WASHINGTON STATE SECTION / INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm

ITE WASHINGTON

Letter from the President

New Year's Greetings to Washington State ITE! I trust that you've enjoyed the holiday season and are now poised for this new decade.

Katherine Casseday
WA Section President

This new decade, 2011-2020 lies before us and it will definitely have some challenges. With those challenges come potential, too – potential that all of us can realize. The New Year is a time for reflection, renewal and resolution.

Reflections on 2010

It was a year with falling revenues which translated into really tough budgets proposed for all of our local agencies. Heck, even the Governor said "I hate my budget!" and really means it! Limited budgets, tight schedules and expanding demands from the public all translate into the biggest challenge we've had for some time – and

(Continued on page 2)

Inside This Issue:

Letter from the President	1-2
FHWA Requests Comments on MUTCD Compliance Dates	3-5
Job Advertisement - City of Federal Way	7
Scribe Report	8
2011 Quad Conference Call for Papers	9
Dynamic Message Board	10

This Month: An Inside Look at Transportation Services and Solutions at the University of Washington

Have you ever wondered how the University of Washington, with a daily campus population of over 60,000 people manages its Transportation System and Services? Or if the nationally acclaimed UPASS Program has been affected by the current economic climate? Do you want to know more about how parking rates are established on campus or how the University of Washington will adapt to the future construction of the Sound Transit light rail stop at Montlake?

The Washington State Section of ITE is pleased to announce that Josh Kavanagh, Director of Transportation Services at the University of Washington, will be our January meeting luncheon speaker. Josh previously served as the associate director of parking and transportation services at the University of Mexico and earned his MBA from the University of Mexico's Robert O. Anderson School of management.

The mission of the University of Washington's Transportation Department is to provide innovative and sustainable transportation solutions that facilitate the educational, research, cultural and service missions of the University by connecting people, moving property and advancing the exchange of ideas.

When Tuesday, January 11th, 2011
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Venue Nile Golf and Country Club
Gold Room
6601 244th Street SW
Mountlake Terrace, WA

Cost Lunch Only: $25 ITE Members, $30 Non-Members, $5 Students

Menu O'Callahan's Catering will be providing a lunch buffet including Caesar Salad, Grilled Chicken, Penne Pasta Alfredo, Rolls and Butter, Coffee, Tea and Cookies.

RSVP By 3 PM on Friday, January 7th, please e-mail Carla Nasr at:

itewaregister@gmail.com

Please include company name, address, phone number & names of attendees; note that you will receive an invoice from ITE if you RSVP but are unable to attend.

(Continued from page 1)

we can answer that call with a traditionally frugal perspective: make the best out of what we have. For most of our agencies, the public right of way is a very limited resource and it will take all of our creativity and design acuity to operate the travel system effectively and safely. All of our training and experience will serve us well in serving the public.

Through ITE, we've had many opportunities to learn new skills, meet with colleagues and share experiences as well as the challenges. The monthly meetings, the training sessions, joint meeting with IMSA and our annual meeting all are examples of sharing knowledge and building up our collective base of creativity and experience.

ITE **Renewal**

Recharge your batteries and attend the January meeting! Meet new folks and share your experience. Take this opportunity, as the New Year starts, to send in your ITE membership renewal. Local dues are a bargain at $20 (which you can "pay" off by attending just 4 meetings!!).

Resolutions for 2011

Washington State ITE is committed to providing informative programs and training for members and the transportation community. Our focus this year is on Safer Roads, Sustainable Projects and Accommodations and Accessibility for All. We continue that resolution with an excellent program of meeting subjects and technical training in 2011. Using the new Highway Safety Manual was introduced at our December training day.

Our January meeting will focus on the operations of an urban institution – specifically the University of Washington – with speaker Josh Kavanagh, Director of Transportation Services. Come hear more about meeting the transportation demands and needs of the university community.

We'll continue training at the ITE/IMSA meeting on February 14th and we're planning the Quad Section Meeting event in April.

Keep in touch and drop us a line to let us know what you're thinking. Just remember ITEWAxxx@gmail.com and replace xxx with president, treasurer, register and webmaster for the four roles.

itewapresident@gmail.com will reach me, Katherine Casseday
itewatreasurer@gmail.com will reach Kevin Chang, VP/Treasurer
itewaregister@gmail.com will reach Carla Nasr, Hospitality Chair
itewawebmaster@gmail.com will reach Rory Cameron, Webmaster.

All the best to you for 2011.
Meet all those challenges with Finesse!!

