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

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

#### PAST-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ryan Jacox, TranSmart/EJM

Fellow ITE Illinois Section Members and Supporters,

Winter greetings to all of you! The weather has definitely been a bit extreme across Illinois lately; let's hope spring is right around the corner! The ITE Illinois Section finished off the remainder of 2018 with a great deal of activities, culminating in the recent Illinois Section Annual Banquet on Friday, January 25 at the Union League Club of Chicago. Over 50 people were in attendance. Thank you once again to **Erik Cempel** for serving as our ever-engaging Master of Ceremonies! As with years past, the banquet included the presentation of several awards to professionals and students, as well as a silent auction to raise money for the Section's student scholarship program and the swearing in of the 2019 ITE Illinois Section Board. I happily passed on the baton to **Brian Roberts**, your current Illinois Section President. Please see the ILITE Annual Banquet article in this issue of ITEms for even more details of the evening!



Ryan Jacox, P.E., PTOE

I definitely would like to thank everyone for the opportunity and the honor to serve as the ITE Illinois Section President in 2018! The board members have been a pleasure to work with, and I am confident of their continued success this year and beyond! I would also like to again ask that those with interest in ITE to consider stepping up into a role with our organization. This does not necessarily need to be a board position. We have several opportunities for members to volunteer for stand-alone events or even serve on a committee for one of several of the ITE Illinois Section Directors. There are also varying degrees of commitment and responsibility to fit the needs of everyone. Please reach out if you have interest in learning more!

As Immediate Past President of the ITE Illinois Section, I currently serve as the Illinois Section Representative on the ITE Midwestern District Board. This role affords me the ability to keep a finger on the pulse of ITE's busy Midwestern District, which helps relay information between the Illinois Section and ITE International in an organized fashion. If there are any issues that you feel need to be raised at a level beyond the Illinois Section, you are more than welcome to reach out to me at <a href="rigacox@ejmengineering.com">rigacox@ejmengineering.com</a> or to any of the current Illinois Section board members.

While the 2019 Midwestern District (St. Louis, Missouri) and Annual Meeting (Austin, Texas) are coming up this year, the Illinois Section is currently forming a planning committee for the 2020 Midwestern District Meeting that will be hosted in Chicago. Again, we have volunteer opportunities with this committee that range in time commitment and level of responsibility. Some examples of the type of planning required include organizing the technical program for the meeting and forming an exciting social program with daily events for meeting attendees and their families. If you would like a fun way to get to know more people and to be part of the team that makes the meeting possible, please reach out to our Illinois Section President, Brian Roberts (<a href="mailto:illinoisite+president@gmail.com">illinoisite+president@gmail.com</a>) or to me, for the time-being. We will be able to get you in contact with the proper people until the planning committee co-chairs have been finalized.

#### **Recent Events**

- A webinar event discussing Lagging Left Turn Arrow Safety and Operation was held at the DuPage County Division of Transportation on October 18. Eleven people attended the event.
- The October Luncheon was held at the Orland Chateau in Orland Park, Illinois and was co-hosted by the APWA Southwest Branch. IDOT District 1 officials Carlos Feliciano and Amruta Mate presented on ADA Construction Compliance for Local Agencies. The successful event was attended by 92 people, with roughly half of those consisting of ITE members.
- The November Luncheon was co-hosted by the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, Rockford

Chapter and was held at Giovanni's in Rockford, Illinois. Ms. Mary Craighead from the Illinois Economic Policy Institute spoke about Assessing Illinois' Transportation Needs. The event was attended by nearly 30 people with a third of those being ITE members.

- The Annual ILITE Holiday Party was held in conjunction with WTS, ISPE, and APWA on December 13 at Roanoke in Chicago. The highly successful event had approximately 90 people in attendance, with around half of the attendees being ILITE members.
- ILITE members recently judged projects at the annual Future City Competition on January 19 at Whitney Young Magnet High School in Chicago. ILITE also sponsored one of the many awards at the competition, which has 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders competing on developing sustainable city designs of the future.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- The Technical Committee is hosting a Chicago Regional Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures
  Workshop at the Lake County Central Permit facility on Tuesday, February 19. Registration is currently
  open to ITE and ITS Midwest members only. The event takes place from 8:30 am until 4:00 pm and offers
  breakfast, lunch, a tour of the Transportation Management Center, and 5.0 PDHs for attending.
- The Activities Committee is planning a luncheon event for Wednesday, March 20 in Chicago involving the Midwest High Speed Rail Association. Further details are forthcoming.
- Chicago Area Girlscouts are hosting STEMapalooza on March 23 from 1pm until 4:30pm. Volunteers are currently being sought. See details in the <a href="Upcoming Events">Upcoming Events</a> Section of this issue of ITEms.
- An Illinois Section Spring Social Event is in the planning stages. Please keep an eye out for an email with further details.
- The 2019 ITE Midwestern District and MOVITE Annual Meeting will be held June 19-21 at Hyatt Regency at the Arch in St. Louis, Missouri. Registration is currently open.
- The 2019 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit will be held July 21-24 at the Hilton Austin in Austin, Texas. Registration and other details are forthcoming.

