Letter from the President

Dr. Beth Ebel’s remarks seemed to resonate with everyone in the room at the PacTrans Annual Conference, held on Friday, October 18 at the University of Washington. She discussed the addiction that many of us struggle with, being constantly connected to the world through our cell phones. Dr. Ebel described Americans’ obsession with cell phones accurately for me personally as a satisfying fix akin to that of a drug user. The cell phone chimes or buzzes, we know it is against the law to look while driving a car, but we do and nothing happens. So this cycle continues. I don’t have a personal smart phone but I do have a work issued Blackberry. Still, I wear it enough that I sometimes feel invisible buzzing on my hip and when I reach for my phone, I realize that it isn’t even there.

Dr. Ebel showed videos of volunteer drivers who agreed to have a camera installed to monitor

(Continued on page 3)

November Meeting

Sound Transit Link Light Rail Projects

Sound Transit Central Link light rail has been operating for over four years and the ridership continues to exceed the agency’s revised forecasts. It is the service mode that continues to see impressive ridership, with a 10 percent increase from the previous year. Sound Transit set a new record in August 2013 with 960,000 people boarding. Excitement is growing as Seattle’s University Station is rising above ground and construction staging is underway in the Northgate neighborhood. Come learn the status of current projects and potential new projects that could be included in the ST3 funding package. Jon Jordan and Brian Kemper from Sound Transit will provide an informative presentation and discussion with our members.

When Tuesday, November 12, 2013, 11:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Where The Nile Shrine Golf Club, 425-774-9611
6601 244th Street SW, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043 (Directions)

Cost $25 for ITE members, $30 for non-ITE members. Students are welcome for free. Free parking.

Menu A catered lunch of Penne Pasta with Alfredo sauce, sliced grilled chicken, bread rolls, Caesar salad, cookies, tea, and coffee.

RSVP Please register with Carla Nasr at itewaregister@gmail.com by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 8. Please note that if you cancel your reservation after this date, you will be charged to cover the cost of the meal.
Letter from the President
(Continued from page 1)

their driving. That these drivers still used their phones and the casual manner in which they used them was incredibly powerful. I cringed as Dr. Ebel counted the agonizing long seconds that drivers’ eyes left the road to look at their phones. We are six times more likely to cause an collision while texting and driving than driving while intoxicated. When I watched that video, I whole heartily believed it. I don’t put my phone within reach when I’m driving or bicycling anymore.

I find that sorting through my e-mail messages on the Blackberry is helpful and productive. When I don’t have the device, I feel a bit out of touch as the majority of my work day is spent going from one meeting to another. As I see the connected nature of our society and our reliance on our mobile phones, I wonder how we will be able to get messages out to our driving public that are effective. Perhaps it will take the auto insurance industry to monitor their policy holders and adjust their rates based on cellular phone use when renewing policies. Or maybe the phone companies will take the initiative and provide a solution that turns the phone off when a person is driving. Perhaps instead it will be automated and connected vehicles that will solve this problem. I think we need to start with ourselves and then educate the broader public and the policy makers.

Dr. Ebel’s alarming study indicates that more than eight percent of drivers are distracted by electronic devices while driving. She is looking for an effective messaging to bring awareness to drivers and eliminate this risky behavior. There are some promising efforts under way. For example, I recently talked with TextingThumbBands.com. It is a family owned and operated business located in Colorado that sells thumb bands to raise awareness of texting and driving. The message on the bands is W8 2 TXT TXTNG KILLS. The company has an information graphic on their website that provides a visual statics of texting and driving. The highlights are:

- In 2011, at least 23% (1.3 million crashes) of auto collisions involved cell phones.
- If you look off the road for 5 seconds to text when traveling at 55 mph, you’ve traveled the length of a football field without looking at the road.
- 34% of teens and 27% of adults say that they have texted while driving.
- 1 in 5 drivers of all ages confess to surfing the web while driving.

The graphic can be viewed at: http://www.onlineschools.com/in-focus/driving-while-intexticated. The company also has a Text Free Pledge that people can fill out, on page 4. I ask each of you to look at the statistics and decide for yourself, whether you should take the pledge. I hope you do.

