



Letter from the President

As we head into a new year, it's always a great time to look back on the successes of the previous year, consider how we can build on that momentum, and reflect on changes we'd like to make in the coming year. The 2006 year was indeed a very busy one for our industry here in Washington State. Consider just a few of the following stats:



*Kerensa Swanson
WA Section President*

- WSDOT is managing over \$2.5 billion in transportation projects state-wide, and currently has 47 projects under construction (*be sure to check out <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/accountability/GrayNotebook.pdf> - a quarterly report for the Governor and Transportation Commission on WSDOT's programs and management*)
- Over the past three years, housing permits in King County have steadily

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ITE Washington Section presents:

"Context Sensitive Design/Solutions"

Come one-come all! See what this talk of "Context Sensitive Solutions" (CSS) is all about. Tim Bevan has been working with the FHWA, National Highway Institute, and WSDOT to define the CSS approach. He is providing training for transportation agencies across the country on incorporating CSS into transportation projects-or thinking beyond the pavement. It is a process that involves all stakeholders to develop a transportation facility that fits its physical setting and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources, while maintaining safety and mobility. CSS is an approach that considers the total context within which a transportation improvement project will exist. Sign up early! You won't want to miss this one.

- SPEAKER** Tim Bevan, P.E.
CH2MHILL
- LOCATION** The Woodmark Hotel on Lake Washington
1200 Carillon Point
Kirkland, WA
- DATE** Tuesday, January 16
- TIME** Social — 11:30 a.m.
Lunch and Presentation — 12:00 p.m.
- COST** Payable by cash or check to "ITE Washington Section"
ITE members: \$40 for both lunch and presentation
Students: \$10
- MENU** Portofino Buffet Combination which includes: Soup, Seasonal Fruit, Bay Shrimp, Artichoke, Tomato Salad, Antipasti Platter, Chickpea Roasted Tomato Dip with Rosemary Crisps, Baked Ziti with Roasted Eggplant and Fresh Mozzarella, Chef's Choice Panini Sandwiches, Italian Cookies, and Miniature Desserts

RSVP By Friday, January 12 to Iris Cabrera at
ITERegistration@ci.kirkland.wa.us

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increased by about 5-10 percent each year (last year showed the highest number of single family housing starts in over 15 years)

- The Central Puget Sound Population grew by about 2 percent last year – the highest population increase since the early 1990s (check out more Puget Sound stats on PSRC's website at: <http://www.psrc.org/publications/pubs/trends/>)
- In 2006, Sound Transit buses and trains served more than 12 million passenger trips (for regular updates on Sound Transit budgets, progress and news, please see <http://www.soundtransit.org/x1226.xml>)
- In 2006, Boeing took orders for nearly 500 of the new 787 Dreamliner airplane (the first of which is set to be manufactured in 2007). To put this in perspective, Boeing produced its 600th 777 airplane in 2006 – 600 airplanes over 11 years is the fastest production rate seen to date for this type of airplane.

We are indeed very fortunate to have a thriving transportation industry in Washington State. At times like this, it sometimes is difficult to participate in or volunteer with ITE, but of course now is the time when you are needed the most! The more people we can get who can volunteer to do just one small task, the more we will be able to accomplish. This is also a great time to learn from each other on our successes and lessons-learned, because we are all having a tremendous opportunity to shape the region's future now. I think you will find the upcoming monthly programs to be timely and informative in this light, and I look forward to seeing many of there.

I hope that you all have had a great year in 2006 and that you will continue to enjoy good health and prosperity in 2007.

Sincerely,
Kerensa Swanson,
President, ITE Washington Section

How to become a Member of ITE:

"When becoming a first time local member of the Washington State Section of ITE, fill out the application online at <http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm> (Click on the "Membership" link) and send a check for the annual dues to the Membership Chair. Once the Membership Chair receives the application and annual dues, he/she will forward this information to the ITE National Headquarters in Washington, DC. For subsequent years, each member will be billed for his/her annual local dues by the ITE National Headquarters. If you are interested in becoming a National and District member as well, contact ITE National directly to fill out an application form (<http://www.ite.org/>)."



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Also send a check for \$100 (covers through December 2007) to Nick Ching:

David Evans and Associates
415 118th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98005



“The Campus Corner”

By Scott Lee, Jamal Mahmoud, and Megan Powers

The month of December has been challenging with the recovery from snow storms at the end of November and the recent power outages. Yet with these distractions, the Campus Corner continues.