Katherine Casseday
President, ITE Washington Section
itewapresident@gmail.com

Washington ITE Focus for 2010-2011:

- Safer Roads
- Sustainable Projects
- Accommodation & Accessibility for All

FHWA Requests Comments on MUTCD Compliance Dates

Prepared by Jim Ellison

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is requesting comments on compliance dates that highway agencies are to meet for upgrading their existing traffic control devices to comply with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

In its notice published on November 30, 2010 in the Federal Register, the FHWA asks for responses to a series of questions about compliance dates, their benefits and their economic impacts. In particular, the FHWA is asking for comments from local and state agencies that may have concerns over their ability to meet one or more of seven specific target compliance dates that are listed in the MUTCD, given the current economic hardships that many agencies are currently experiencing.

The FHWA has identified three compliance dates established in the December 2007 Final Rule on maintaining minimum sign retroreflectivity and four of the new compliance dates established in the Final Rule for the 2009 edition of the MUTCD that might potentially present the greatest challenges to overcome.

The seven required upgrades and their current target compliance dates are:

1. **Maintaining traffic sign retroreflectivity.** Implementation and continued use of an assessment or management method that is designed to maintain traffic sign retroreflectivity at or above the established minimum levels; January 22, 2012.
2. **Maintaining traffic sign retroreflectivity.** Replacement of regulatory, warning, and post-mounted guide (except street name) signs that are identified using the assessment or management method as failing to meet the established minimum levels; January 22, 2015.
3. **Maintaining traffic sign retroreflectivity.** Replacement of street name signs and overhead guide signs that are identified using the assessment or management method as failing to meet the established minimum levels; January 22, 2018.
4. **One-way signs.** New requirement for the number and locations of ONE WAY signs; December 31, 2019.
5. **Horizontal alignment warning signs.** Revised requirements regarding the use of various horizontal alignment signs; December 31, 2019.
6. **Yellow change Intervals and red clearance Intervals.** New requirement that durations of yellow change and red clearance intervals shall be determined using engineering practices; December 31, 2014, or when timing adjustments are made to the individual intersection and/or corridor, whichever occurs first.
7. **Pedestrian intervals and signal phases.** New requirement that the pedestrian change interval shall not extend into the red clearance interval and shall be followed by a buffer interval of at least 3 seconds; December 31, 2014, or when timing adjustments are made to the individual intersection and/or corridor, whichever occurs first.

(Continued on page 4)

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In asking for comments, the FHWA has provided a series of specific questions for which it is requesting input on each. All interested parties are encouraged to submit comments and input to help the FHWA in further examining these issues and evaluating potential future alternative courses of action, including additional rulemaking.

The questions are as follows:

1. What, if any, difficulties does your organization anticipate in meeting the seven MUTCD compliance dates discussed above for upgrading existing non-compliant devices in the field?
2. Is there one or more of these seven compliance dates that are more problematic than the others for your organization? If so, which ones, and why?
3. If some or all of these seven compliance dates were extended, how long do you estimate it would take to complete the necessary traffic control device upgrades?
4. What safety or other impacts would result from extending some or all of these seven compliance dates?
5. Are there other MUTCD compliance dates not described in this notice that are problematic for your organization? If yes, which ones, and why?
6. What considerations should be applied to establish new compliance dates in the MUTCD?
7. What other comments or input do you wish to provide to FHWA regarding MUTCD compliance dates for upgrading existing traffic control devices?

Comments to the FHWA are due January 14, 2011, and can be submitted electronically, by mail, or by fax. For the electronic method, submit comments to www.regulations.gov, searching for and posting them to Docket #FHWA-2010-0159. Comments submitted from other interested parties can also be easily viewed at the same website and docket.

The complete notice in the Federal Register can be viewed at:

http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-29587.pdf

Washington State has not yet adopted the 2009 MUTCD but anticipates formal adoption in spring 2011. A committee composed of local agencies and Washington State Department of

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Transportation is close to finalizing its recommended revisions, pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 468-95. A public process will then follow to adopt the new Manual with these revisions considered.

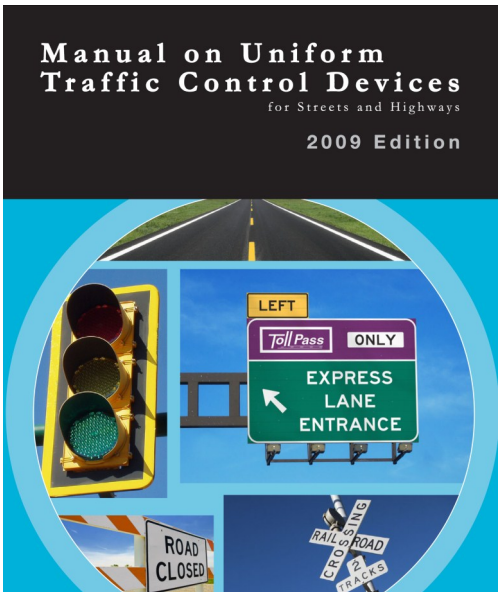
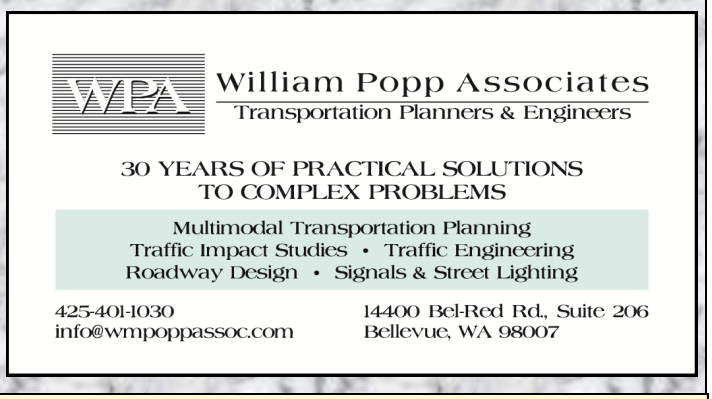


