# THE COMPREHENSIVE ITEMS NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS.

ITEms Edited by: Patrick Jordan (AECOM) - illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ryan Jacox, TranSmart/EJM

Fellow ITE Illinois Section Members and Supporters,

And just like that, summer is on its way out and fall is on our doorstep. It has been a busy summer for the Illinois Section. We have several exciting upcoming events yet this month and into the fall! But first, a recap of our recent events and activities.

#### Joint ITE International and Midwestern/Great Lakes Districts Annual **Meeting and Exhibit**

While we traditionally have separate Annual Meetings for ITE International and the ITE Midwestern District, this year the International and District meetings were combined along with the Great Lakes District Annual Meeting. The well-attended and successful event was held August 20-23 at the Hilton in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota. I had the privilege to attend, along with several other



Ryan Jacox, P.E., PTOE

Illinois Section members. All in all, over 1,200 professionals were in attendance at the meeting.

Monday evening's Welcome to Minneapolis Reception at the U.S. Bank Stadium (Home of the Vikings and Super Bowl LII) was definitely a proper welcome and was one of several meeting highlights. Attendees were treated to ballpark favorites for food and drink at the field-level Delta Sky360 Club. The event's attendees took a group photo on the field, and some attendees participated in a tour of the facility. The event set a positive and energetic tone for the meeting.

The meeting's sessions spanned a wide variety of current topics, including Complete Streets, Connected and Automated Vehicles, Smart Communities, and Transportation Systems Management and Operations, among others. Two exhibits halls also presented over 60 vendors. Other meeting highlights included the ITE Collegiate Traffic Bowl Grand Championship, a variety of technical tours. poster sessions, a Women in Leadership in ITE Dinner, and the 2018 ITE Excellence in Transportation Awards. The Illinois Section was presented with the 3rd place award for the District/Section Communications Award. Special recognition goes out to Monica Shei, our Director of Public Affairs, for not only putting together our application for the award but also for continually ensuring that the Illinois Section remains on the forefront of effective communication including our website and social media presence!





I look forward to next year's ITE Annual Meetings. Stay tuned for details on the 2019 ITE Midwestern District Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, as well as the 2019 ITE International Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas.

#### OneITE Update

From a business perspective, a primary focus of the Annual Meeting was ITE's OneITE initiative, which seeks to align the membership experience for all ITE membership worldwide. As part of this initiative, the reorganization of several ITE districts, sections, and chapters will be necessary. While there are several aspects to this initiative, I will focus on what this means for us as Illinois Section members. We are currently part of the Midwestern District, which includes several sections to our north, west, and southwest, including the Missouri Valley Section (MOVITE). MOVITE has historically acted as its own district in the sheer size and feel of the section. After much scrutiny and discussion at the International and District levels, it was decided that MOVITE should now become its own district, the Missouri Valley District. In addition,

the remaining sections within the current Midwestern District, including the Illinois Section, would join with the sections in the current Great Lakes District (Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio) to become a new Great Lakes District. In other words, there will no longer be a Midwestern District. This transition will not occur overnight and will take two years, currently anticipated to be complete in 2020. On the surface, for you as Illinois Section members, you will not see drastic changes in how ITE behaves as an organization in general. We will still have luncheons, social events, technical events, and everything else you have come to appreciate as members at the local level. However, the formation of new bylaws and other processes to unify and align how districts, sections, and chapters behave will be implemented during this time. What you will see is increased visibility of the benefits of being an ITE member. You will see what your ITE International and the future Great Lakes District have to benefit you as members beyond the Illinois Section level, and you will be able to tap into even more benefits and resources because they will be presented in a more useful and accessible way. And, should you leave the Illinois Section, the hope is that you will join a section in your new location and your experience will by and large remain unchanged, outside of the typical cultural and daily life differences we see throughout our great country and beyond. The OneITE initiative is not a cause of concern but instead is a cause for you to be excited for the increased benefits of this great organization! Please contact me at <u>illinoisite+president@gmail.com</u> with any questions about OneITE or anything else on your mind regarding ITE!

#### **Other Recent Events**

- A snack-and-learn webinar discussing Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossings was held at the Naperville Municipal Center on May 24th. Fourteen people attended the webinar.
- A snack-and-learn webinar discussing an Introduction to Traffic Engineering Studies was held at Jacobs Engineering on July 19th. Nine people attended the webinar, with several of these attendees being summer interns.
- ITE held its Summer Social at Ballast Point Brewing in Chicago on August 1st. Thirty people were in attendance, and we have heard from those who attended that we should do more events like this. We are definitely working on it; see our upcoming events below.
- The Annual ITE Golf Outing, co-sponsored by Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) and Intelligent Transportation Society (ITS) Midwest, was held on August 17th at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. Thirty-two golfers participated in the event and helped contribute money to the Illinois Section's student scholarship funds.
- The September Luncheon and Facility Tour was hosted by the Illinois Tollway and Pace Suburban Bus Service and occurred on Friday, September 21st at both the Illinois Tollway Office and on-site on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90). The I-90 SmartRoad Corridor was the primary topic of discussion. The event, which was co-sponsored by ITS Midwest, was a great success and had over 70 attendees.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- The 2018 Fall Election for the 2019 ITE Illinois Section Board will be occurring over the next couple months. Watch for details, election bios, and an invitation for membership to vote via email. If you are interested in learning more about serving a two-year term as a director on the board, please contact Brian Roberts, our Vice President, at illinoisite+vicepresident@gmail.com or me.
- The Technical Committee is hosting a two-day HCM/HCS7 workshop presented by Bill Sampson of McTrans. The workshop will take place November 7-8 at the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways in downtown Chicago.
- As in years past, the November Luncheon will be a joint event between the ITE Illinois Section and the Rockford Chapter of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers (ISPE). Keep a lookout for upcoming details on the date, venue, and topic.
- The ITE Illinois Section Annual Banquet will occur in mid to late January 2019. The specific date and venue are still in development. Please join us to celebrate another successful year and to witness the swearing in of the 2019 Illinois Section Board.

