



**Washington D.C. Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers**

WDCSITE

September / October 2006 NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER YOU WILL FIND:

- **Presidential Message**
- **International Director's Report**
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Message from the President

I hope that all of you had a good summer, and are getting back into the swing of more “normal” conditions—including increased commuter volumes now that vacations are over and schools are back in session! I've got a couple of items this month:

August “Technical” Meeting at RFK Stadium

A small but enthusiastic group of WDCSITE members and their guests met on the evening of August 15 at RFK Stadium. The format of “dinner on your own” seemed to work relatively well, with a variety of cuisine and beverages available. The topic of the presentation was “How to Complete a Major League Baseball Game in Just over Two Hours”, and involved several unusual features, among which were a complete game two-hitter.

Proposed Election Format for December 2006

As most of you know, the election tradition here in WDCSITE is as follows:

- Two folks from the northern portion of the Section run against each other for Baltimore Area Director
- Two folks from the southern portion of the Section run against each other for Washington Area Director
- The two sitting Directors run against each other for Secretary-Treasurer
- The sitting Secretary-Treasurer runs unopposed for Vice President
- The sitting Vice President runs unopposed for President

The only breaks in this custom, in my memory, have come when a current officer felt that he/she wasn't able to move up to the next position. Write-ins are permitted, but I don't recall any of them in the past twenty-five years.

There is certainly something to be said for tradition. (I, for one, hate the designated hitter rule in baseball!) That being said, the Board (with some hesitation) thinks that it may be worth changing our election tradition at this time, at least on a trial basis. Here's what we're proposing: Have one of the two Directors run unopposed for Secretary-Treasurer, with the other Director running unopposed for another term as Director. (The by-laws permit an individual to serve in the same office for two consecutive terms.) Then, the next year, the two-year Director would run unopposed for Secretary-Treasurer. The traditional “move-up” from Secretary-Treasurer on up the line would remain the same.

What's the reasoning behind this proposal? Well, we've got some very good people in the Section that are willing to serve, but the head-to-head competition for Secretary-Treasurer knocks 50 percent of them out, leaving many of them reluctant to run again for quite a while. With the proposed modification, once someone wins his/her first election, he/she just moves up the line.

The proposed change wouldn't result in many complications that the Board can see at the moment. The only one that comes to mind is this: The experiment this year with the Northern Virginia Area Coordinator has been a real success. What if the by-laws are eventually changed to have the Coordinator as an elected member of the Board?

The current Board is suggesting that the Northern Virginia Area Coordinator remain a voluntary position for one more year. If 2007 is as successful as 2006 has been, the 2007 Board will probably suggest that the position become elected (and re-named Northern Virginia Area Director). The by-law amendment process would then be started, probably in the middle of 2007.

If such a by-law change does occur, the "promotion" to Secretary-Treasurer could be rotated among the three Directors. That would require an additional change in the by-laws to allow someone to serve more than two consecutive terms in one office, but that doesn't appear to be a major issue (especially since we'd be revising the by-laws anyway!)

The only potential downside that the Board can see is the length of time a successful candidate would have to commit. The change would pretty much mean that, once you're elected a Director, you're going to be an officer for seven years. Currently, the commitment is only five years, and that's if you win the election for Secretary-Treasurer. But, even with this disadvantage, we think it's worth a try. And, if it doesn't work, the Section can always return to the old tradition. (Remember New Coke a few years ago?)

If you think this is a bad idea, please don't hesitate to contact any Board member and tell him/her so—we're certainly not out to annoy the membership! But, don't wait too long to voice your opinion—the election isn't that far off!

Well, that's enough for one message! Have a good Fall, all!

Tim Ryan
timothy_ryan@urscorp.com

Message from the International Director **By Ed Papazian**

The following is a summary of the International Board meeting held on August 4 and 5, 2006 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, just prior to the Annual Meeting.

