THE COMPREHENSIVE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS.

ITEMS

ITEms 2023, Issue 2

Edited by: Jayesh Dongre (AECOM)

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE

By Monica Shei, PE, PTOE (Jacobs)

Fellow ITE Illinois Section Members and Supporters,

Summer is now in full swing and we are so excited to share with everyone what our Section has been up to and what is coming up in the warmer months.

Spring Recap

In late February, ILITE participated in the Engineering Fest at the Chicago Architecture Center, where we hosted a virtual traffic signal activity and a multi-modal street-building activity for over 100 kids that attended the event. Our section is always excited to participate in local STEM events and we had such a great time explaining our profession to



these students. In March, we hosted our first Meet the Board Happy Hour and had a great turnout! As a result of this happy hour, many new members have reached out since to express interest in becoming more involved and we are thrilled to welcome more committee members to our team. In March, we hosted our first technical workshop of the year with CDOT Traffic Engineer Tyler Krage and the event sold out in less than a day! In April, we had the honor of hosting Charlotte Obodzinski from Pace, where she discussed Pace's strategic plan as well as their transition to a zero-emissions fleet. And finally, we recently had our first "Malty Modal Bike Tour" in May, hosted by Chicago DOT's bike group where we learned about the new bicycle infrastructure around the UIC campus. Thank you to Kurt Facknitz for leading the tour! Please scroll down to see additional photos and recaps of these events.

As you can see, we've had a packed spring and we can't wait for our summer events to start!

Upcoming Events

The <u>Great Lakes ITE Annual Meeting</u> is taking place on **June 11-13th** in Grand Rapids, MI and many of our members plan to attend. Don't forget to register if you plan on attending and we hope to see you all there!

Our June luncheon is coming up on **Wednesday**, **June 28th** and will feature CCDOTH's Benet Haller on a presentation on the County's Bike and Transit Plans. This luncheon will be located at <u>Francesca's</u> in the Gold Coast neighborhood.

We will be hosting a Technical Webinar featuring *Parking Solutions for Livable Communities* on **Tuesday**, **July 18th**. Please stay tuned for registration details (coming soon).

In alignment with our goals to bring more socials to our membership this year, we are excited to announce our next happy hour will be on **Wednesday**, **July 19th** at <u>New Line Tavern</u>.

Our annual <u>TopGolf event</u>, in partnership with WTS and ITS Midwest, is also confirmed for**Thursday**, **August 24**th.

Finally, we are bringing the SECOND bike tour of 2023, also known as the "Salty Modal Bike Tour", on **Thursday, September 7th!** Extra kudos to you if you can guess the location of this second bike tour!

With a filled summer schedule, we hope these events provide numerous opportunities for our membership to network and make new connections in the industry. If you are taking part in our 2023 Mentorship Match Program, these events are a great way to meet your monthly mentor in-person.

Public Agency Partnership Program

We are thrilled to announce the Village of Schaumburg as a new Public Agency Partner for 2023! This program aims to address the unique needs of the public sector and we hope that the one-time financial contribution to ILITE on an annual basis for complimentary registrations to various ILITE events is beneficial to each agency. As always, if you are interested in taking part in this program, please contact Katie Biggs, Operations Committee Lead at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com for additional information.

Community of Transportation Professionals

We were excited to see an influx of new Planners in the Illinois Section at the start of 2023! For those of you who have not yet, please don't forget to take advantage of your first free ILITE event. Please reach out to Katie Biggs at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com for more information.

As always, I am incredibly grateful to our powerhouse ILITE board and committee leads who make these events possible. Their hard work, organization, and enthusiasm does not go unnoticed and we hope our membership has been able to reap the benefits of these events. If you are interested in becoming more involved with any of the committees, please do not hesitate to contact me at illinoisite+president@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Monica Shei, PE, PTOE
Illinois Section President
Jacobs

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Illinois Section News and Announcements

2023 Mentorship Match Program

By Illinois Section Secretary Anmol Shrivastava

The Mentorship Match Program is well underway with 2 monthly rotations compete. We hope that the monthly rotations as well as the themes have provided the opportunity to form deeper relationships within the ILITE community. We also hope that all the participants are finding this program valuable thus far and are open to suggestions to improve this program.