Dongho Chang, President
itewapresident@gmail.com
AN EPIDEMIC
IS SWEEPING ACROSS AMERICA. CAUSING
DRIVERS EVERYWHERE TO BLACK OUT FOR
FIVE SECONDS AT A TIME. IT’S CALLED
TEXTING AND DRIVING.

Text Free Driving Pledge

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because it makes me 23 times more likely to crash.  

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because it’s like driving after having 4 beers.  

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because it’s like taking my eyes off the road for an average of 5 seconds. At 55 MPH, it is like driving the length of a football field - completely blind.  

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because car crashes kill an average of 11 teens - EVERY DAY.  

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because distracted driving injures 330,000 people every year.  

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because texting and driving is dangerous and life threatening to me, others in my car and everyone else on the roads.  

I PLEDGE NOT TO TEXT AND DRIVE because texting and driving ends and ruins lives everyday and I will NOT contribute to this growing epidemic.

By signing below, I am making a conscious commitment to not text while driving, always wear my seatbelt and encourage my friends and family to always do the same.

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Signature                                        Date

Get connected with the text free community at www.facebook.com/textfreedriving
www.textingthimbbands.com & www.textingwhiledrivingbands.com

ITS GOES WIRELESS

One Wireless Sensor, All Your ITS Applications

Sensys Networks speeds deployment and reduces maintenance for all your ITS applications from one wireless sensor.

One Wireless Sensor, All Your ITS Applications

Sensys networks
www.sensysnetworks.com

November 2013
ITE Newsletter Volume 24, No. 3
Page 5
ITE WA Event Schedule for 2013-2014

These dates for ITE WA meetings and events are subject to change depending upon the availability of venues.

- Tuesday, November 12 – Lunch meeting. Topic: Sound Transit Link Light Rail Projects. See page 1.
- Tuesday, December 10 – Breakfast/Training.
- Tuesday, January 14 – Lunch meeting at the Nile Shrine Golf Center in Mountlake Terrace.
- Monday, February 10 – ITE/International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) meeting.
- Tuesday, March 18 – Lunch meeting.
- Tuesday, April 8 – Lunch meeting.
- Tuesday, May 13 – Student Night.
- Tuesday, June 10 – Annual Business Meeting.
- Sunday, June 29 – Wednesday July 2 – Western District Annual Meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota.
- Sunday, August 10 – Wednesday August 13 – ITE WA helps host the 2014 ITE International Annual Meeting and Exhibit in Seattle.

American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) NW Chapter Fall Meeting

Please mark your calendars for the next meeting of the NW Chapter of ATSSA:

**WHEN:** Wednesday, November 20, 2013. Program begins at 10 a.m.

**WHERE:** Shoreline Conference Center, 206-393-4122, Mt. Rainier Room, 18560 1st Ave. NE, Shoreline, WA 98155 (Directions).

**AGENDA:**
- Open the meeting, introductions, past meeting minutes, financial update
- National Work Zone Awareness Week
- Introduce ITE Washington State Section
- Introduce Urban Traffic Engineers Council
- Introduce Northwest Traffic Alliance
- Upcoming call for projects for state and federal grants through WSDOT Highways & Local Programs
- Discuss ATSSA work zone training and certification
- Discuss ATSSA leadership training program
- Discuss chapter membership outreach and new business

**COST:** Free

**RSVP** No RSVP required. We look forward to seeing you there! For questions please contact Pete Speer, President, at 253-284-8000 or Peter.Speer@pexco.com.
PACTRANS SEMINAR SERIES

Date: Wednesday, November 13th 2013
Time: Seminar: 2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M
       Reception: 3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M
Location: UW Seattle Campus
          Husky Union Building Room 334

Organized by
The Pacific Northwest Transportation Consortium (PacTrans)
USDOT University Transportation Center for Federal Region 10

Presentation Title:
What is the Level of Volatility in Instantaneous Driving Decisions?