Table I-2. Target Compliance Dates Established by FHWA (Sheet 2 of 3)

2009 MUTCD Section Number(s)	2009 MUTCD Section Title	Specific Provision	Compliance Date
2C.50	Non-Vehicular Warning Signs	Elimination of crosswalk lines from crossing signs and use of diagonal downward pointing arrow (W16-7P) supplemental plaque if at the crossing (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.41)	January 17, 2011 (a)(b)
2C.61	PHOTO ENFORCED Plaque (W16-10P)	New plaque (2003 MUTCD Section 2C.53) (*)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2C.63	Object Marker Design and Placement Height	Width of stripes on Type 3 striped marker (2003 MUTCD Section 3C.01)	December 22, 2013 (b)
2D.43	Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a)	6-inch letter height for lettering on post-mounted Street Name signs (except on multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 40 mph) (2000 MUTCD Section 2D.38)	January 9, 2012 (a)
2D.43	Street Name Signs (D3-1 or D3-1a)	8-inch letter height on post-mounted signs on multi-lane streets with speed limits greater than 40 mph and 12-inch letter height on overhead signs (2003 MUTCD Section 2D.38)	December 22, 2018 (b)
2D.44	Advance Street Name Signs (D3-2)	Requirements of new Section 2D.39 in the 2003 MUTCD	December 22, 2018 (b)
2D.45	Signing on Conventional Roads on Approaches to Interchanges	New requirement in the 2009 MUTCD for multi-lane approaches to interchanges to have guide signs to identify which direction of turn is to be made for access to each direction of the freeway or expressway	December 31, 2019

All of the current target compliance dates for the MUTCD are listed on three pages in Part 1 of the 2009 Manual, in Table 1-2, a portion of which is shown above.



Advertising (Business Cards & Larger)

To submit your ad, please send a jpg, png, or tif file of the desired ad to Jim Ellison at jim@jameswellison.com

Place your ad in the following sizes:

Business card ad for $100
Full page ad for $1000
1/2 page ad for $500
1/4 page ad for $250

Also send a check for the ad size you desire (ad will run from January 2011 through December 2011) to:

Jim Ellison
Consulting Traffic Engineer
1600-B SW Dash Point Rd, #33
Federal Way, WA 98023

Call 253.666.2377 for further questions.

Job Advertisement - City of Federal Way

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ENGINEER (GRANT FUNDED)
Public Works
#10-025

Employment status: Temporary, Full Time
Salary range: $31.96 - $40.48/hour DOQ
Opens: December 20, 2010 **Closes:** January 14, 2011

NOTE: This is a temporary full-time position with no benefits grant funded through 12/31/11 only.

Under the direction of the City Traffic Engineer, perform professional and technical engineering duties to develop and implement optimized traffic signal coordination plans; Use signal timing optimization software to develop traffic signal coordination plans; implement and fine-tune timing plans in the field; Coordinate work projects with contractors, government agencies, organizations and the public; Direct the gathering of traffic volume data in support of signal timing optimization; conduct travel time and delay studies to document improvement in signal timing measures of effectiveness; Prepare, submit and manage various project grants; Provide field documentation of signal timing modifications; Operate a vehicle to conduct assigned duties; operation a personal computer and other standard office equipment; Perform related duties as assigned.

Apply at http://www.cityoffederalway.com/Page.aspx?view=269&job=269

or call

Application request line:
(253) 835-2531
Job line:

SENSYS Networks

Sensys Networks is the world's leading provider of wireless traffic detection and integrated traffic data systems.