1. The Institute's finances are strong. At this time, there is projected to be a \$125,000 surplus for 2006. This contrasts with a budgeted deficit of \$216,000. Highlights of the finances include (1) higher than expected advertising revenue in the ITE Journal, (2) a delay in the release of new publications until 2007, which will result in somewhat less than expected publication revenues, and (3) lower than expected attendance at the Annual Meeting.
 2. There was discussion of the condition of LED traffic signal heads as they age. This led to an overall discussion of the importance of maintenance of traffic control devices as a subject for ITE to address. The International Board will be discussing whether the maintenance of traffic control devices merits attention as a Mega – Issue or as another important topic. The role of ITE in addressing this issue will be determined.
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3. At the next Board meeting in October, 2006 the Board, will discuss the international role of ITE. The basic question comes down to whether ITE is an international organization or a North American organization with an international presence.
 4. The Board received a status report from the Professional Certification Board. The PTOE roster is up to 1500 people. The two traffic signal operations exams were administered for the first time in Milwaukee. Additional exams are scheduled for October and January. The Transportation Planner certification will have its first exam in spring of 2007. The Certification Board is studying the possibility of a traffic safety certification program.
 5. The Coordinating Council emphasized the need for the various technical councils to complete their major projects.
 6. There was a great deal of discussion of the need for improved communication. A new tool that has recently begun is the e-Newsletter. This is intended to provide time-sensitive news to the membership. It is expected to be issued bi-weekly. Other elements in the communications portfolio are the ITE Journal, the ITE website, and Council newsletters.
 7. The ITE membership totals have been stagnant, with slight reductions over the past several years. The effort to increase membership will require a mixture of leadership from the International and the local levels. There will be coordination between these levels. The development of a public agency database will kick off in September 2006. Information will be sent to the Sections in October. A strategy that both WDCSITE and MASITE have used is holding joint meetings with other professional organizations. We should use these opportunities as a recruiting tool for ITE membership.
 8. The ITE membership will be voting on a series of constitutional amendments that are intended to streamline the membership categories. This includes eliminating the Associate, Associate 10, and Member 10 categories. As a result of these changes, there would be modifications in the dues levels. These modifications would be revenue neutral to the Institute. The Board laid out criteria for dues changes to limit the level of increases to individual members and to keep the current differentials between US, Canada, and International dues levels. The Institute budget for 2007, including the dues structure, will be adopted at the October 2006 Board meeting. The Board members will carefully examine the budget to assure that the impact on individual members will be minimized.
 9. The International officer elections were discussed. The e-balloting process was very successful, with over 33 percent of eligible members voting. As I'm sure most of you know, Earl Newman was elected President and Alf Guebert was elected Vice President for 2007.
 10. The Sections and Districts were urged to submit their various practices (formerly called best practices) to headquarters. These practices would then be shared with the entire membership. The sharing of these practices is particularly important in order to exchange ideas on member recruitment.

This is a summary of key items discussed at the Board meeting. If anyone wishes to contact me, feel free to do so at ed.papazian@kimley-horn.com or by phone at 703-674-1307.

WIN \$1,000

CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT: MAKING THE CASE FOR MAXIMIZING THE USE OF EXISTING SYSTEM CAPACITY

-> http://trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=6680

In cooperation with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), TRB is conducting a contest to identify the best idea for communicating to the public how maximizing the use of existing system capacity can increase efficiency and keep highway traffic moving. The contest is the brainchild of WSDOT Secretary Douglas B. MacDonald, who challenged transportation professionals to think of a better way to communicate to the general public the relationship between maximizing the use of existing system capacity, increasing efficiency, and keeping highway traffic moving as part of his keynote address during the Congestion Pricing Workshop held at the TRB summer meeting in La Jolla, California, in July. Following up on his challenge, Secretary MacDonald has made a personal donation of \$1,000 to be awarded to the person or group that submits the best idea. Entries are due by October 6, 2006. The contest winner and honorable mentions will be showcased in a TRB poster session during the TRB 86th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., January 21-25, 2007. Eligibility requirements and further information is available on the TRB Congestion Pricing Committee's website.