Please send screenshots or photos of your virtual or in-person meetup to ILITE Secretary, Anmol Shrivastava, at illinoisite+secretary@gmail.com



Activities Group News and Announcements

By Activities Chairs Jakob Boxberger & Jim Kane

Please join us on **Wednesday**, **June 28th** at <u>Francesca's on Chestnut</u> in Streeterville for a luncheon featuring Benet Haller from the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways. Benet will be highlighting how DoTH seeks to invest its financial and technical resources in order to make both transit and biking more attractive alternatives to driving and to build on the unique qualities which make Cook County such an attractive multi-modal area. The luncheon will take place from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM with some networking time to precede the lunch and presentation at noon.

JUNE LUNCHEON

COST

ITE Member:
Private sector: \$50
Public Sector: \$40

Non Member:
Private sector: \$65
Public Sector: \$50

For door payment,
Make checks out to
"Institute of Transportation
Engineers - Illinois Section"
Credit Cards also accepted
(\$5 additional fee,
no fee for checks)



WEDNESDAY 6/28/2023
11:30 AM TO 1:30 PM
FRANCESCA'S ON CHESTNUT
200 E CHESTNUT STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60611

Building on the recommendations of the 2016 Long Range Transportation Plan, Cook County DoTH has developed several modal plans including a Freight Plan and a Bike and Transit Plan. These plans are meant to guide future investments and provide guidance to municipalities and community residents on what sorts of projects the County will support. This session will highlight how DoTH seeks to invest its financial and technical resources in order to make both transit and biking more attractive alternatives to driving and to build on the unique qualities which make Cook County such an attractive multi-modal area.

Benet Haller

Transit Manager

Cook County Department of

Transportation and Highways



Transport Chicago 2023: Friday, June 16th



Transport Chicago 2023 will be held on Friday, June 16th at voco Chicago Downtown. This one-day conference will feature

presentations and posters from public agency staff, consultants, advocates, and researchers on a wide range of topics, from mobility justice, connected & autonomous vehicles, mobility improvements in transit, and regional transportation planning. Special events for the conference include a tour on a Chicago Transit Authority electric bus to see the operations of this innovative transit mode! Breakfast and lunch will be provided, with a happy hour reception to follow.

Transport Chicago is also proud to announce our two guest speakers for this event. Molly Poppe, CTA's Chief Innovation Officer, will give the Morning Keynote to highlight the CTA's ongoing efforts to improve transit service and quality in Chicago. Monali Shah will give the Afternoon Keynote to share her insights on the emerging opportunities in transportation, technology, and sustainability.

Registration is open now!

To learn more about Transport Chicago, visithttps://www.transportchicago.org



ILITE, WTS, and ITS Midwest are excited to invite you to the 12th Annual Golf Outing, once again hosted at TopGolf in Schaumburg. The event will be held on Thursday, August 24 from 3 PM to 6 PM. Keep an eye out for future announcement of ticket sales and event sponsorship opportunities!

Technical Group News and Announcements

By Technical Chair Kristel Shu Bassett

Parking Solutions for Livable Community

July 18, 2023 (Registration Coming Soon)

Join us for an upcoming webinar on Parking Solutions for Livable Community with guest speaker Jane

Wilberding, AICP.

Jane Wilberding, AICP is a co-founder of the Parking Reform Network, where she leads the research wing of the organization. She has an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies & Business from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, and a Master of Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She has over a decade of experience in the parking/mobility world. She is currently a Senior Mobility Manager at HNTB in Chicago, living proudly car-free and leading projects throughout the country that reimage parking/mobility networks to accommodate all modes, abilities, and mindsets.

Registration for this webinar to come soon—so be on the lookout!



Complete Streets Design Workshop

September 14, 2023

This one-day complete streets workshop revolves around two key principles: user type and network. Street design requires an understanding of the target user, which include people walking, bicycling, riding transit, driving, and operating freight vehicles. The training also emphasizes understanding a facility's role in the network.

The instructors for this one-day course will provide an overview of complete streets design treatments, including:

- Why design for complete streets and understanding the principles for designing for each mode
- Design guidance for crossings, on-street bike facilities, and transit treatments
- Understanding key safety issues on urban and suburban streets
- Traffic calming tactics to reduce vehicle speed and improve safety
- Intersection and traffic signal design strategies, included protected intersection design

Who Should Attend

This course is appropriate for planners, engineers, and public officials responsible for planning, design, construction, and maintenance of streets.



