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ITEms 2017, Issue 2

THE COMPREHENSIVE NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS.

ITEms Edited by: Thomas Glueckert (Stanley Consultants) - illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Wirtz, Jacobs Engineering Group

Hello Readers,

It's hard to believe it, but somehow we are already in June, halfway through the calendar year. The Illinois Section's Executive Board has been very busy planning, hosting, and attending a variety of events, as well as doing behind-the-scenes work on fun stuff like budgets, annual reports, and trying to obtain official 501(c)(3) (i.e., non-profit) status from the IRS.

Included in that behind-the-scenes work are a variety of awards applications that the Illinois Section submits to the Midwestern District each April. This year, I'm proud to announce that the Illinois Section received the 2016 Communications Award! A special thanks to **Ashley Hochstatter** (HDR) and **Tom Glueckert** (Stanley Consultants) for their work on the ITEms newsletter, and to Public Affairs Director **Monica Shei** (Jacobs) for her efforts to redesign the <u>Section's website</u>.



John Wirtz, P.E., PTOE

Recent and Upcoming Events

Hopefully many of you had a chance to attend one of several recent Illinois Section events. We hosted an update on the Illinois Tollway's Elgin O'Hare Western Access Project on March 29, a social event with the ASCE Younger Members Group on May 4, and a presentation from Pace and RTA about their transit signal priority programs on May 24.

We are currently working to reschedule a previously planned event with CMAP about the regional On To 2050 Plan, as well as planning our annual golf outing with WTS, a summer social, and new events with CDOT about North Lake Shore Drive reconstruction, and with IDOT about their work on a roundabout program. We will also be hosting a two-day technical seminar about traffic signal operations with the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety on August 28 and 29. I strongly recommend sending someone from your staff to what is sure to be an excellent opportunity to pick up those highly coveted professional development hours. Please look for more details about our events throughout this newsletter.

Membership Goals

In our previous edition of ITEms, I noted that boosting our membership numbers is a high priority for the Illinois Section in 2017. This goal led me to thinking about how and why people become ITE members. Thinking back to my own experience, I attended my first ITE event because I was invited by a colleague, a story I expect is true for many of us. I later joined as an Affiliate Member of the Illinois Section, which at \$20 per year remains a tremendous value to get discounts on Section events. A few years later, a member of the

Executive Board encouraged me to run for an open Director position, which I happened to win by a coin flip tiebreaker. I served as Director of the Operations Group on the Executive Board for four years, then eventually Secretary, Vice President, and now President. Please e-mail us with your stories about how and why you became an ITE Member and who helped encourage you along the way, and be sure to help us grow our ranks by inviting someone in your office to attend a Section meeting or social event. They may end up remembering you as the person who helped them get involved in a long and rewarding relationship with ITE.

Upcoming ITE Conferences

As I'm sure you know, the Midwestern District Conference June 18-20 in Madison and the ITE Annual Meeting July 30 through August 2 in Toronto. The programs for both events look fantastic. I'm excited about the opportunity to attend, and hope I will see some of my fellow Illinois Section members there. I plan to report back to you in this column in next quarter's edition of ITEms.

In this Issue: Illinois Section News | ILITE Past Events | Professional Development | Legislative Corner | Calendar | Professional Directory

Illinois Section News and Announcements

Student Affairs News and Announcements

By Student Affairs Director Ashley Hochstatter, P.E.

Graduation Information for Students

Congratulations to our ITE student chapter members who are graduating this spring/summer, and best wishes from the Illinois Section on a bright future and prosperous career! Upon graduation, please remember to remain involved in the Illinois Section of ITE or another local section if you end up somewhere other than Illinois. You should have received a message from ILITE containing information regarding your ITE membership as you begin your post-collegiate careers; if not, below is a recap with this information:

- Once you graduate, you will need to change your e-mail address from your .edu address to your personal or professional address to ensure you continue receiving messages from ITE International and the Illinois Section of ITE. You can do this logging into your profile on the ITE website here.
- If you need to join ITE International or change membership grades, general ITE membership information can be found here.
- The <u>30-to-30 program</u> from ITE provides large discounts on membership to our young members. Your membership could even be free!