NOTICES

WDCSITE

Dear WDCSITE and MASITE members:

This message is a courtesy for our friends at the Intelligent Transportation Society of Maryland (ITS MD). ITS MD's annual meeting is scheduled for September 14-15 in Ocean City, MD. The topic for this year's meeting is Cooperate to Operate. Attached is the current agenda and all the information you need to register as an attendee, exhibitor or sponsor.

See you in Ocean City!

THEN!

September 21, 2006

Come join your WDCSITE colleagues to hear a variety of speakers discuss current local & national efforts related to **Customer Based Level of Service, FHWA Congestion Management Applications, and state-of-the-art in Airport Landside Transportation Planning.**

When: Thursday, September 21, 2006

Where: Arlington Holiday Inn

4610 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22203
Phone: (703) 243-9800

Meeting Agenda:

Registration 3:15 PM – 3:45 PM

Introductions and Welcome 3:45 PM – 4:00 PM

Session 1 – Dr. Aimee Flannery, George Mason University 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM
Customer Based Measures of Level Of Service

Break 4:30 PM – 4:45 PM

Session 2 – Raj Ghaman, Federal Highway Administration 4:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Congestion Management with Adaptive Signal Control

Social Hour 5:15 PM – 6:15 PM

Dinner 6:15 PM – 7:15 PM

Session 3 – Owen Curtis, HNTB 7:15 PM – 7:45 PM
Intermodal Planning at Washington's Airports

Note: Please make reservations **no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, September 15th** by e-mailing or calling either:

Washington Area Director
Elizabeth Sall
esall@camsys.com
(301) 347-0100

Baltimore Area Director
Paul Silberman
psilberman@sabra-wang.com
(410) 737-6564

******Dinner is Buffet-Style. Please inform your Area Director if you have special dietary requirements ******

Cost: \$30 /person for non ITE members
\$20 /person for ITE members
\$10 for ITE member with non-member **Guest** All prices include Buffet Dinner
Students are **FREE**

ITE

ITE Professional Development Program

Your Gateway to Knowledge and Advancement—Click on the links for additional information about ITE Training.

[Web Seminars/Briefings](#) • [Online Learning](#) • [CD Courses](#)

***Web Seminars:* [Transportation Operations Practitioner Specialist and Traffic Signal Operations Specialist Refresher Course Suites](#)**

***Online Learning:* [Designing Accessible Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way Online Learning Courses](#)**

***CD Course:* [Introduction to Ethics-Discussion and Support for Transportation Professionals](#)**

Course: Innovative Bicycle Treatments

Date: Tuesday, September 12

Time: 2:00 pm–3:30 p.m. EASTERN

Registration Fee: \$250 ITE members/\$275 non-ITE members per site

Credit: 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET CEUs

Background: The objective of this seminar is to share information on a wide variety of innovative treatments to accommodate bicycles. The seminar draws on the 2002 ITE Informational Report “Innovative Bicycle Treatments,” but also presents a number of innovations that have occurred since. At the conclusion of the Web seminar the participant will: be familiar with innovative bicycle treatments in use in the US and abroad; understand advantages and disadvantages of bicycle treatment innovations; be aware of available research conclusions on specific treatments; and identify sources of additional information on specific treatments.

Course: TOPS Refresher Course Suite

Date: Tuesday, September 12–Wednesday, October 18

Time: 12:00 noon–1:30 p.m. EASTERN

Registration fee: \$375 ITE member/\$400 non-ITE members per site

Credit: 9 PDH/.9 IACET CEU for the suite of six modules

Background: The suite of courses includes six (6) individual learning modules on traffic operations studies, traffic devices, elements of design, traffic safety, transportation management and incident management. Visit the Web seminar site at www.ite.org for background information, dates and times for the individual modules.