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

Thank you again to everyone for another exciting and rewarding year with the ITE Illinois Section! I wish everyone a prosperous and healthy 2019!

Sincerely,

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

#### PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE

By Brian Roberts, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways (CCDOTH)

I could not be happier to represent all of you as this year's President of the Illinois Section of ITE. Having been involved with this organization for many years, I've had the opportunity to see and appreciate the effort and dedication of past Presidents and other Board members - it truly makes me excited to give more of my energy to this ever-evolving organization.

For a professional organization which is run 100% by volunteers, I truly am humbled by what we are able to accomplish. Not only the external successes that we are able to share with the ILITE membership such as luncheons, workshops, and conferences, but also the internal successes critical to making an organization more efficient and impactful such as new email platforms, updated bylaws, a much-improved website, and a streamlined budget system. It has been my experience that every hour committed to ITE has been returned with dividends through new professional connections, friendship, leadership training, and more. Therefore, I encourage each of you to consider strengthening your engagement with the organization by volunteering to serve on a committee this year. For more



Brian Roberts, P.E., PTOE

information on how you or one of your coworkers can join the ILITE team as a committee representative or a director on the Board, please contact me at <a href="mailto:illinoisite+president@gmail.com">illinoisite+president@gmail.com</a>.

As I touched on at the Annual Banquet, the Illinois Section of ITE is in great standing in terms of membership, engagement, and financials. That said, the one opportunity for improvement I see with the Illinois Section is the lack of public sector participation. We are fortunate that we do have a strong private-sector presence at events and on the Board, and we thank those companies for their support both financially and in terms of employee participation at events. However, when you look at ITE Sections in surrounding states (e.g., Minnesota,

Wisconsin, etc.), many events and even the Section Board(s) have a very heavy public sector presence. As a fellow public sector employee, I realize the immeasurable benefits of engaging in an organization such as ITE, but I also understand the difficulties in doing so. It is my hope that more participation from the public sector will result in a more complete and integrated ITE experience for everyone, so in the coming months, be on the lookout for strategies to address this issue.

I'm very much looking forward to what we'll be able to accomplish in the coming year. Please stop by to say hello at the next ITE event or send me a message at <a href="mailto:illinoisite+president@gmail.com">illinoisite+president@gmail.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Roberts, P.E., PTOE
Illinois Section President
Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways

## 2019 Annual Banquet

By Public Affairs Director Monica Shei

Fifty-one Illinois ITE members and guests were able to attend this year's Annual Banquet on January 25th at Union League Club in downtown Chicago. The banquet each year is a commemorative event for the section to honor student awards, section awards, and to install the new board.

We were honored to have the 2018 Midwestern District Director & International Board of Direction, **John Davis**, provide an update on the Midwestern District of ITE and to install the new Section Board.



**2019 IL-ITE Section Board** (Front Row: Kelly Dunne, Monica Shei, Jenna Brose, Anmol Shrivastava; Back Row: Ryan Jacox, Brian Roberts, Bryce Wegner, Josh Harris, Curtis Cornwell; Not Pictured: Thomas Szabo



2019 Board swearing in - Led by John Davis

Incoming Officers

President: Brian J. Roberts
Vice President: Josh Harris
Secretary: Jenna Brose
Treasurer: Thomas Szabos
Student Affairs Director: Anmol Shrivastava
Operations Director: Bryce Wegner
Activities Director: Curtis Cornwell
Immediate Past President: Ryan Jacox

Directors Serving Second Years
Technical Director: Kelly Dunne, P.E.
Public Affairs Director: Monica Shei, P.E.

**Ryan Jacox** of TranSmart/EJM was awarded the Outgoing President Award for his contributions to the Illinois Section. The Outstanding Member

Award went to **Jenna Brose** of AECOM for her efforts in establishing IL-ITE as a 501(c)3 organization this year. **Randy Laninga**, a former President of the Illinois Section, was honored with the Past President's Award for his contributions to the transportation engineering profession in Illinois. We also recognized **Patrick Jordan** for his contribution to ILITE as the ongoing ITEms Editor.