To the students we will see again next school year: I will be in contact with the student chapters in the early fall. If you need our assistance with a student chapter event or have any questions regarding ITE, please email me at illinoisite+studentaffairs@gmail.com.

ITE Midwestern District Collegiate Traffic Bowl Competition

The Midwestern District's 9th Annual Collegiate Traffic Bowl will take place on June 19th during the MWITE District Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The winning school at the District level will advance to the ITE International Collegiate Traffic Bowl Championships to be held at the end of July at the 2017 International Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada. Best of luck to all schools, but especially our Illinois chapters!

The MWITE meeting in Madison will also include

- Student Design Competition Sunday, June 18th
- Student Networking Pizza Event Monday, June 19th
- Student Poster Session Tuesday, June 20th

All events will be held at the Concourse Hotel in Chicago. More information can be found at the conference website here: https://www.mwite2017.com/

Public Affairs News and Announcements

By Public Affairs Director Monica Shei

ITE International Liaison Committee Members:

Illinois ITE is interested in expanding our coordination with ITE International Committees and to expose more members to these volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in an opportunity to serve as a liaison member or have had experience in an ITE International Committee, please contact Monica Shei at monica.shei@jacobs.com for further coordination. More information can be found here: http://www.ite.org/councils/index.asp.

New Illinois ITE Website:

Have you checked out our newly revamped website? Click HERE (http://www.ilite.org/) to browse through our new website and to see what Illinois ITE has been up to. Comments regarding the website can be forwarded to Monica Shei at illinoisite+publicaffairs@gmail.com.

Operations News and Announcements

By Operations Director Katelyn Bleach

As our year is well underway, please remember to pay your dues if you haven't already! The benefits of international membership are vast and we encourage all our current members to reach out to their colleagues to re-new memberships or start ones today! If you have any questions about the resources available to International members, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com.

Have a newsworthy story or an idea for an article? Want to advertise your business and place an ad in ITEms? Have a job posting and want to get the word out? Tell ITEms all about it! Send your article submissions to the editor at lllinoisite.editor@gmail.com and all advertising requests to lllinoisite.editor@gmail.com and all advertising requests to

Activities News and Announcements

By Activities Director Thomas Szabo, TOPS, TSOS

2017 ILITE/WTS Golf Outing

When: Friday, August 18, 2017; 7 am - 5 pm

Where: Bloomingdale Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Rd, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

Why: Mark your calendar to join us for great fun at the 7th Annual ITE Illinois Section / WTS Greater

Chicago Chapter Golf Outing.

Look for further details to be sent to you soon.

If you have any questions regarding the event or sponsorship, please feel free to contact either: **Thomas Szabo** at (847) 823-0500 or **Jessie Carroll** at (312) 294-5682.

Technical News and Announcements

By Technical Director Jenna Brose

Traffic Signal Operations Workshop

When: August 28 - 29, 2017

Where: 118 N Clark Street (Cook County Building) Chicago, IL 60602

Why: Come learn or refresh your Traffic Signal skills in this two day workshop hosted by ITE. Expect more

information soon!

What Has The Illinois Section Been Up To?