Course: TSOS Refresher Course Suite

Date: Wednesday, September 13–Tuesday, October 10

Time: 2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. EASTERN

Registration fee: \$350 ITE members/\$375 non-ITE members per site

Credit: 7.5 PDH/.75 IACET CEU for the suite of five modules

Background: The suite of courses includes five (5) individual learning modules on principles of traffic signal control, elements of signal design and installation, signal phasing and timing, signal system timing and operations, signal operations and safety review. Visit the Web seminar site at www.ite.org for background information, dates and times for the individual modules.

Course: PTOE Refresher Course Suite

Date: Wednesday, September 13–Thursday, October 19

Time: 12:00 noon–1:30 p.m. EASTERN

Registration fee: \$325 ITE members/\$375 non-ITE members per site

Credit: 7.5 PDH/.75 IACET CEU for the suite of five modules

Background: The suite of courses includes five (5) individual learning modules on traffic engineering, traffic operations analysis, operational effects of geometric design, traffic safety and traffic control devices. Visit the Web seminar site at www.ite.org for background information, dates and times for the individual modules.

Course: Transportation Impact Analyses for Site Development

Date: Thursday, September 14

Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 p.m. EASTERN

Registration Fee: \$250 ITE members/\$275 non-ITE members per site

Credit: 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET CEU

Background: This training was developed to assist transportation professionals in identifying the steps and tools involved in traffic access and impact studies for site development. Upon completion, the participant will be able to: undertake a site impact analysis; collect required traffic data; use appropriate analysis tools; interpret results; suggest improvements; and prepare a full report.

Course: Road Safety Audits

Date: Tuesday, September 19

Time: 12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Eastern

Registration Fee: \$250 ITE members/\$275 non-ITE members per site

Credit: 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET CEU

Background: This web seminar presents an overview of the key issues associated with a Road Safety Audit (RSA). The RSA is a tool recommended and promoted by FHWA and AASHTO to enhance roadway safety. Understanding the tool and the major RSA process features will be emphasized. Applying the RSA will be presented as an interactive case study example. At the conclusion of the seminar participants will be able to: define an RSA; identify RSA stages; identify RSA steps; determine RSA team members and prepare RSA report.

Course: Complete Street: Introduction and Context Web Briefing

Date: Wednesday, September 27

Time: 12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Eastern

Registration Fee: \$100

Credit: 1.5 PDH

Background: The goal of this web briefing is to familiarize the audience with the concept and principles behind Complete Streets in two-parts. The first part of the briefing will give an overview of concepts including: the principle of complete streets; elements of a good complete streets policy, and effective implementation of the policy. It will also highlight the differences and connections between complete streets and Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) and how the complete streets policies can lead to CSS. The second part of the seminar will involve a practitioner going into more detail about the elements of a complete street which often include: sidewalks, bike lanes, visible crosswalks, refuge medians, sidewalk bulb-outs, extended pedestrian crossing times, pedestrian countdown clocks, accessible pedestrian signals and crosswalks at all bus stops.

To register and to visit frequently asked questions go to

<http://www.ite.org/education/webinars.asp>

Official registration closes 3 days before the course. A late fee of \$20 is assessed for registrations received after the closing date

If you have questions or comments about ITE's Professional Development Program, contact Aliyah N. Horton at +1 202-289-0222 ext. 137

AASHTO (Meetings)

**2006 Annual Meeting of the
AASHTO Subcommittee on Systems Operations and Management
AASHTO Special Committee on Transportation Security
TRB Committee on Critical Transportation Infrastructure Protection (ABE 40)**
Wyndham Orlando Hotel
September 17 - 20, 2006

MEETING REGISTRATION:

Registration fee includes:

- Admittance to all conference sessions
- Reception on Sunday night
- Breakfast on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- Lunch on Monday and Tuesday
- All morning and afternoon breaks
- Entrance into the off-site venue

Member Registration Fee: \$385 Non-Member Registration Fee: \$425

Two easy ways to register:

1. Registration online at <http://www.transportation1.org/meetings>.
2. Or download the registration form from the website above.
Complete and mail registration form with check or government P.O. payment to:

AASHTO
Department 5051
Washington, DC 20061-5051

HOTEL INFORMATION AND RESERVATION

Wyndham Orlando Hotel
8001 International Dr.
Orlando, Florida 32819

Call the hotel at 407-351-2420 for reservations and ask for the AASHTO block of rooms. The deadline for reservations is August 25, 2006. Sleeping room rates are: \$99 single/double; \$139 Junior Suite. The state tax rate is 12.5% and resort fee is \$7.5%. Notice of cancellation is 72 hours prior to arrival.