Past President's Award - Randy Laninga, presented by Matthew Letourneau



Outstanding Member Award - Jenna Brose, presented by John Wirtz



**Outgoing President's Award -** Ryan Jacox, presented by John Wirtz

This year's Undergraduate Scholarship was presented to **Cassandra Reineke** of Illinois Institute of Technology. This year's Graduate Scholarship was presented to **Ali Shamshiripour** of the University of Illinois at Chicago. This year's Student Paper Award was presented to **Amir Bahador Parsa** of the University of Illinois at Chicago for "Real-time Accident Detection: Coping with Imbalanced Data."

Congraulations to Cassandra, Ali, and Amir for their outstanding work in 2018!



**Student Paper** - Amir Bahador Parsa, presented by Ashley Hochstatter



**Graduate Scholarship** - Ali Shamshiripour, presented by Ashley Hochstatter



**Undergraduate Scholarship** - Cassandra Reineke, presented by Ashley Hochstatter

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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 <u>Upcoming Events</u> section for more news on the Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures Workshop in February.

Keep a look out via email for more upcoming events!

## What Has The Illinois Section Been Up To?

**Technical Webinar - Lagging Left-Turn Arrow Safety and Operation** 

By Technical Director Kelly Dunne

On October 18, ITE hosted a snack & learn webinar event at DuPage County Division of Transportation titled Lagging Left-Turn Arrow Safety and Operation. The webinar was presented by Paul Basha, the transportation director for the City of Scottsdale, Arizona. His presentation consisted of crash data comparison between cities with lagging left-turn arrows and cities with leading left-turn arrows. The rigorous statistical analysis demonstrated a safety improvement in the city with lagging left-turn arrows. The webinar also touched on the various functional differences between the two operations. Sixteen professionals attended the presentation, representing five public agencies and six transportation firms.

#### **HCM6/HCS7 Workshop**

By Technical Director Kelly Dunne

ITE was pleased to offer a two-day Highway Capacity Analysis workshop on November 7th and 8th led by Bill Sampson, the director of McTrans. The workshop was held at the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways and twenty-six professionals attended. The Highway Capacity Analysis course included lectures, software demonstrations, and application examples on the Highway Capacity Manual 6th Edition (HCM6) procedures as implemented in the newly-released Highway Capacity Software (HCS7). Attendees were provided with a comprehensive workbook and opportunity for questions and discussion. If you were unable to attend this event but have interest, contact <a href="mailto:illinoisite+technical@gmail.com">illinoisite+technical@gmail.com</a> to request that this workshop be repeated in 2019.

#### **Future Cities**

By Public Relations Director Monica Shei

The Future City Competition Regional Finals took place in Chicago on Saturday, January 19th at Whitney Young Magnet High School. The competition is the culmination of months spent by junior high school teams and their engineering mentors to create a city of the future. Students submit a working project plan, present their solutions via a virtual city design (using SimCity), write an essay describing the unique attributes of their city and their solution to the year's challenge (**Powering Our Future**); build a scale model, and give a presentation to judges. Regional winners represent their region at the National Finals in Washington, DC.



For the past five years, the Illinois Section of ITE has participated as a special award judge at the Future Cities Competition. This year, 23 different professional organizations sponsored and gave 27 special awards at the competition. **Bryce Wegner**, the current Section Director of Operations, and **Andrew Freeman** represented the

Illinois Section of ITE this year as special award judges. Bryce and Andrew were tasked with reviewing each team's city and awarding the Excellence in Transportation Safety and Operations Award. This award was given to the team that had the most innovative future city design that demonstrated a safe and efficient surface transportation system that considered growth and preservation of the environment.

This year, Bryce and Andrew determined that the winning city deserving of this award was Siksha, presented by students from Montini Catholic School from McHenry, Illinois.

Judges were impressed with Siksha's emphasis on multiple forms of transportation systems, such as an underground maglev train for regional travel, a series of intertwined canals for clean and efficient local traffic, and an abundance of bridges and paths to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. Student presenters explained how each part of their transportation would compliment each other to provide a safe and efficient transportation network.

The Illinois Section of ITE was happy to not only sponsor the Future City Competition in Chicago again this year, but to participate as judges. We

look forward to participating in this event again next year!



#### 2018 Joint ITE/WTS/ISPE/APWA Chicago Holiday Party

By Public Relations Director Monica Shei

2018 wrapped up with another successful joint ITE/WTS/ISPE/APWA Chicago Holiday Party! This year, the holiday party was held on December 13, 2018 at Roanoke in the Chicago Loop. We had a great turnout and it was a festive night of networking!

#### ITE News and Announcments

#### 2019 Midwest District and MOVITE Annual Meeting

When: June 19 - 21, 2019 Where: St. Louis. Missouri

The Midwestern District (MWITE) and Missouri Valley Section (MOVITE) of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) is pleased to invite you to register for the upcoming 2019 MWITE/MOVITE joint meeting, on June 19-21, in St. Louis, Missouri. The theme of this year's meeting is "Gateway to the Future: A New Horizon of Transportation". This meeting is anticipated to focus on the topics of transportation technology, as well as active mobility and planning.

