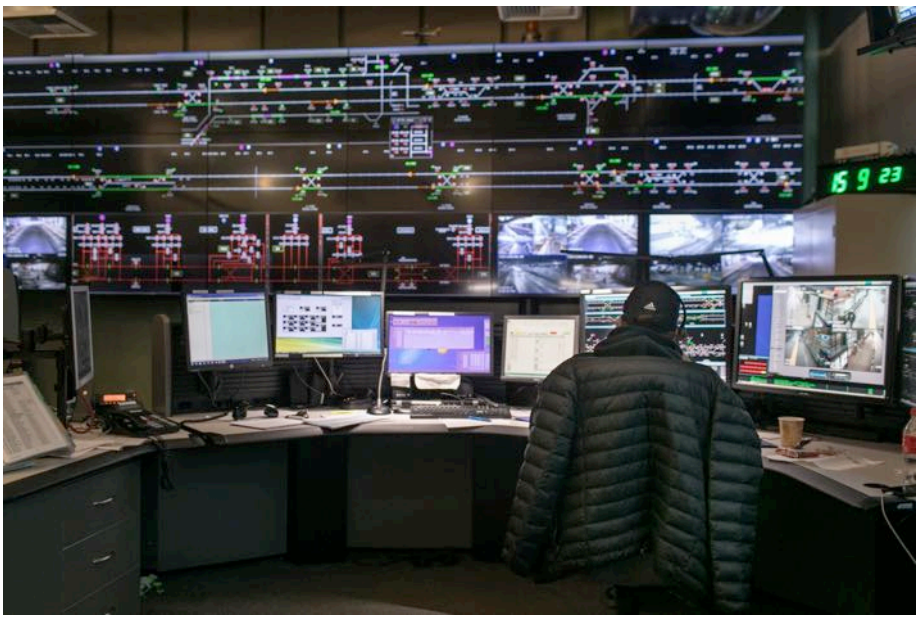
ITE Washington Section Newsletter

VOLUME 29 | ISSUE 2 | NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

King County Metro Communications Control Center Tour



Date: **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**

Time: 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Location: 1263 6th AVE S, Seattle, WA

Register Online: www.wa-ite.org/events

ITE HOLIDAY NETWORKING HAPPY HOUR (following tour)

Time: 5:45pm to 7:30pm

Location: Pyramid Alehouse, 1201 1st Ave S, Seattle

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president's message

We're one meeting into the new year and the sense of excitement for the ITE new year is building up strong. Last month's speaker panel on school zone traffic management was a topic that ITE Washington had not covered in a long time and we hit it from all angles: education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation and engineering. So as not to steal all the thunder from ITE's new Scribe, Justin Chan from Transpo Group, I will leave the report out to the latter part of this newsletter. ITE is excited to have Justin Chan take on our Scribe position to continue providing informative meeting reports to our members. At the same time, ITE Washington thanks Darcy Ackers for her volunteer support as ITE Washington Scribe since 2015. Darcy is taking on a new role with ITE as the co-chair of our student engagement committee with Sarah Keenan. We are excited to have them both step in to continue building our relationships with the student chapters.

More exciting news to report out is that ITE Washington and the University of Washington ITE Student Chapter have already kicked this year into high gear at the student section kick-off event on October 16 at More Hall. Over 30 students joined the lunch meeting to discuss upcoming student activities for the 2017 – 2018 year. UW students are already planning ahead for the year and discussed forming a traffic bowl team that would compete at the upcoming 27th Annual Bill Kloos Traffic Bowl in Oregon as well as the Western District Traffic Bowl. We look forward to an eventful and enriching year collaborating with all our student chapters. At the UW student chapter meeting, new officers were also elected and I'm pleased to announce and congratulate the following officers of their student chapter:

President – Chris Gottsacker

Vice President – Anthony DeSimone

Treasurer – Mayuree Binjolkar

Chris Gottsacker said it best at the kick-off event that ITE has provided him with one of the most rewarding network opportunities and stepping up as President will give him the opportunity to share all the benefits of ITE with others. Anthony and Mayuree are also veteran grad students that have been involved with ITE in the past. I'm excited for their leadership and what this year will bring.