As always, we hope to see you at an upcoming ITE event!

Sincerely,

Ryan Jacox, PE, PTOE Illinois Section President TranSmart/EJM

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

# **Illinois Section News and Announcements**

### **Technical News and Announcements**

By Technical Director Kelly Dunne

Check out the Upcoming Events section for more news on the two-day HCM/HCS7 training event in November.

Keep a look out via email for more upcoming events!

# What Has The Illinois Section Been Up To?

### **Technical Webinar - Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossings**

By Technical Director Kelly Dunne

On May 24, ITE presented a webinar focused on uncontrolled pedestrian crossings. This webinar was triggered by the recension and reintroduction of interim approval for the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB). Other pedestrian crossing treatments were also presented, including edge-lit warning signs, circular beacons, knock-down signs, and flash rates. The presentation shared case studies from around the country and provided insights on the benefits and drawbacks of these tools. The overarching message was that there are many ways to provide pedestrian safety, and ongoing research will focus on implementation and results. Fifteen professionals attended this snack and learn event at the Naperville Municipal Center.

## **Technical Webinar - Intro to Traffic Engineering**

By Technical Director Kelly Dunne

The July 19 webinar, hosted at Jacobs in downtown Chicago, was geared towards summer transportation; interns who were interested in learning more about the profession. Nine attendees came out for the webinar, representing Michael Baker International, Jacobs, and AES Services. The presentation introduced viewers to traffic engineering as a whole, followed by a focus in traffic engineering studies. Attendees received an introduction to several types of studies, when they are implemented, how they are performed, and potential pitfalls. Attendees were also able to meet interns at other firms and dialogue with working professionals.

### ILITE Summer Social, Ballast Point Brewing Company

By Public Relations Director Monica Shei

ILITE hosted a summer social at the newly opened Ballast Point Brewing Company in the heart of Fulton Market on August 1, 2018. We had a mix of both professionals and students that contributed to a great turnout. Thank you to everyone who attended this successful event and we hope to see you at the next social!



## September Lunch and Facility Tour: Jane Adams Memorial Tollway (1-90) SmartRoad

On Friday September 21st, the Illinois Tollway and PACE Suburban Bus service hosted a presentation and tour of the I-90 Jane Adams Expressway SmartRoad. Attendees were treated to a filled morning beginning at the Tollway's Downers Grove office. The tour featured a first hand visit of Tollway's Traffic Operations Center where the SmartRoad is managed remotely. The rest of the day consisted of a visit to a section of the I-90 SmartRoad to see how the Advanced Traffic Management (ATM) system works. See below for pictures of the day's events.



# **ITE News and Announcments**

## **Transportation Literature Series**

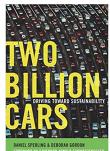
Compiled by Patrick Jordan, AECOM

The Transportation Literature Series continues with three titles featuring a wide array of multimodal transportation topics. This set revolves around three novels highlighting the influence of the automobile on transportation culture, shaping of transit within our communities and the evolution of bicycles through history. Inspiration for this section stemmed from recommendations posted to the <u>ITE community forum</u>.

#### **Two Billion Cars: Driving Toward Sustainability**

By Daniel Sperling and Deborah Gordon

Daniel Sperling, Professor of Engineering and Environmental Science and Policy at the University of California - Davis, along with Deborah Gordon, a transportation policy and energy analyst, discuss the influence of the over one billion vehicles in the world as of 2008. While the automobile has transformed mobility across the last century, continued growth increasingly affects climate change, fuel supply, and traffic congestion. Sperling and Gordon explore how such a growth in automobiles can be accommodated in the future via alternative forms of transportation mobility and transforming vehicles.



### Human Transit: How Clearer Thinking about Public Transit Can Enrich our Communities and Our Lives

By Jarrett Walker

Jarrett Walker, a professional transit planner, has led major planning projects across North America, Australia, and New Zealand. His book discusses a wide variety of topics related to the connection between a community and its public transit system. In an environment where the automobile dominates transportation, many communities' decision makers maintain a powerful subconscious biased towards the needs of motorists. Walker answers difficult questions including: What is quality transit? What kind of quality matters? What are the goals a successful transit system shall achieve?

