportation experts presented an array of possible answers to a crowd of regional and statewide transportation decision-makers. At the day-long, invitation-only forum, co-sponsored by McCormick Tribune Foundation, Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), and Northwestern University, the conference's namesake encouraged attendees to leave the symposium invigorated by new ideas for solving the worsening ground transportation dilemma threatening Chicago.

"Often, the best ideas come from far and wide. That is why we are holding this symposium: to bring policymakers together with innovative thinkers and practitioners of best practices to find ways to improve Chicago's transportation network for the benefit of not only the region, but the nation and the world," said William O. Lipinski, former U.S. representative and former ranking minority member of the Aviation, Rail, and Highways subcommittees.

Keynote speaker U.S. Rep. James Oberstar (D-Minn.), chair of the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure, likewise urged participants to take a more global approach to developing a sustainable, integrated, multi-modal transportation system in this region.

The majority of the day's presentations focused on new approaches to implementing, managing

and financing transportation projects. Guest speakers included Edward Hamberger, president and CEO, Association of American Railroads; Todd Litman, founder and executive director, Victoria Transport Policy Institute; Daniel Murray, vice president of research, American Transportation Research Institute; Gunnar Soderholm, director, Stockholm, Sweden's Congestion Charging Program, among others.

After hearing from these transportation experts, Chicago-area transportation decision-makers closed the day with a panel discussion on best approaches for Chicago and the state. Panelists were Ill. Rep. Julie Hamos (D-Evanston), chair, House Mass Transit Committee; Randy Blankenhorn, executive director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning; Ron Huberman, president, Chicago Transit Authority; Robert Schillerstrom, chairman, DuPage County Board; and Suzi Schmidt, chair, Lake County Board.

"Today's conference injected much-needed fresh thinking about ways to move people and goods, increase access, connect regional job centers, create more attractive places, reduce commutes – and pay for it all with minimal financial support from traditional government sources," said MarySue Barrett, president, Metropolitan Planning Council. "The next step is to identify the most feasible, high-impact ideas and test them on the ground in metropolitan Chicago."

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON IN ROCKFORD

About 75 professionals from the northwest region of Illinois attended a November 15 luncheon hosted jointly by Illinois Section ITE and the Illinois Society of Professional Engineer at the Cliffbreakers, in Rockford. The luncheon included a presentation by Mahmoud Etamadi, Bridge Program Engineer for the District 2 offices of the Illinois Department of Transportation in Dixon. Mr. Etamadi noted the increased public interest in bridge condition resulting

from the recent I-35W bridge collapse in Minnesota, explained the importance of a sound bridge inspection program, and highlighted bridge condition ratings for structures in northwest Illinois. He presented a summary of the District 2 bridge inventory and did a side-by-side comparison of District bridges to those throughout the State and nation. Percentage-wise the number of bridges in District 2 needing repair is below state and national norms.

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.



Mahmoud Etamadi, Bridge Program Engineer for Illinois Department of Transportation, District 2 is presented a speaker's gift by Illinois Section director Joel Christell of Civiltech Engineering.



42ND ANNUAL ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Chicago, Illinois

July 6 through 8, 2008

Make No Little Plans - Transportation in the Heartland

Call for Abstracts

Hosted by:

Illinois Section ITE

Peter Lemmon, 2007 President

Amarpal Matharu Vice President
and 2008 Nominee President

Conference Co-Chairs

Mark Rinnan

Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey
(312) 424-5419

Dennis Dal Santo

mrdalsde@aol.com

Finance

Tim Sjogren

Metro Transportation Group
(630) 213-1000

Local Arrangements

Kevin O'Neill

URS
(312) 697-7231

Chad Hammerl

Jacobs Edwards and Kelcey
(312) 424-5425

Program

Piyushimita "Vonu" Thakuriah
University of Illinois at Chicago
(312) 355-0447

Zhongzhi Li

Illinois Institute of Technology
(312) 567-3556

Publicity

Melanie Williams

Christopher B Burke
(847) 823-0500

Social

Chester Kropidlowski

TY Lin International
(773) 792-9000

Vendors

Sagar Sonar

TranSystems
(847) 407-5303

The Annual Meeting of the Institute of Transportation Engineers Midwest Chapter will be held on July 6-8, 2008 in the Hard Rock Hotel in downtown Chicago. The conference theme is "Make No Little Plans: Transportation in the Heartland" after renowned architect Daniel Burnham. His Plan of Chicago, commissioned by the Commercial Club of Chicago and released in 1909, is considered the nation's first comprehensive urban planning document.