Abstract
Instantaneous driving decisions are part of incessant human behavior during driving, strongly affecting safety outcomes, energy consumption and tailpipe emissions. To accommodate changes in surrounding environment, drivers make instantaneous decisions, such as maintaining speed, accelerating, braking, maintaining acceleration or deceleration, or increasing the rate of acceleration or deceleration (referred to as jerk, which is the decision to change the marginal rate of acceleration and deceleration). These instantaneous decisions and their combinations result in driving volatility. This paper develops a framework for understanding instantaneous decisions and explores volatility in such decisions with the aim of developing a fundamental understanding of instantaneous decisions. Empirical analysis is based on a large scale (big-data) travel behavior survey database, with 51,337 trips and their associated second-by-second (total 33 million seconds) Global Positioning System (GPS) data collected in 2011 in Atlanta, GA. Various measures are used to quantify volatility in instantaneous driving decisions and exploring correlates of volatility in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Statistical analysis revealed that volatility in instantaneous decisions varies significantly between groups of drivers based on gender, age, trips of varying lengths, and peak hours. The implications of the findings are discussed.

Speaker: Dr. Asad J. Khattak
Dr. Asad J. Khattak is Beaman Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Director of Safety Programs-Center for Transportation Research at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he teaches and conducts research in transportation. Dr. Khattak’s research focuses on various types of innovations related to 1) intelligent transportation systems, 2) transportation safety, and 3) sustainable transportation. During 2006-2013, he was Frank Batten endowed chair Professor of Civil Engineering at Old Dominion University where he developed and directed ODU’s transportation research initiatives and educational programs. Dr. Khattak is: 1) Editor of Science Citation Indexed Journal of Intelligent Transportation Systems, 2) Associate Editor of SCI-indexed International Journal of Sustainable Transportation, and 3) Editorial Advisory Board Member of Transportation Research, Part C, and Analytic Methods in Accident Research.

For questions, please contact Ms. Meghan MacKrell, assistant director for PacTrans at Email: pctrans@uw.edu Tel: (206) 685-6648 Website: www.pctrans.org
More Hall 112, Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195-2700
Scribe Report

Photos from the October lunch meeting:
I-5 Skagit River Bridge Replacement Project

The I-5 steel truss bridge spanning Skagit River in Mount Vernon collapsed on the evening of May 23, 2013 after it was struck by a truck carrying an over-height load. The incredible and heroic actions by responders, especially State Trooper Sean O’Connell who died while directing detour traffic have instilled confidence and gratitude in the community. The temporary bridge was installed on June 19 and the permanent bridge opened on September 15.

The meeting was held at City of Edmonds’s Plaza Room in downtown Edmonds next to the downtown library. Our guest speaker was Dina Swires, Mount Baker Area Traffic Engineer for Washington State Department of Transportation’s Northwest Region. According to Dongho Chang, ITE WA’s President, “We had a huge turnout for our October 8 luncheon meeting and the presentation on the Skagit River Bridge was amazing. It was great to see WSDOT folks from Olympia at the monthly meeting along with many new faces.”

Washington State Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)
Providing training for local agencies and their consultants.
[View a list of upcoming classes at http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/Training/default.htm]
Safety Corner

News from the Section Safety Committee

By Gary Norris, Safety Committee Chair, DN Traffic Consultants

The ITE WA Safety Committee met after the October 8 lunch meeting to discuss the Safety Committee’s focus and activities for the year. We discussed the following:

1. We will sponsor an online training on the Highway Safety Manual that will begin in early 2014. If you are interested in participating please contact me at gary@dntrafficconsultants.com or Robert Shull at rshull@transportmodeler.com.

2. For the past year, we have been discussing the idea of ITE working closer with the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission and Washington State Department of Transportation to pursue the goals of Target Zero, Washington State’s strategy to achieve zero fatalities and serious injuries by the year 2030. We hope that Target Zero can be the topic for the March lunch meeting, as the updated document should be out by then.

3. We discussed a possible vehicle safety check program as a vehicle licensing requirement as a possible traffic safety project that ITE WA and the ITE WA student section could pursue. If members have other suggestions, please contact me at gary@dntrafficconsultants.com.

Here are two other news items of interest:

1. The ITE Transportation Safety Council has a new report out that shows that motor vehicle traffic fatalities were down 6 percent in the period between January 2013 and July 2013 compared to the same period in 2012.