Discounted registration is available until 4/19/19. Please visit the conference website, <a href="www.2019itestl.com">www.2019itestl.com</a>, or contact <a href="mailto:2019ITE@teamstl.org">2019ITE@teamstl.org</a> for further information.



## 2019 International Annual Meeting

When: July 21 - 24, 2019 Where: Austin, Texas

This year, the ITE International Annual Meeting will be held in Austin, TX featuring the theme, Transportation Transformed. Details regarding the program and other meeting activities will be posted soon. All information can be found on the meeting website here.



#### ITE International President and Vice President Candidate Information

The election process is in mid-swing for the ITE International President and Vice President offices. Please see below for International President and Vice President Candidate information. Voting will begin on February 13 and close on March 14. For more information on the election process and this year's candidates, visit the <a href="ITE">ITE</a> election website.

#### **International President Candidate**



Randy McCourt, P.E., PTOE

Principal

DKS Associates

Candidate Statement

Portland, Oregon, USA

#### **International Vice President Candidates**



Lynn A. LaMunyon, P.E., PTOE, IMSA II

Discipline Leader, Transportation Maser Consulting P.A. Hamilton, New Jersey, USA

**Brochure** 



Alyssa A. Reynolds Rodriguez, P.E., PTOE

City Traffic Engineer City of Henderson Nevada Henderson, Nevada, USA

**Brochure** 

## **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 the <a href="ITE Learning Hub">ITE Learning Hub</a>. 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 planning, design, procurement, deployment, and operations. T3 current and archived webinars are available HERE.

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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 news-

## Legislative Corner

Compiled by Monica Shei, Jacobs

#### O'Hare Expansion

Have you checked out the <u>five designs</u> for O'Hare's \$8.5 billion expansion? While the deadline to vote for one of the five designs has already passed, check out each of the designs either online or in person. Displays are located at O'Hare Terminal 2 or at the Chicago Architecture Center.

Chicago Mayoral Race Watch: Transportation Issues

What do each of the <u>mayoral candidates</u> want for Chicago transportation? How will they tackle the issues facing <u>public transit</u>? Mayoral elections are on Tuesday, February 26.

Representative <u>Peter DeFazio</u> (D-OR) has been elected Chairman of House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee for the 116th Congress. What does this mean for an <u>infrastructure bill</u>? Or the federal gas tax?

## **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** 

#### Girl Scouts 8th Annual STEMapalooza Science Expo

When: Saturday, March 23, 2019 - 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Where: Friendship Center in Country Club Hills, IL

Illinois ITE is looking for volunteers for this annual event. STEMapalooza is a great opportunity for girls in grades K-12 to dive into fun hands-on STEM activities, check out a variety of STEM organizations across Chicagoland, and enjoy live science shows and demos. ILITE has been participating for the past 2 years and is excited for any ILITE members to take part! Please contact Monica Shei, Director of Public Affairs, at <a href="mailto:illinoisite+publicaffairs@gmail.com">illinoisite+publicaffairs@gmail.com</a> for additional information.

# Chicago Regional Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures Workshop

When: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 - 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Lake County Central Permit Facility, Room 2220 (500 W Winchester

Road, Libertyville, IL 60048)

The Illinois Section of ITE and ITS Midwest are pleased to offer this exciting ATSPM technical event!

During the day-long workshop, hosted at Lake County's Central Permit Facility, attendees will learn about the FHWA's objectives regarding ATSPMs, understand the research that went into these initiatives, hear about how other agencies are using these signal performance measures, and take a tour of Lake County's Transportation Management Center.

Registration includes 5.0 PDHs, light breakfast refreshments, lunch, and a tour of the TMC. If you are unable to secure a spot but are interested in viewing a live webinar for this event, please contact <a href="mailto:illinoisite+technical@gmail.com">illinoisite+technical@gmail.com</a>.

#### worthy story?

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

## Follow and Like us on Social Media



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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 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 who serve on the Executive Board, as Group Directors, and on our many committees.

#### **OFFICERS**

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STUDENT AFFAIRS GROUP

PUBLIC AFFAIRS GROUP

#### 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

# March Luncheon - Midwest High Speed Rail Association

When: March 20, 2019

Where: TBA

Be on the look out for more information about this event and the link to register.





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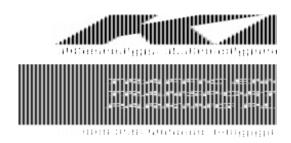
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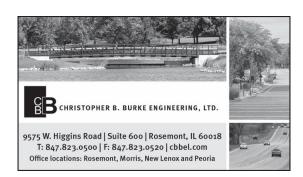
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