A Review of the ITE Webinar:

Looking Forward: Advancing New and Emerging Traffic Control Devices

By: Jenna Brose, P.E., PTOE, ILITE Technical Director

On March 8, 2017 the Illinois Section of ITE hosted a Snack and Learn for the Looking Forward: Advancing New and Emerging Traffic Control Devices webinar with speakers Paul J. Carlson, Dongho H. Chang and

Peter Koonce. This session spoke to the process of adopting new traffic control devices into the MUTCD as well as some examples that are currently under the FHWA experimentation process. In order to make a change in the MUTCD extensive research is completed and from there, each of the National Committees on Uniform Traffic Control Devices gives their input. Recently, research has focused on innovative treatments

TURNING VEHICLE TO

Figure 1. Illuminated Yield to Bicyclists Sign

for transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. For example, what magnitude of safety benefit is provided by replacing a standa rd "Turning Vehicles Yield to Bicyclists" sign with the illuminated version shown in Figure 1 improving the signs visibility? In addition to this, agencies are also determining how to most effectively communicate these new treatments

to the end user. For example, both photos in Figure 2 are trying to relay the same message but which is more intuitive? Research like this helps determine the direction of future MUTCD updates. In 2017 NCHRP & TCRP plan to fund research for Bus Rapid Transit Traffic Control Devices Synthesis and Speed Warning Applications for Highway



Figure 2. Bicycles Wait Here with Green Pavement Markings

Exits. The Technical Group of the Illinois Section of ITE looks forward to doing more viewings next year. We want to thank all the attendees for participating in the event and AECOM who was generous to offer their c onferen ce room.

Girl Scouts 6th Annual STEMapalooza

By: Monica Shei, ILITE Public Affairs Director

Illinois ITE attended the 6th Annual STEMapalooza Expo hosted by Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana. This event occurred on Saturday, March 25 from 10:00 am to 2:00 PM at the Friendship Center in Country Club Hills. The goal of STEPapalooza was to inspire girls to explore the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Approximately 30 organizations attended the event as Girl Scouts circulated to participate in hands-on activities that relate to STEM.

Illinois ITE provided laptops with the traffic control game "Gridlock Buster" available to play. Gridlock Buster is an online traffic control game developed by the University of Minnesota and applies concepts vital to traffic engineering. The game incorporates the concept of delay and queue in a fun and easily understandable way. Players must control the traffic signals to ensure maximum capacity through the intersection. Illinois ITE was able to explain the role of traffic engineers to both the Girl Scouts and the attending parents. Illinois ITE would like to thank the organizers of this fun event and looks forward to future collaborations with the Girl Scouts of Great Chicago and Northwest Indiana.

Thank you to ITE board members **Josh Harris**, **Ashley Hochstatter**, and **Monica Shei** for volunteering for this event!

Feel free to play Gridlock Buster here: http://www.its.umn.edu/GridlockBuster/









March Luncheon: Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project

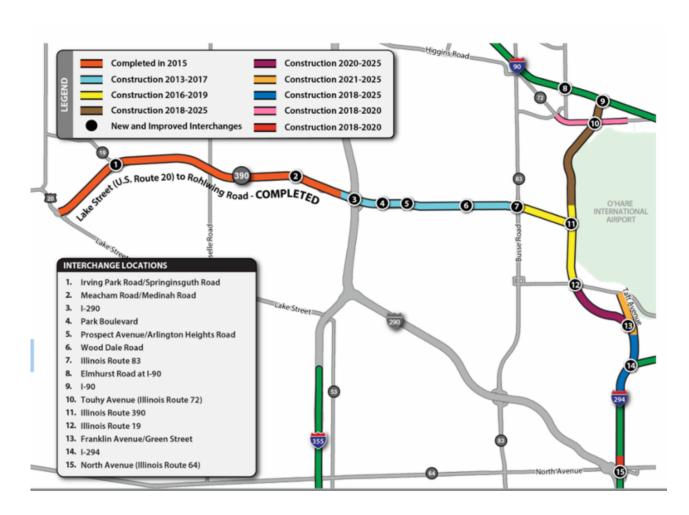
By: Thomas Szabo, ILITE Activities Director