Wireless Vehicle Detection

Sensys Wireless Vehicle Detection and Arterial Travel Time Systems provide accurate, real time data with the added benefits:

- Dependable detection available 24/7, no recall
- Flexible installation, no trenching required
- Lowest operating cost, each sensor installed in 10 minutes with no calibration required
- Universal platform, one set of equipment for all applications

SENSYS Networks
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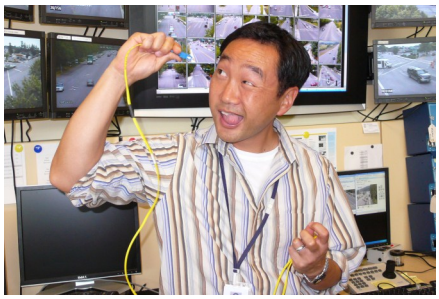
fax / +1 (510) 548-8264
email / info@sensysnetworks.com
Web / www.sensysnetworks.com

Scribe Report

By Paul Cho, City of Redmond

December Luncheon Meeting (12/06/10)

Wedged between the all day training on the Highway Safety Manual, this month's luncheon meeting was held in the Old Redmond School Community Center in the gymnasium turned lunchroom turned auditorium. Each of the tables filled with transportation professionals debriefing on the morning's training as well as greeting those that were only attending the luncheon portion. With a Taste of Spain buffet to warm the appetites, ITE Washington Section Vice President, Kevin Chang, introduced the speaker, John Milton (WSDOT) to talk about Risk Management for Transportation Professionals working in Washington State.



Mr. Milton began his presentation with an overview including:

1. Steps in a Lawsuit in which he presented the process with which lawsuits are brought forth and addressed.
2. Understanding Perspective and how it may be used against the professionals.
3. Documentation in the Real World with quantifiable words and figures.
4. Mitigating Risk in Documentation with just the facts and not opinions.

As a demonstration, a volunteer was selected from the attendees to simulate a trial or deposition experience. Mr. Milton began to ask questions that would have the transportation professional link their work with that of "safety." At this point, the attorney can trap him in the corner requiring a yes or no response to the question is it safe. If answered "yes", then the attorney would argue that it was not safe because their client died or was severely injured and if answered "no," then the attorney had proven the liability. It would be a no-win situation.

With a gloomy outlook for transportation professionals to design by fear, Mr. Milton provided examples of ways to emphasize facts rather than opinions to mitigate the exposure to legal risks. For example, rather than describing an area as "icy conditions" the document can say "there was ice on the shoulder." Instead of "striping was added to improve safety," a better description would be "striping was added to provide additional driver information."

We will never to be able to prevent every accident from happening nor from any more injury or deaths to occur on the roadways. But, we can be very mindful of the words that are based on opinions or can have a broad spectrum of meaning. By keeping to factual, quantifiable words and figures, we can continue to better service the community; including exposure to lawsuits won not on engineering deficiency but poor documentation.

A few moments of question and answers followed the presentation. Before dismissing the members, Dongho Chang (City of Everett) thanked the speaker and provided logistics for the afternoon session of training.

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

2011 QUAD CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline : February 22, 2011

The Institute of Transportation Engineers invites you to submit a paper abstract to be considered for presentation at the 2011 ITE Quad Conference, hosted by the Washington State Section.

JOIN US AT THIS YEAR'S QUAD CONFERENCE TO LEARN FROM YOUR PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRANSPORTATION COMMUNITY! THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE YOUR PROJECTS, PROGRAM SUCCESSES, AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES.

The 2011 conference will be held on April 18th and 19th at the Embassy Suites in Lynnwood, Washington. We have planned an exciting two-day program that will feature a wide array of presentations and networking events. An optional tour of Boeing's "Future of Flight" Museum is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. Rooms are available for out-of-town attendees.

"On behalf of the Washington State Section of ITE, I look forward to meeting with you as we engage in an exciting dialogue and learn more about the best that this area has to offer for all things transportation."

Katherine Casseday

President, ITE-WA Section

SUGGESTED TOPICS

- Accessible Design and Active Living
- Low-Cost Safety Measures
- Pedestrian / Bicycle Safety
- ITS Planning & Design
- GIS Applications
- Signal Operations
- Sustainable Communities
- Rural Road Safety
- Intermodal Planning
- Complete Streets
- Safe Routes to Schools
- 2009 MUTCD–What's New
- Transit and Light Rail
- … and many others!!

To submit an abstract, please send a Word document to <**jamal.mahmoud@kingcounty.gov**>.

Abstracts must be limited to **250** words.

ITE – Washington State Section

▶▶ http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm

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Newsletter Contact Info

If you have any changes in your contact information, please let us know so you continue to receive monthly ITE e-mail announcements and newsletters. To update your information, click on the "Membership" link on the Washington State Section ITE website:

http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm

DYNAMIC MESSAGE BOARD

SAVE THE DATE! Upcoming Washington State Section ITE Activities:

- February 14, 2011 ITE/IMSA/ITS Conference
- March 8, 2011 luncheon program
- April 18-19, 2011 QUAD Section Meeting & Conference
- May 10, 2011 Student Night
- June 13, 2011 Annual Meeting (Luncheon Only)
- June 14, 2011 23rd Annual ITE Golf Classic