This 100th-year period is an exciting time for engineers and planners in the history of this city. Chicago's current front-runner position with its bid for the 2016 Olympics gives us an opportunity to examine key transportation engineering construction, design, and planning issues related to mega projects and special events planning.

We are seeking contributions that are in the following (but not limited to) broad areas:

- **Mega Projects and Large Scale Efforts**
- **Special Events Planning, Design, Construction, and Operations**
- **Catastrophic Events and Impacts**
- **Emergency Response and Incident Management**
- **Transportation, Design and Environment – New Approaches & Initiatives**
- **Freight and Intermodal Projects and Operations**
- **Traffic Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems**
- **Community Level Planning, Project Development and Implementation**
- **New Initiatives to Improve Land Use and Transportation Integration**

To participate: For full consideration for presentation, please email a one-page abstract to submit@ilite.org no later than **Jan. 28, 2008**. Authors of abstracts selected for presentation are encouraged to submit a full paper by July 8, 2008. All presenters are encouraged to submit their presentations by June 30, 2008.

Venue: The Hard Rock Hotel, 230 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60601. This Art-Deco influenced hotel is located in the former Carbide and Carbon Building and was designed in 1929 by Daniel and Hubert Burnham, sons of Daniel Burnham.

Conference Hotel: Hard Rock Hotel Chicago www.hardrockhotelchicago.com
230 North Michigan Avenue 1.866.966.5166



PDH GUIDELINES

The Illinois Society of Professional Engineers (ISPE) has compiled the following helpful hints from past renewal periods, as well as conversations with the PE Board and IDFPR Staff.

EARNING HOURS:

The following are avenues for PDHs that you may not have known about:

Society Involvement - Under the PE rules, you may claim up to 2 PDHs for holding an office or participating on a committee for a professional society. The department has determined that you may only claim the two hours once per renewal period for that office, and not once per year you held that office. For instance, if you are the chapter secretary for two consecutive years, you may still only claim 2 PDHs, and not 4 PDHs, for that office during a renewal period. You may claim that office again the next renewal period. You may still claim up to 8 PDHs if you serve on different committees or hold other offices.

Papers & Presentations - Under the PE rules, you may claim up to 10 PDHs for authoring a paper that is published in a national journal or trade magazine or presented to a professional society. The Board clarified that only 10 PDHs could be claimed in total, not 10 PDHs for having the paper published and 10 PDHs for presenting the paper, even if the paper is published in one renewal period and printed in another. There is no limit on the number of papers you may publish or present, however.

Patents - Under the PE Rules, you may claim 10 PDHs for patents received during the renewal period. There is no limit on the number of patents you may claim.

Teaching - PDHs may be claimed at a rate of 2 PDHs for every hour spent teaching a seminar. The PDHs may be claimed for the first time the seminar is taught, not simply the first time it is taught that renewal period. The seminar may not be taught for PDHs the next renewal period as well. Credit does not count for teaching as part of your regularly assigned duties.

REMINDER: DUPLICATE SEMINARS

If you attend a seminar in a renewal period for PDHs, you may not repeat the same seminar in that renewal period for PDHs. You may repeat the seminar in a subsequent renewal period for PDHs. (If you attend two seminars in the same renewal period with similar names, be sure to keep your back up materials to demonstrate that the two seminars were in fact substantially different.)

AUDITS:

The Division of Professional Regulation has begun PE Professional Development Audits. Several ISPE leaders themselves received audit notices. After speaking with department staff, the following are tips to help your audit go smoothly:

- **Compile a summary sheet of your PDHs and how they were earned to serve as a cover sheet to your packet. THIS SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, BE THE ONLY INFORMATION YOU SUBMIT.**
- **If you earned more than the thirty required hours, include all your hours, just in case a few appear questionable.**
- **When possible include copies of certificates for seminars you attended. Certificates are the best means of documentation in the department's eyes.**
- **Include back up material demonstrating the nature of the course content (handouts, program, etc.). This is particularly helpful if the name of the course does not adequately describe its relevance to the practice of engineering. When in doubt, send it.**
- **Keep a record and copies of everything you send in, just in case it is misplaced.**
- **Return the material requested in plenty of time prior to the deadline you are given.**

If you do go through an audit, the information you send will be reviewed initially by a non-engineer reviewer. If your information appears straight forward and complete, the audit could end at that point. Only if there are questions will the design unit staff and/or PE Board become involved, so it pays to send organized and thorough documentation.