#### Pedaling Revolution: How Cyclists Are Changing American Cities By Jeff Mapes

Jeff Mapes, a political reporter for *The Oregonian*, provides a history of bicycling culture from the dawn of the bicycle in the early 1800s, through the rise of the automobile, and into the boom of the 1970s. Mapes explores the growing culture of urban cycling focusing on issues of the environment, safety, and health aspects. Particular chapters set in Chicago and Portland discuss the struggle bike advocates face attempting to take back the streets from motorists.

# **Professional Development Seminars**

67th Annual Illinois Traffic Engineering and Safety Conference



The 67th Annual Illinois Traffic Engineering and Safety (TES) Conference is taking place at the iHotel and Conference Center in Champaign, Illinois October 17-18 with pre-conference activities on October 16. The TES Conference is the premier meeting in the Midwest region for transportation and safety professionals to network, discuss ideas and issues with experts, gain job-related knowledge, and renew a sense of professional purpose. Attendees can receive up to 11 Professional Development Hours. Please visit the conference website here, with links to the agenda and registration. Questions about the conference can be directed to Megan Everette at meganev@illinois.edu or (217) 333-9672.

#### **TRB Webinar**

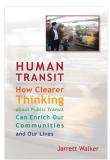
The Transportation Research Board (TRB) hosts several conference recording and webinars on their site. The recordings and webinars cover a wide range of topics in the transportation field. Select, live webinars are available for Professional Development Hours (PDH). Check out the TRB Webinar and Conference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

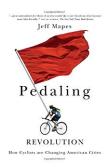
#### **ITE Web Seminars**

Several ITE webinars are available through the <u>ITE Learning Hub</u>. 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,





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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?

Tell ITEms all about it! Send your article submissions to the editor: Patrick Jordan Illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

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### **Refer a Friend!**

The Illinois Section will send an issue of ITEms to your friend or business acquaintance who

interactive online meetings offer knowledge sharing on topics related to ITS planning, design, procurement, deployment, and operations. T3 current and archived webinars are available <u>HERE</u>.

# Legislative Corner

Compiled by Monica Shei, Jacobs

Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation and Illinois Congressman Ray LaHood will lead a <u>transportation and mobility task force</u> for the city of Chicago. This <u>task force</u> will assist the City in finding new ways to manage its transportation systems and is expected to present recommendations to the city by 2019.

The Interstate 55-Lake Shore Drive interchange reconstruction is a <u>finalist</u> in an online competition to choose the country's top transportation project! The Illinois Department of Transportation will donate the prize money of \$10,000 to the local Special Olympics if the project wins. <u>Competition closes September 22nd</u>.

Jeff Bezos has revealed that <u>Amazon HQ2's location</u> will be revealed before the year ends. In case you need a reminder, <u>Chicago</u> is a finalist among 20 candidates.

# **Upcoming ITE Events**

Stay tuned for exciting training and webinars for later this fall. Check out our ILITE Event calendar for ILITE events and other transportation events happening!

More news to come soon regarding the November Luncheon and Annual Banquet.

ILITE Event Calendar

### ITE/WTS/YPT HAPPY HOUR

When: To be rescheduled for late October Where: Madison Tavern (500 West Madison St)

#### <u>Update</u>

Due to low enrollment, the ITE/WTS/YPT "Back to School" happy hour scheduled for September 20th was postponed. We are planning on rescheduling this event for the end of October. Please look out for the new event date in the upcoming week.

All registrants that have already paid will be refunded through PayPal. Our apologies for any inconvenience.

#### Original Post

Summer is winding down as we usher in the crisp fall air. Join ITE, WTS, and YPT as we head "back to school" for our fall happy hour!

Please join us at Madison Tavern for a night of networking and relaxing with your fellow Transportation Professionals. This event will be a great opportunity to mingle with colleagues from various professional organizations. Registration includes one drink ticket and appetizers.

Madison Tavern is located inside Ogilvie Transportation Center. Stop by our happy hour before you catch the train home! For those taking the L, it is just a few blocks from the Clinton Green/Pink line and a few blocks from all major stops in the Loop.

#### 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 acknow ledgement of your referral.

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#### **ILITE Officers**

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

<u>OFFICERS</u>

ACTIVITIES GROUP

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#### **OPERATIONS GROUP**

You can read more about our officers' Roles & Responsibilities and dow nload 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 2018 ILITE Section Sponsors!

### HCM / HCS7 Workshop

**When:** Wednesday and Thursday, November 7 & 8, 2018 **Where:** Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways

The Illinois Section of ITE will be providing a two-day workshop led by McTrans which will include lectures, software demonstrations, and application examples on the Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) 6th Edition procedures. The workshop will also focus on the recently upgraded Highway Capacity Software (HCS7). Registration details to come.



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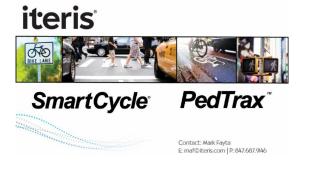
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