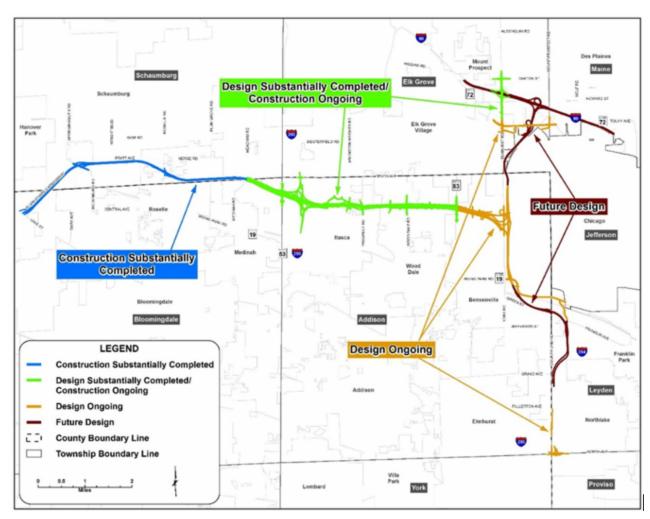
On March 29th, the ILITE Activities Committee hosted the March Luncheon at Ditka's in Oakbrook, IL where we had 52 attendees representing both public agency and private consultant organizations.

Mr Manar Nashif, Senior Project Engineer with the Illinois Tollway, provided a comprehensive overview of the EOWA project history, scale and scope, and the reasons why the project has the potential to change the face of Illinois' northwest suburbs and the Midwest region. As the Tollway's largest-ever project, the EOWA project represents a fiscally responsible approach to address the area's diverse travel needs - improving travel efficiency, providing western access to O'Hare International Airport, creating opportunities for jobs and economic development, enhancing multi-modal connections, and reducing congestion. The EOWA project is designated a "Project of National and Regional Significance" by the U.S. Department of Transportation due to its overall magnitude, potential to dramatically improve mobility, freight connectivity, and enhance the national and regional economies. The EOWA project presented many challenges including being the first-ever freeway to toll road conversion in Illinois, first use of the tiered EIS in Illinois, first-ever use of federal funding for Illinois Tollway construction, and fast-track design delivery for I-290 Interchange Project. The Illinois Tollway has already made significant investments in the project, including \$ 1 billion in engineering and land acquisition, and \$2.4 billion allocated for construction.

John Davis, International Director for the Midwestern District of ITE joined us and provided after lunch activities with the "Slap Shot Shawn" game. Luncheon attendees got a chance to preview the game, which will be on hand at the upcoming 2017 Midwestern District Conference in Madison, Wisconsin in June where participants compete for a chance for to win a free registration to attend the 2017 Annual Meeting in Toronto. John also provided a short video presentation to promote the upcoming Midwestern District Conference.







A Review of the ITE Webinar: TRB Webinar: Introducing the Guidelines for Implementing Manged Lanes

By: Jenna Brose, P.E., PTOE, ILITE Technical Director

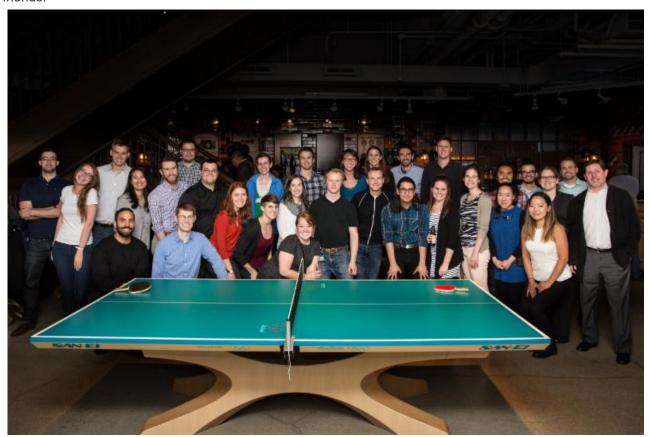
On April 10, 2017 the Illinois Section of ITE hosted a Lunch and Learn for the webinar titled Introducing the Guidelines for Implementing Managed Lanes. This webinar discussed information put forth in NCHRP Report 835. Over the past 45 years 2500 additional miles of managed lanes have been constructed. Currently managed lanes (ML) serve millions of trips and save over 600,000 hours of delay daily throughout the US. When planning to implement ML agencies must pay careful attention to social and economic impacts, the environmental review process, traffic and revenue forecasting and funding. Once in the design process, transit and truck use must be considered as well as what level of separation between ML and general purpose lanes is ideal for the project. This can range from pavement marking to barrier wall, and while it is easier to enforce tolling with barrier wall, it is not preferred by users and concentrates weaving movements to specific ingress and egress points. Whichever degree of access is selected must be accompanied by proper signing which can be found in Chapter 2F of the MUTCD. Finally, once the ML are in construction it is essential that the civil contractor and the toll systems integrator are on the same page in order to deliver a successful project. The Technical Group thanks all of the attendees for participating in the event and AECOM for hosting.