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: mrrinnan@ekmail.com or fax the information to 312.251.3015. The contact will be provided membership information and acknowledgement of your referral.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

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.

2007 NATIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPORT CARD WEB BRIEFING

Wednesday, December 5, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Registration Fee

ROUNDAABOUT SAFETY AND DESIGN

Thursday, December 6, 2007, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. CST Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

TRIP GENERATION: FUNDAMENTALS AND APPLICATIONS

Thursday, December 6, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CST Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

IMPROVING PUBLIC AGENCY-CONSULTANT RELATIONS

Tuesday, December 11, 2007, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. CST Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

ACCESS MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CST Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

UPDATE TO FHWA RAILROAD-HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING HANDBOOK WEB BRIEFING

Wednesday, December 12, 2007, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. CST Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Price: \$100 Registration Fee

TRIP GENERATION: ADVANCE CONCEPTS AND APPLICATIONS

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

INTERSECTION SAFETY AND GEOMETRIC DESIGN - SIGHT DISTANCE

Thursday, January 31, 2008, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. CST Credits 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET ITE Member Price: \$250/Nonmember Price: \$275

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2008 Midwestern 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.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER FOR PUBLIC AGENCIES

The Illinois Section is pleased to offer a special membership rate to our colleagues in the public sector. The Illinois Section is offering governmental agencies (including universities) annual membership for six persons at \$100 total (over a 40% discount normal membership) with additional each person at \$15 (over a 55% discount). Please consider joining your fellow transportation professionals as an ITE Illinois Section member, and enjoy many benefits:

- Your agency has a formal relationship with a major international transportation society
- Membership Dues at a predictable cost

- Agency membership dues provide a significant savings over individual membership dues
- Your members receive a free luncheon and recognition at an introduction meeting
- You provide a significant employee benefit and enhance your agency's overall professional quality
- Quarterly newsletter with technical news, Section information, and job prospects
- Participation in committees and councils

You can download the governmental agency application for at http://www.ite.org/public/membership/membrapp_agency.pdf



CONFERENCE CALL

A list of conferences is provided for your consideration:

TRB 87TH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday to Thursday, January 13 to 17 at the Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington Hotels in Washington, D.C. <http://www.trb.org/meeting/> for more information.

ATSSA'S 37TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AND TRAFFIC EXPO

Friday to Tuesday, February 8 to 12, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA, <http://www.atssa.com> or call 800/272-8772 for more information.

ITE 2008 TECHNICAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBIT

Sunday to Wednesday, March 30 to April 2, at the Hyatt Regency Miami, Miami, FL. For more information watch the web site at <http://www.ite.org/meetcon/index.asp>.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PROPOSALS

15TH WORLD CONGRESS ON INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

In 2008, the 15th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems will include ITS America's Annual Meeting & Exposition making it the largest event in the world for ITS leaders, policy makers, and other industry professionals. You are invited to submit a paper for the 15th World Congress. Online submission opens November 1, 2007. To download a copy of the announcement, visit http://www.itsa.org/itsa/files/pdf/WCAM08_CallforPapers.pdf

Papers must be original and should report on recent significant and substantial achievements and results, reflecting the World Congress theme, "ITS Connections: Saving Time, Saving Lives." One important new feature of this World Congress is the opportunity for authors of scientific papers to have their work

APWA ILLINOIS CHAPTER CONFERENCE

Sunday to Wednesday, April 30 to May 2, 2008 at the Peoria Civic Center, Peoria, Illinois. For more information phone Andy Bugos at 309-693-9667 ext 18 or e-mail rmbales@aol.com.