LeadershipITE 2024

The LeadershipITE program is built to ensure that participants will:

- Be self-aware so they are confident and comfortable with themselves and their skills
- Understand, accept, empower and adapt for others
- Be a high-functioning communicator
- Be an effective networker in and advocate for the transportation industry
- Be more confident in their role within ITE and as LITE alumni

The application process for the *LeadershipITE* Class of 2024 is due **September 15, 2023**. Start your application here today!



Student Affairs Group News and Announcements

By Student Affairs Chair Andrew Hein

Discounted Dues: ITE Younger Member 30-to-30 Reminder

This is a reminder for all graduating seniors that they should consider professional ITE membership upon graduation. ITE membership helps build your network by creating connections and growing your career. ITE provides a great platform for opportunities to meet transportation professionals and network with them. For younger members, ITE offers a reduced dues fee structure for members 29 and under.

More information is provided in the link below:

https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/young-member/

Other benefits of being an ITE member can also be found here:

https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/benefits-of-membership/

Public Affairs Group News and Announcements

By Public Affairs Chair Tyler Krage

July Meet the Board Happy Hour

Save the date for a Board Happy Hour Social on **Wednesday**, **July 19th**. The Board will be meeting and enjoying a happy hour at <u>New Line Tavern</u> after their board meeting, and they want you to come! Save the date and stay tuned for more updates on location.

Legislative Corner

- New USDOT Safe Streets For All (SS4A) Grant opens Notice of Funding, applications to close July 10, 2023
 - https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A
- CTA shortlists three teams for Red Line Extension
 https://www.enr.com/articles/56503-chicago-transit-authority-shortlists-three-teams-for-36b-red-line-extension
- CDOT Updates Cycling Strategy to expand bikeways and equity
 https://www.intelligenttransport.com/transport-news/145243/chicago-dots-updated-cycling-strategy-to-expand-bikeways-and-equity/
- South Suburban Airport a step closer after General Assembly passes new bill
 https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/long-debated-south-suburban-airport-a-step-closer-to-reality-after-general-assembly-passes-new-bill/3143793/

Follow Illinois ITE on Social Media

Looking to stay connected? Check out our LinkedIn and Twitter pages to get great info on activities, socials, technical events, and more!

LinkedIn - https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/illinois-section-of-institute-of-transportation-engineers-il-ite
Twitter - https://twitter.com/Illinois_ITE

Operations News and Announcements

By Operations Chair Katie Biggs

If you'd like to stay up to date on all things Illinois Section ITE, please sign up for our complete mailing list via this link: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/wFK5f75/mailinglist.

New ITE Members

The Illinois Section of ITE would like to welcome our new professional and student members:

Professional Members

Daniel Begert - CDM Smith

Osama A. Mohammed - Atlas Engineering

Laura C. Pinzon - CDM Smith

Kyle Sant - Sam Schwartz

Kaniz S. Sathi - GDOT

Maris Krawiec - Village of Schaumburg

Phillip Green – Village of Hoffman Estates

Michael Vail - Hurst-Rosche

Stephen M. Moy - DB Sterlin

Richard F. Daubert - Village of Glen Ellyn

Student Members

Nathan Kis - UIC

Harsh Patel - UIUC

Sajad Askari - UIC

Lydia Vulich - UIC

Nijat Qazi - UIC

Amsal Khimani - UIUC

We encourage all new members to reach out our Operations Chair, Katie Biggs at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com if they have any questions.

Upcoming ITE Conferences - Save the Dates

2023 Great Lakes ITE District Meeting - June 11-13 in Grand Rapids, Michigan 2023 International ITE Annual Meeting - August 13-16 in Portland, Oregon

IL ITE Recent Events

Crossing the T's: CDOT TSR and TS Training Workshop

On March 30, 2023, IL-ITE teamed with Chicago Department of Transportation's Traffic Safety Division for a technical workshop on CDOT signal design and operations guidelines. The training delved into standards and guidelines for building CDOT TSR (Traffic Signal Requirement design documents) and TS (Timing Schedules for signal timing operations), and was hosted by Tyler Krage of CDOT. Additionally, the signal design process and new QA/QC guidelines document was discussed.