ILITE/ASCE YMG Spring Social - AceBounce

By: Thomas Szabo, ILITE Activities Director

A spring social was held on the evening of May 4, 2017 at AceBounce in Chicago. The event was cosponsored by the Illinois Section of ITE and the Illinois Section of ASCE's Young Member's Group (YMG). Over 40 attendees from both organizations joined for an evening of ping pong, food and fun. The event also

allowed participants a great opportunity to network with colleagues within our profession as well as make new friends.



May Luncheon: Elgin O'Hare Western Access (EOWA) Project By: Thomas Szabo, ILITE Activities Director

At the May 24 luncheon, ITE members and other transportation professionals attended a presentation by the RTA and Pace on the Implementation of a Regional Transit Signal Priority (TSP) System in Northeastern Illinois. The May lunch program took place at Maggiano's in Schaumburg and had over 30 attendees.

Dr. Mark Pitstick from the Regional Transit Authority discussed how TSP is beneficial for transit performance and the need to develop and implement a regional program. This program received funding from federal and local sources and includes 400 intersections and 13 corridors within multiple counties and municipalities. TSP implementation began in 2016 and will continue through 2018.

Taqhi Mohammed from Pace suburban bus presented how the agency implemented TSP and Lane Management in multiple counties. Pace first interconnected signals along 10 transit corridors and conducted signal timing optimization in order to improve bus travel time. Next, Pace evaluated systems architecture, technology specifications, and specialized equipment and software in order to implement TSP. The next steps are further deployment, a centralized TSP center, and data sharing between agencies.

The ITE activities committee organizes monthly luncheons as an opportunity for professionals to network, stay up to date with transportation endeavors and accomplishments, and learn about upcoming innovations in the transportation engineering realm.



ITE News and Announcments

Voting is Open for the Midwestern ITE 2018 Secretary and Treasurer

Individual voting information has been provided to your registered email account.

The voting deadline is June 18th. 2017 at 9:00 PM Central Time.

Candidate bios can be downloaded at https://goo.gl/UzlmCE, and are also available on the ballot.

ITE Midwestern District Conference

What: ITE Midwestern District Meeting

When: June 18-20, 2017 Where: Madison, WI

Why: This meeting represents 11 states, providing an opportunity for attendees to network with a diverse group of transportation professionals and to experience a robust technical program focusing on the latest trends in transportation. The meeting will be located at the Madison Concourse Hotel, steps

from Wisconsin's Capital, State Street, and other Downtown Attractions.

Check out our website and sign up for email alerts: https://www.mwite2017.com/

Joint ITE/CITE 2017 Annual Meeting and Exhibit

What: ITE 2017 Annual Meeting and Exhibit

When: July 30 - August 2, 2017 Where: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Theme: Transportation for All: Putting New Ideas into Practice

Check out the website and sign up for email alerts:

http://www.ite.org/annualmeeting/



Professional Development Seminars

TRB Webinar

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) hosts several conference recording and webinars on their site. The recordings and webinars cover a wide range of topics in the transportation field. Select, live webinars are available for Professional Development Hours (PDH). Check out the TRB Webinar and Conference Recording Program <u>HERE</u>.