**2006 AASHTO Annual Meeting
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon
October 26 - 30, 2006**

You are invited to the AASHTO Annual Meeting to be held at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon from October 26 - 30, 2006.

MEETING REGISTRATION:

Registration fee includes:

- Admittance to all conference sessions
 - Admittance to Trade Show
 - Reception Friday Night
 - Host State Event Saturday Night
 - Breakfast on Friday, Saturday and Monday
 - Lunch on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday
-

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- All morning and afternoon breaks

Advance Member Registration Fee (On or prior to October 1, 2006): \$725
Advance Non-Member Registration Fee (On or prior to October 1, 2006): \$825
Advance Spouse/Guest Registration Fee (On or prior to October 1, 2006): \$325

Two easy ways to register:

1. Registration online at <http://www.transportation1.org/meetings>.
2. Or download the registration form from the website above.
Complete and mail registration form with check or government P.O. payment to:

AASHTO
Department 5051
Washington, DC 20061-5051

HOTEL INFORMATION AND RESERVATION

Hilton Hotel and Executive Tower
921 SW 6th
Portland, Oregon 97204
Reservations: 1-503-226-1611

Ask for the AASHTO block of rooms. The discounted room rate is \$132 single/double plus taxes of 12.5%. **The deadline for reservations is September 25, 2006.**

After the deadline date of September 25, 2006 the quoted rates will not be available and rooms will be subject to availability at the prevailing rack rates. If the AASHTO block fills up before September 25, 2006 the sleeping room rates will not be available and rooms will be subject to availability at the prevailing rack rates.

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE PORTLAND CONVENTION CENTER. TRANSPORTATION FROM THE PORTLAND HILTON TO THE CONVENTION CENTER WILL BE PROVIDED.

AASHTO (Publications)

The Roadside Design Guide, Chapter Six Update -- Pre order now for late September availability.

You can order this and all AASHTO publications by calling 1-800-231-3475 or visiting the online bookstore, <https://bookstore.transportation.org/>. (Please use offer code E51 when you check out at the online bookstore).

Chapter 6 of the Roadside Design Guide, entitled Median Barriers, has been revised to include updated guidance on the use of median barrier. Additional changes to the chapter include a new section on High Tension Cable Barrier Systems and guidance on the placement of cable barrier. 2006. Paperback with CD. 46 pages.

Item Code: E51-RSDGCHP6-3-M
Price per copy: \$40
AASHTO members: \$32

Roadside Design Guide, 3rd Edition, with 2006 Chapter Six Update

A synthesis of current information and operating practices related to roadside safety presented in both metric and U.S. customary units. It focuses on safety treatments that can minimize the likelihood of serious injuries when a motorist leaves the roadway. The searchable single-user CD ROM of the text is included. The 2006 Chapter Six Update, Median Barriers, is also included.

Item code: E51-RSDG-3-M
Price per copy: \$160
AASHTO members: \$128

TRB News

Recently Released TRB Publications

COMMUTING IN AMERICA III: ON SALE NOW

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6699

The third edition of Commuting in America will be published by TRB this fall. The report was prepared by author Alan E. Pisarski under a joint project of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) and the Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP). Commuting in America III is one of the most comprehensive documents of its kind. Based on the latest census information available, it contains 155 figures, 79 tables, and some 100 “factlets” that tell the story of America’s commuting trends and patterns over the last ten years. This publication will be a valuable reference for the transportation community—practitioners, researchers, and decision makers—who wish to understand how individual behavior and public policies have affected, and will continue to affect, commuting patterns. Advanced orders for Commuting in America III are now being taken, with delivery of the publication expected by the end of October. Order now and receive a \$10 discount off the \$60 cover price for this publication.

IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT UNSIGNALIZED CROSSINGS

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6630

TRB’s Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) and National Cooperative Highway Research Program have jointly produced and published Improving Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Crossings. The product, which can be referred to as TCRP Report 112 or NCHRP Report 562, examines selected engineering treatments to improve safety for pedestrians crossing high-volume and high-speed roadways at unsignalized locations. The report presents the edited final report and Appendix A. TCRP Web-Only Document 30/NCHRP Web-Only Document 91 (Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Crossings: Appendices B to O) contains the remaining appendixes of the contractor’s final report.

IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT UNSIGNALIZED CROSSINGS: APPENDICES B TO O

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6676

TRB’s Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) and National Cooperative Highway Research Program have jointly produced and published Improving Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Crossings: Appendices B to O. The product, which can be referred to as TCRP Web-Only Document 30 or NCHRP Web-Only Document 91, consists of the appendixes to TCRP Report 112/NCHRP Report 562 (Improving Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Crossings), which examines selected engineering treatments to improve safety for pedestrians crossing high-volume and high-speed roadways at unsignalized locations. TCRP Report 112 and NCHRP Report 562 include appendix A.

Federal Research News

SUCCESSSES IN STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER: SEPTEMBER 2006

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6701

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has released the latest issue of its Successes in Stewardship monthly newsletter that highlights current environmental streamlining practices from around the United States. This issue of the newsletter focuses on how agencies can improve the quality of their environmental documents to make them more effective, engaging, and useful to decision makers and the public.

TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY HIGHLIGHTS: AUGUST 2006

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6689

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration has released the latest issue of its Transportation Conformity Highlights newsletter. The monthly newsletter is designed to keep conformity stakeholders up to date on issues related to transportation conformity.

ALTERNATE ROUTE HANDBOOK

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6703

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration has released a report that explores the processes, barriers, and technologies associated with alternate route plan development and implementation.

FHWA'S ENHANCED NIGHT VISIBILITY REPORT SERIES

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6070

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Visibility Research Program is designed to enhance the safety of road users through near-term improvements of the visibility on and along the roadway. The program also promotes the advancement of new practices and technologies to improve visibility on a cost-effective basis. The Enhanced Night Visibility (ENV) Project, a multiyear effort under the Visibility Research Program, was recently completed. Documentation of the ENV Project, which will entail an 18-volume series of FHWA reports, is ongoing. The FHWA has released 13 of the volumes in the series. Some of the issues covered by the reports available include visual performance during nighttime driving in clear weather, rain, and snow; evaluation of discomfort glare during nighttime driving in clear weather; detection of pavement markings during nighttime driving in clear weather; comparison of near infrared, far infrared, high-intensity discharge, and halogen headlamps on object detection in nighttime clear weather and rain; and characterization of experimental vision enhancement systems.

FHWA FOCUS MAGAZINE - AUGUST 2006

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6691

Articles in the August 2006 issue of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Focus magazine include:

- * New Help Desk: A One-Stop Source for Pavement Preservation Solutions
- * Blast Design and Analysis for Highway Structures
- * National Transportation Product Evaluation Program: A Win-Win for States and Industry
- * Falling Weight Deflectometers: Transferring the Technology
- * Announcing the 2007 Highway Materials Engineering Course
- * National Partnership for Highway Quality 2006 Conference: Around the Curve in Highway Quality

PUBLIC ROADS: JULY/AUGUST 2006

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6692

The latest issue of the Federal Highway Administration's Public Roads magazine includes the following articles:

- * Bridging the Financial Gap With Public-Private Partnerships
- * Composting Roadkilled Deer
- * An Orphaned Highway
- * Living to Tell the Tale
- * Ramping Up Ramp Management
- * Saving Colorado's Berthoud Pass
- * Improving the Reliability of Freight Travel
- * Marking the Way to Greater Safety

FHWA RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONAL AND EXPERTISE DIRECTORY: SUMMER 2006

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6694

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Office of Research, Development, and Technology has released the summer 2006 issue of its Organizational and Expertise Directory.