TRB FREEWAY AND TOLLWAY OPERATIONS CONFERENCE

Sunday to Thursday, June 15 to 19, at the Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. For more information visit <http://www.2008ftoc.com/> or phone Steve Corbin at 954-847-2785.

ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sunday to Tuesday, July 6 to 8, at the Hard Rock Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. For more information visit <http://www.midwesternite.org/> or phone Melanie Williams at 847-823-0500.

peer-reviewed and published in one of three notable scientific journals:

- **Journal of Intelligent Transportation Systems will focus on civil engineering aspects of intelligent transport systems, especially on issues related to intelligent infrastructure.**
- **IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems will focus on electrical engineering aspects of intelligent transport systems, especially on issues related to intelligent vehicles and fleet management.**
- **IET Intelligent Transport Systems will focus on all aspects of cooperation between vehicles and infrastructure.**

Following the World Congress on ITS, authors of particularly notable papers will be contacted by one of the journals and invited to update and enhance their papers for inclusion in these special editions.

(Continued on page 13)



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>





CALL FOR PAPERS AND PROPOSALS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 12)

For a list of key dates, guidelines and topics, visit <http://www.itsworldcongress.org/submit-a-paper.html>. For questions regarding the program, please contact wanderson@itsa.org.

TRB 2008 FREEWAY AND TOLLWAY OPERATIONS CONFERENCE

If you would like to be considered for the program, please submit an abstract. The focus of this conference will be on freeway and tollway operations and how pricing and public-private partnerships may impact the future.

Abstracts should be no more than 400 words in length and may be on any of the topics listed above or any topic relevant to the conference. The intent is to identify presentations for the conference (i.e., no paper is required). If you would like to submit a paper at a later date to be included in the proceedings, please indicate this in your submittal.

The deadline for abstract submission is February 1, 2008. Authors will be notified by March 1, 2008. To submit on-line, visit <http://www.2008ftoc.com/submitabstract.aspx>

RFQ: TASK-ORDER SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES

Research agencies are hereby invited to express interest in participating as a task-order contractor for NCHRP Project 20-24A by submitting a statement of qualifications and availability by December 18, 2007. NCHRP Project 20-24 is responsible for conducting research intended to address the specific needs of chief executive officers (CEOs) and other top managers of state departments of transportation (DOTs).

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standing Committee on Research (SCOR) each year allocates funds (\$1 million in each of the past few years) to the overall project, but identifica-

tion of specific tasks is left up to the NCHRP 20-24 project panel. Funding for individual studies is allocated by the NCHRP Panel. Future year funding will be determined in the context of total NCHRP funding decisions. Individual studies will typically be in the range of \$150,000 to \$300,000 and between 6 and 18 months in duration.

Full details on this RFP can be found at <http://www.trb.org/TRBNet/ProjectDisplay.asp?ProjectID=2340>.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RFQ

CMAP's Community Engagement Assistance Program has just released a request for qualifications (<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/rfp.aspx>). We are seeking community-based organizations to conduct outreach activities to supplement CMAP's Public Engagement Plan for the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Organizations will be responsible for bringing local stakeholders together to share their ideas and vision for the future of northeastern Illinois. CMAP wants to learn what residents hope the region will look like in 2040. To accomplish this we are looking for community-based groups to help us achieve the following objectives:

- **Collaborate with community-based organizations in our region to extend public outreach and involvement to both the general public as well as to groups that have been traditionally underrepresented (African Americans, Latinos, immigrants, disabled individuals, elderly, youth, lower-income residents and others), in the planning process.**
- **Increase participation of community-based groups so that the needs and desires of their constituents are incorporated into the Regional Comprehensive Plan.**
- **Identify and address priorities of a broad range of communities in the Regional Comprehensive Plan.**

Please share this information with any organizations you think might be interested. Applications are due on Friday December 7, 2007.



I-PASS users were asked to travel at reduced speeds during the Grand Opening Ceremony.



SECTION CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2007

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					

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **December 11** - CMAP Climate Change summit at the University of Illinois Chicago Student Center East. For more information visit <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/summit/default.aspx>, call 312.386.8704, or email summit@cmap.illinois.gov.

JANUARY 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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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		

- **December 12** – Illinois Section 2nd Annual Networking and Holiday Get Together at Bella Bacino's, Chicago, IL.