ITE Web Seminars

Several ITE webinars are available through Learning Hub at http://www.ite.org/learninghub/. Log in today to check out upcoming events.

T3 Webinars

Talking Technology and Transportation (T3) Webinars are designed to help agencies feel confident about deploying ITS technologies as a means to address challenges in their transportation systems. These free, 90-minute, interactive online meetings offer knowledge sharing on topics related to ITS

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Hey Section Member!

Get involved! There are open positions in the Student Affairs Group, the Activities Group, the Technical Group, and the Public Affairs Group. To volunteer on an ILITE committee, contact the group's director.

Do you have a newsworthy story?

planning, design, procurement, deployment, and operations. T3 current and archived webinars are available

at http://www.pcb.its.dot.gov/t3_webinars.aspx.

Legislative Corner

Compiled by Thomas Glueckert, Stanley Consultants

U.S. Senators Outline Driverless Car Legislation

A bipartisan group of senators have outlined driverless car legislation on 6/13/2017 as Congress looks to speed up the deployment of autonomous vehicles. Their bill aims to prioritize safety, strengthen cybersecurity and better educate the public about the emerging technology. Republican Senator John Thune has said "Self-driving vehicle technology will have a transformational impact on highway safety.." and that "These principles underscore our commitment to prioritizing safety, fixing outdated rules, and clarifying the role of federal and state governments." On the consumer side, the legislation looks for ways to encourage more widespread adoption of driverless cars by reviewing public education models and addressing potential cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

http://thehill.com/policy/transportation/337640-senators-outline-driverless-car-legislation

https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2017/06/13/technology/13reuters-usa-selfdriving.html? r=0

Upcoming ITE Events

Check out our ILITE Event calendar for ILITE events and other transportation events happening!

ILITE Event Calendar

2017 ILITE/WTS Golf Outing

When: Friday, August 18, 2017; 7 am - 5 pm

Where: Bloomingdale Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Rd, Bloomingdale, IL 60108

Why: Mark your calendar to join us for great fun at the 7th Annual ITE

Illinois Section / WTS Greater Chicago Chapter Golf Outing.

Look for further details to be sent to you soon.

If you have any questions regarding the event or sponsorship, please feel free to contact either: **Thomas Szabo** at (847) 823-0500 or **Jessie Carroll** at (312) 294-5682.

Traffic Signal Operations Workshop

When: August 28 - 29, 2017

Where: 118 N Clark Street (Cook County Building) Chicago, IL 60602 Why: Come learn or refresh your Traffic Signal skills in this two day

workshop hosted by ITE. Expect more information soon!

Tell ITEms all about it! Send your article submissions to the editor:

Thomas Glueckert Illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

Refer a Friend!

The Illinois Section will send an issue of ITEms to your friend or business acquaintance who may be interested in joining ITE. Email the contact information to the editor at: Illinoisite.editor@gmail.com
The contact will be provided membership information and acknowledgement of your reformal.

ITEms is the official publication of the Illinois Section of ITE. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect official Institute or Illinois Section policy unless so stated. Advertisements do not constitute en-dorsements of products or services.

ILITE Officers

The success of the Illinois Section is due to the hard work of our volunteers who serve on the Executive Board, as Group Directors, and on our many committees.

OFFICERS

ACTIVITIES GROUP

TECHNICAL GROUP

STUDENT AFFAIRS GROUP

PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP

OPERATIONS GROUP

You can read more about our officers' Roles & Responsibilities and download the many materials that they produce to keep our section running by clicking on the links above.

There are several open committee positions! Get involved today!

Thank you to all our 2017 ILITE Section Sponsors!



























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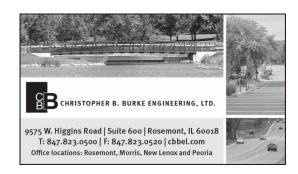
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