The fundraising efforts for the student activities fund continues to be a great success with new donors over the last month, including TC², Herman Traffic Engineering, The Transpo Group, and DKS Associates. In all, we have raised over \$3,000!!! This is a great start and we hope that you will continue to show your support for the student section by helping us reach our goal of \$8,000.

Dave Alm, ITE Vice President and Traffic Manager of INCA, is looking for students interested in working with him on a technical paper entitled: “November 27th Snow Storm – Transportation System Effects and Lessons Learned.”

This would involve the following steps with the goal of publishing the article in the ITE Journal and newspapers:

- Document what happened, what failed and what did not fail, and obtain many facts from the event.
- Discuss what happened (one car loses traction and everybody behind them is stuck, other generalized descriptions of the event’s effects on mobility)
- Conduct a series of Interviews
- Use the interviews to reinforce the discussion points and organize the report into clear topics (transit, diversion onto other routes, closures, accidents, etc.)
- Conclusions and Recommendations

Students would work with Dave to collect the data and help write up the technical report. This would be a great opportunity to enhance your resume and meet several prominent transportation professionals within the region.

Please contact Dave Alm at 425-635-1000 or d.alm@incainc.com if you are interested.

Washington Section Website Upgrades

By Dave Alm

There have been a few enhancements to our section’s website implemented over the last month by our new webmaster, Mr. Gary Costa (City of Issaquah). The site is now up to date on newsletters, links, and information on upcoming meetings.

In cooperation with Membership Chair Jan Ciganik and International ITE, we have also addressed some recent difficulties in membership records. We can now better keep our membership status current and accurate. I encourage members to access the membership link as their status changes and follow the instructions found there. Membership status changes will now be easily and efficiently managed through our web site.

Please visit our site <http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington> to reference all of the current Washington ITE issues, and let us know how the site may be further enhanced to serve our membership.

Scribe Report

By Paul Cho, City of Redmond

As members gathered together, the popularity of this month's training, a panel discussion on ADA issues, exceeded the comfortable seating capacity of our meeting room at the Marriot Courtyard in Kirkland. But the hot breakfast, fruits, and pastries were able to warm the spirits of those anxiously awaiting the start of the discussions.



Our formal training session was to be a three-pronged discussion with input from a legal, engineering, and user's point of view. Unfortunately the last view point was unavailable for this meeting. Dan Dawson of Otak representing the engineering point of view gave a quick introductory as we counted down the minutes to link with Lisa MacPhee, Attorney-Advisor for Program Legal Services Office of FHWA, through webinar format.

Ms. MacPhee provided information on the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act Section 504 (Section 504). She provided Legal Context of ADA and Section 504 and Public Entity's obligations to provide program access through a Transition plan and through new and altered projects.

Following the webinar, Dan Dawson spoke on Designing Accessible Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Rights-of Way. Since the improvements in quality of life, nutrition, and health care have lengthened the average American lifespan, 85% of Americans will suffer a permanent disability. And currently one in every five Americans has a disability. Those with disabilities are more likely to be pedestrians.

Mr. Dawson provided many examples of design criteria recommended by the US Access Board. The Access Board is an independent Federal agency devoted to accessibility for people with disabilities. Created in 1973 to ensure access to federally funded facilities, the Board is now a leading source of information on accessible design. The Board develops and maintains design criteria for the built environment, transit vehicles, telecommunications equipment, and for electronic and information technology. It also provides technical assistance and training on these requirements and on accessible design and continues to enforce accessibility standards that cover federally funded facilities. Additional information can be found on the web at www.access-board.gov.

Allowing sufficient time for questions and answers, the meeting was concluded.

2006-2007 Washington ITE Monthly Meeting Calendar

ITE Washington Section programs generally occur on the third Tuesday of each month. The following dates and program topics are currently planned:

January 16	Tuesday	Luncheon	Context Sensitive Design/Solutions
February 26	Monday	All Day	Joint Meeting with IMSA-Program
March 20	Tuesday	Luncheon	RTID/ST/Seattle Tax Ballot
April 17	Tuesday	Luncheon	Joint Meeting with ITS
May 15	Tuesday	Dinner	Student Night
June 19	Tuesday	Annual Meeting	Annual Meeting Program
July 15-18	Sunday-Wednesday	District 6 Meeting	Full Program

WA Section ITE Board

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