- **December 12 & 13** – Midwestern District ITE Board Retreat at the Hard Rock Hotel, Chicago, IL.

- **January 13 to 17** - Transportation Research Board 87th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

- **January 25** – Illinois Section Annual Awards Banquet at The Wellington, Arlington Heights, IL.

FEBRUARY 2008

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	

- **February 14**—Round-About Seminar at IDOT District One, Schaumburg, IL. For more information call Kim Kolody-Silverman 773.693.3809 or e-mail kkolody@ch2m.com

- **February 15**—ITEMS Deadline

- **February 18 to 22** – National Engineers Week

- **February 22** – Washington Awards Banquet, Chicago, IL

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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.

2008

March 20	Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
March 30 - April 2	ITE Technical Conference and Exhibit , Miami FL
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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 1)

On January 25, 2007, we will again be putting on our Illinois Section Annual Banquet at The Wellington in Arlington Heights. The evening will include dinner, cocktails, installation of the 2008 Section Board, awarding of two student scholarships and a student paper award, a raffle and live and silent auctions to benefit the Illinois Section Scholarship Fund, and hopefully some fun while we're at it. Please consider contributing to the scholarship auction, as proceeds from this event are the primary sources of funding our annual student scholarships and student paper awards. Last year was a great success with the introduction of the raffle with prizes including iPods and digital cameras. We hope to build on that again this year with some exciting prizes and auction items. Keep your eyes out for event and reservation details.

Finally, the Illinois Section is hosting the 2008 ITE Midwestern District Conference on July 6 - 8, 2008. The conference will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel in downtown Chicago. The venue is ideally located on Michigan Avenue just between the Chicago River and Millennium Park. Come for the 4th of July weekend and stay for the conference. The event promises to provide great a technical conference and informative tours at an exciting venue. My continued thanks to Mark **Rinnan** and **Dennis Dal Santo** and the conference planning committee for your hard work and time commitment. Stay tuned for further information on the conference and we hope to see you in Chicago next summer for what is sure to be an exciting event.

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

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INDUSTRY NEWS

JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP

Pasadena, CA, November 2. Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. (NYSE:JEC) announced this morning that it is completing the acquisition of Carter & Burgess, a 3,200-person professional services firm headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, early today. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Founded in 1939, Carter & Burgess is a nationally recognized architecture, engineering, design, and planning firm serving public and private clients in the fields of transportation, water infrastructure programs, building programs, land development, and planning. The company is ranked 34th among the Top 500 U.S. Design Firms by Engineering News-Record (ENR).

In making the announcement, Carter & Burgess President and CEO **Ben Watts** stated, "We are excited about the prospect of joining Jacobs. This combination enables both firms to address the challenges and emerging trends faced in our industry which include addressing the aging infrastructure in America and access to talent to respond to the ever increasing demands in our marketplace. It also allows Carter & Burgess to leverage our capabilities in the market and compete for some of the largest projects in the world."

Jacobs, with over 49,000 employees and revenues exceeding \$8.0 billion, provides technical, professional, and construction services globally.

IDOT DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS

Springfield, IL, November 10. Illinois Secretary of Transportation **Milton Sees** announced that effective November 16, 2007 Ms. **Christine Reed** was promoted to the Director of Highways.

Ms. Reed has been employed with the Illinois Department of Transportation since 1989. She started in the Division of Highways working in the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research. She held various positions in the Office of Planning and Programming from 1997 to

2003 including the Bureau Chief of Statewide Program Planning. In 2003, she was promoted to District Engineer in District Six. She then became the Deputy Director of Highways/Region Four Engineer. Ms. Reed is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and is a registered professional engineer in Illinois.

BAXTER & WOODMAN, INC.

Madison, WI, November 19 & 29. Baxter & Woodman, Inc., Consulting Engineers, one of the Midwest's largest civil engineering firms, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Daniel C. Durig**, PE as Senior Transportation Engineer and promotions of Senior Engineer **Carl F. Fischer**, PE to Wastewater Department Manager and Project Manager **Carolyn A. Grieves**, PE to Water Department Manager.

Mr. Durig earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Wisconsin with more than 20 years of experience in the design of roadways, bridges, parking lots, water main and sanitary sewer for both state and locally-funded projects.