EXAMINATION OF THE TRANSIT NEW STARTS PROGRAM

-> http://trb.org/news/blurb_detail.asp?id=6697

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has released a report that examines the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) New Starts program, which is used to select fixed guideway transit projects, such as rail and trolley projects, and to award full funding grant agreements (FFGAs). The report explores the number of projects that were evaluated, rated, and proposed for FFGAs for the fiscal year 2007 evaluation cycle and the proposed funding commitments for the fiscal year 2007 budget. The report also reviews the procedural changes that FTA proposed for the New Starts program beginning with the fiscal year 2008 evaluation cycle, as well as changes that the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation

Equity Act: A Legacy for Users made to the New Starts program and FTA's implementation of these changes.

BRT NEWSLANE: VOL. 5, NUMBER 2

-> http://trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=6684

The latest issue of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) newsLane newsletter is now available. The BRT newsLane is funded by the Federal Transit Administration and is designed to update BRT communities, industrial partners, bus manufacturers, and stakeholders on important BRT activities taking place in the United States and abroad. This issue includes the following articles:

- * Volvo Gets More Orders in Bogota, Curitiba
- * Small Starts Should Boost BRT Market
- * Wright Group, ISE to Build Advanced Buses for Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada.
- * Economic Development and BRT
- * Orange Line Leads

SHARED-USE PATH LEVEL OF SERVICE CALCULATOR

-> http://trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=6693

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration has released a report that examines how to use a new method to analyze the quality of service provided by shared-use paths of various widths that accommodate various travel mode splits. For the purpose of this report, shared-use paths are paved, off-road facilities designed for travel by a variety of nonmotorized users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, skaters, runners, and others.

RURAL AMERICA AT A GLANCE, 2006

-> http://trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=6688

Rural America at a Glance is a brochure produced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service that highlights recent indicators of social and economic conditions in rural areas. The brochure is designed to provide information on key rural conditions and trends for use by public and private decision makers and others in efforts to enhance the economic opportunities and quality of life for people in rural communities.

State Research News

INTERSECTION SIGHT DISTANCE FOR UNPROTECTED LEFT-TURN TRAFFIC

-> http://trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=6687

The Florida Department of Transportation has released a report that explores the development of a geometric model to calculate sight distance for unprotected left-turning vehicles for different geometric configurations. The report also examines the influence of the sight-distance problem on left-turn gap-acceptance behaviors and traffic capacity.

\$\$\$ Scholarship \$\$\$

With the Section in good financial health, we have decided to explore outreach to student sections and processes for providing scholarships. Josh Smith, G&O JDsmith@G-and-O.com and Matt Crane, JMT mcrane@jmt.com have volunteered as membership and scholarship chairs respectively so please show them your support. Please contact Josh if you'd like to volunteer to help coordinate with student chapters and plan joint activities. We will continue the meeting fees for members at \$25. Bring a guest to the section and your fee will be \$20. We would also like to encourage members to bring students to the Section meetings or members that have not previously attended Section meetings. Students are FREE.

What Would You Like to Gain from WDCSITE?

Is there a transportation-related project, issue, or topic that you'd like to see discussed at an upcoming WDCSITE meeting? Are there particular events or activities you'd like to see as part of a WDCSITE outing? Would you like to get involved in other WDCSITE activities such as producing newsletters, developing a WDCSITE directory, performing trip generation analyses, or planning events? Any other ideas for increasing the value of your WDCSITE membership? We are currently working on future programs for 2006 and would like to hear your ideas. Please contact Paul Silberman, WDCSITE Technical Programs Coordinator (psilberman@sabra-wang.com) with any questions or comments.

WDCSITE 2006 BOARD

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