2. A recent publication from the FHWA Safety Program is Signalized Intersections Informational Guide. You can obtain this publication from http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/signalized/13027.

The Safety Committee members include:

Caroline Brabrook, cbrabrook@yahoo.com
Brian Chandler, chandlerbe@leidos.com
Scott Davis, davissa@co.thurston.wa.us
Matthew Enders, matthew.enders@wsdot.wa.gov
Janet Hall, jhall@ci.mlt.wa.us
Mike Hendrix, mhendrix@pereteet.com
Steve Mullen, smullen@kentwa.gov
Robert Shull, rshull@transportmodeler.com
Gary Norris, gary@dntrafficconsultants.com

Please be safe as the Holidays approach.
Campus Corner

Reminders about Activities and Opportunities for 2013-2014

By Richard Hutchinson, Student Activities Committee Chair, KPG

Student Night Competition
We are looking for a demonstration project for this year’s Student Night. If you know of a project that you think would be interesting, please contact me at 253-344-5267 or richardh@kpg.com. This is a good opportunity to bring an interesting project that has been shelved or that is lower on the funding priority list to the forefront while letting students visit the site, crunch a few numbers, and develop and give a presentation of their ideas on how to address the issue.

$1,500 Undergraduate and $2,000 Graduate Scholarships
Scholarships from ITE WA for students in transportation engineering or transportation planning are due the first week in April 2014. Criteria and applications will be posted on the ITE-WA website this winter. If you know a student that you think would be a good candidate, please encourage them to submit an application this year.
Philips Color Kinetics Handrail Illumination:

- LED Color or White
- Static or Color Changing
- Shows – Chasing, pattern, color changing, etc.

www.colorkinetics.com

www.kingluminaire.com

www.leotek.com

Sea-Tac Lighting & Controls, LLC  ROADWAY DIVISION  206.575.6865  www.seataclighting.com
### Section Business

#### Section Board for September 2013-August 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Vice President/Treasurer</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Immediate Past President</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Traffic Engineer</td>
<td>Associate Civil Engineer</td>
<td>Traffic Operations Engineer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Seattle</td>
<td>City of Seattle</td>
<td>City of Redmond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700 Fifth Avenue</td>
<td>700 Fifth Avenue</td>
<td>15670 NE 85th St., MS 2NPW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 34996</td>
<td>P.O. Box 34996</td>
<td>P.O. Box 97010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle, WA 98124</td>
<td>Seattle, WA 98124</td>
<td>Redmond, WA 98073-9710</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>206-684-5106</td>
<td>206-684-0817</td>
<td>425-556-2751</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:itewapresident@gmail.com">itewapresident@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:itewatreasurer@gmail.com">itewatreasurer@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:pcho@redmond.gov">pcho@redmond.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Newsletter Advertisements

Advertising for this newsletter is available in the following sizes:

- **Business card**: $100
- **1/4 page (width = 3 1/4 inches, height = 5 inches)**: $250
- **1/2 page (width = 7 1/2 inches, height = 5 inches or width = 3 1/4 inches, height = 10 inches)**: $500
- **Full page (width = 7 1/2 inches, height = 10 inches)**: $1,000

Ads run from January through December. To submit your ad, please e-mail it in jpg, png, or tif file format to: Paul Cho, ITE WA Secretary at itewasecretary@gmail.com. Also send a check for the ad size you desire to: Carter Danne, ITE WA Vice President/Treasurer at Carter Danne, Associate Civil Engineer, City of Seattle, P.O. Box 34996, Seattle, WA 98124.

### Newsletter Contact Information

Please let us know if your contact information changes so that you continue to receive monthly ITE WA announcements and newsletters by e-mail. To update your information, click on the Membership tab on the ITE WA website: [http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm](http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm).

### Newsletter Comments and Article Submissions

If you have comments on this newsletter or have an interesting topic or project to share, please contact Susan Bowe, Newsletter Editor at iteaweditor@gmail.com.

### ITE WA website


### Follow Us on Twitter!

@ITE_Washington