Mr. Fischer earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Illinois with more than 30 years of experience. His technical expertise includes wastewater, potable water and stormwater projects.

Ms. Grieves also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois, and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Iowa. A licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Illinois, Ms. Grieves joined Baxter & Woodman in 1996. Her main focus is on the design of water supply, treatment and distribution systems.

(Continued on page 19)



MORE INDUSTRY NEWS

(Continued from page 18)

“The addition of Mr. Durig reinforces Baxter & Woodman’s expanding transportation engineering capabilities in Wisconsin,” said **Deborah Finn**, Marketing Director. “We are excited to have him on board and are confident that his experience will greatly benefit our clientele.”

CIVILTECH ENGINEERING, INC.

Itasca, IL, November 19. Civiltech Engineering, Inc. is pleased to announce that the firm has attained prequalification with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) in the following categories: Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) and Highway Structures: Advanced Typical.

Ms. **Mary L. Young**, P.E., PTOE, Civiltech’s Phase I Department Head, has been prequalified by IDOT as an Environmental Lead at the EIS level. This is the highest level of environmental prequalification awarded by IDOT. It represents a notable professional recognition and corporate achievement. Mary’s expertise will allow Civiltech for the first time to pursue the most challenging Phase I engineering projects offered by IDOT and the Illinois Tollway.

Civiltech has recently been prequalified with the Illinois Department of Transportation to design structures in the Advanced Typical level. This category includes multiple span bridges in seismic category B, single span bridges in seismic category C, simple curved or flared structures and tall retaining walls requiring advanced analysis or non-standard support requirements. The new prequalification gives Civiltech the opportunity to compete in a completely new class of structural work.

APPOINTMENT AMTRAK NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Chicago, IL, November 19. Gov. **Rod R. Blagojevich** today congratulated **Tom Carper**, the former mayor of Macomb and Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) West Central region manager, on his

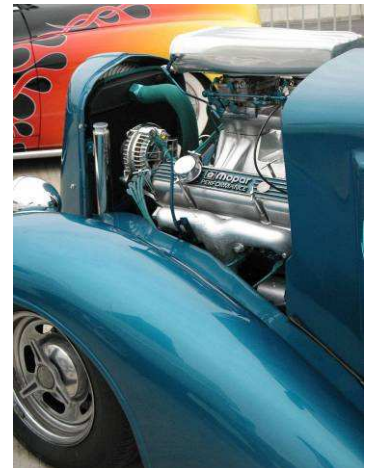
nomination by Sen. **Dick Durbin** (D-IL) to serve on the national Board of Directors for Amtrak. The Governor also urged quick action on the nomination by the U.S. Senate.

Carper’s nomination was put forward by Sen. Durbin and he was formally nominated by President Bush. The nomination must be confirmed by the Senate Commerce Committee and the full Senate. Despite taking on the new duties, Carper will continue in his current position with DCEO.

The Governor said that Carper led the fight to preserve passenger rail service in the region and state when he served as mayor of Macomb from 1991 to 2003. In 1991 Carper was appointed by the Amtrak Board of Directors to the Amtrak Mayors’ Advisory Council and served as its Chair from 2000 to 2001.

Illinois expanded its partnership with Amtrak in October of 2007, when it doubled state funding from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the rail line to more than \$24 million to pay for increased service on three routes. In the year since the added service began, ridership on the state supported trains surged by 108 percent on the Chicago-St. Louis corridor. Ridership between Chicago and Carbondale is up by 67.4 percent for the state-supported trains and by 41.4 percent on the state-supported trains on the Chicago-Galesburg-Quincy route. In all, nearly 3.6 million passengers used Amtrak stations in Illinois in the last federal fiscal year.

Governor Blagojevich picked Carper to serve as regional director for the West Central region for Opportunity Returns, a regional economic development plan fostering job creation and targeted economic development. He graduated from Western Illinois University and served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1970 in Thailand and Vietnam. He was a small business owner-operator from 1971 to 1991 when he was first elected Mayor of Macomb.



Old Steel - Beautifully restored antique cars were on display at the I-355 Grand Opening festivities at the 159th Street interchange.

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ILLINOIS SECTION OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

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THE EDITOR'S DESK

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