The event had an excellent turn-out, filling up the 30 person person limit in 5 hours! Given the demand for this training, another one may be done in the future, but in the meantime the presentation can be found on IL-ITE's YouTube page here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMfZDTmCHz8

IL-ITE looks forward to continuing to provide meaningful trainings to its members, and is excited for the future workshops to come! Special thanks to CDOT for presenting on their process and design/operations guidelines.

April 2023 Luncheon



On April 20, 2023, the Illinois Section of ITE hosted a luncheon featuring a presentation by Charlotte Obodzinski from Pace Bus. Pace's strategic plan, Driving Innovation, identified the implementation of the agency's Rapid Transit Program as well as the transition to a zero-emissions fleet as some of its top priorities.

This presentation described how Pace is working towards these goals leveraging

infrastructure and strategic planning. The luncheon had 40 people in attendance, and served as a great chance to network with other transportation professionals in the area. Special thanks to Jakob Boxberger, Jim Kane, and Sanjay Joshi on the Activities Committee for organizing the event.

Charlotte Obodzinski is an AICP certified planner and the Department Manager of the Priority Project Management Office at Pace Bus. Her department is responsible for overseeing the implementation of rapid transit services which includes Pulse, Pace's bus rapid transit and express bus service on the region's highways. She also oversees program management of the agency's capital program, including facility planning for Pace's transition to a zero emissions fleet. She has master's and bachelor's degrees in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and has been with Pace for 15 years. She is currently serving as the Vice-Chair of the American Public Transportation Association's Bus Rapid Transit Committee and is the Chair of the Bike and Pedestrian Commission in her hometown of Arlington Heights.

2023 Spring Malty Modal Tour - UIC Campus

On Thursday May 11th, 2023, IL-ITE teamed up with WTS - Greater Chicago Chapter for the 2023 Malty Modal Bike Tour. The group had an amazing time biking around UIC area with the Chicago Department of Transportation's Bike Group showcasing some great bicycle infrastructure in place and some getting built. Thanks to Kurt Facknitz, Gina Showers, and Calvin Graham for leading the tour (of up to 30 people!) and to Hawkeye's Bar for hosting us for some cold beverages afterword.

We had such a great turnout for our last Malt-y Modal Tour, that we wanted to have another before the end of the year! We are bringing the SECOND bike tour of 2023, also known as the "Salty Modal Bike Tour", on **Thursday, September 7th!** Stay tuned for more information on the bike route.







Professional Development Seminars

TRB Webinars

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

ITE Web Seminars

Several ITE webinars are available through the ITE Learning Hub. 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.

Hey Section Member!

Get involved! There are open positions in the Student Affairs Group, the Activities Group, the Technical Group, the Public Affairs Group, and the Operations 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: Jayesh Dongre Illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

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Refer a Friend!

Upcoming ITE Events

Check out the following calendars and events pages to stay updated on future Illinois Section, Great Lakes District, and International ITE Events:

Illinois Section ITE Event Calendar

Great Lakes District ITE Events Page

International ITE Event Calendar

Upcoming ITS Midwest Events

ITS Midwest is announcing webinars in the upcoming months. Any company personnel can attend these webinars as long as their email addresses are provided as part of the corporate membership. Corporate membership is only \$375, and it allows unlimited employees to be part of the ITS Midwest membership. Please note that only ITS Midwest members can register for these webinars, and we provide PDH hours.

Upcoming webinars include:

- June OmniAir and OmniAir's Certification Programs by speaker Jason Conley
- July Measurement of Highway's Automation Readiness (I-70 Truck Automation Corridor's Road Audit) by speaker Mohit Mandokhot (Ohio TRC)
- July or August CV Project by Argonne National Lab
- August Denver Traffic Control System by Lou Szabo

Thank You to All Our 2023 IL ITE Section Sponsors

2023 ILITE SPONSORS

Jacobs CIVILTECH AECOM 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 referral.

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 endorsements of products or services.

ILITE Committees

The success of the Illinois Section is due to the hard work of our volunteers who serve on the Executive Board and as a Committee Chair.

EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEES

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

As our committees transition to the new structure outlined in the 2021 Bylaws, be on the look out for more information posted to our website early 2021.



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