Improving integration with school programs and school chapters was one of the key platforms for my election as Secretary in 2016. With the help of our board, chairs and members, I hope to carry out this goal to provide the much needed bridge between our students and the transportation profession.

Keep a lookout for our winter networking happy hour and expect to see some of our Seattle students there! ■

Cheers. **Daniel Lai**

vice-president/treasurer's message

Our ITE year is off to a great start with our quality programs. In addition to board member and committee chairs the level of involvement by ITE membership is exciting! Highlights of member involvement:

The October program, ***New Ideas in School Transportation,*** was planned by Jeanne Acutanza and included four panelists.

Claudia S. Hirschey, P.E.
Vice-President/Treasurer

Owner
Transportation Consultant Services
Newcastle, Washington

The January ***Safety Training*** is chaired by Gary Norris and now includes four ITE members and an additional three supporting roles from the WSDOT and Washington Traffic Safety Commission.

The February ***ITE/IMSA Conference*** is chaired by Robert Acevedo and planning is well underway with six ITE committee members. This conference can use a lot more ITE volunteers to prepared for the conference and assist the day of the conference.

Our ***Student Activities*** chairs, Sarah Kennan and Darcy Akers have reached out to the University of Washington students and helped them host a kickoff meeting. We plan on expanding ITE's outreach to students this year. The students are enthusiastic to prepare for WesternITE traffic bowl and there will be several opportunities for engagement between the student chapter and professionals. *ITE Trivia Night* in March with the broader ITE membership is one example and will be a fun training event. With Sarah and Darcy's enthusiastic leadership we are sure to make a good showing next year.

For interest in ITE committees, please send your contract information and committee or volunteer interest to me at claudiahirschey@comcast.net

The ***May Student Night*** can always use ideas for student projects. Keep some ideas in mind as you work through the year.

We are planning on an all-day program this year for the ITE Washington Section ***Annual Meeting***. We are beginning the process of forming a committee now.

See you November 27th for a King County ***Metro Communications Control Center Tour*** in SODO ***Holiday Networking Happy*** **Hour**! ■ **Claudia**

secretary's message

Jamal Mahmoud
Secretary

Transportation Operations Engineer
City of Bothell, WA

Greetings ITE membership! We already have a great start to our 2018-2019 year. We had ITE Board kick-off meeting on September, 2018.

As your secretary I've been preparing agendas, notes, and action items. We have a lot going on and we will have a very productive year! The Board is thrilled that so many of the chair positions are continuing their roles in to the 2018-2019 year.

We may create a new position that would be a "Sponsorship" Chair position. This position would coordinate the various sponsorships received for ITE events as well as assist with solicitation of sponsorships.

Currently ITE Washington receives sponsorships for ITE/IMSA (solicited by the committee), Student Night and the Scholarship, the Annual Meeting, Newsletter, the Golf Tournament, and the Quad meeting when in Washington. Many thanks to all our sponsors! In addition to a potential new chair position, committee roles are open. ITE/IMSA, the Annual Meeting, and the Quad Meeting could use additional Jamal Mahmoud committee members for their robust agendas. We hope you'll join our team. ■ Jamal

EDITORIAL STAFF

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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 email. To update your information, click on the Membership tab on the our website: **www.wa-ite.org**

Newsletter Comments and Article Submissions

Send comments to Newsletter Editor
itewaeditor@gmail.com

Articles must be received by the third Thursday of the month to be considered for publishing in the next issue.

Annual Advertising Rates

business card ad	**$100**
quarter page ad	**$250**
half page ad	**$500**
full page ad	**$1000**

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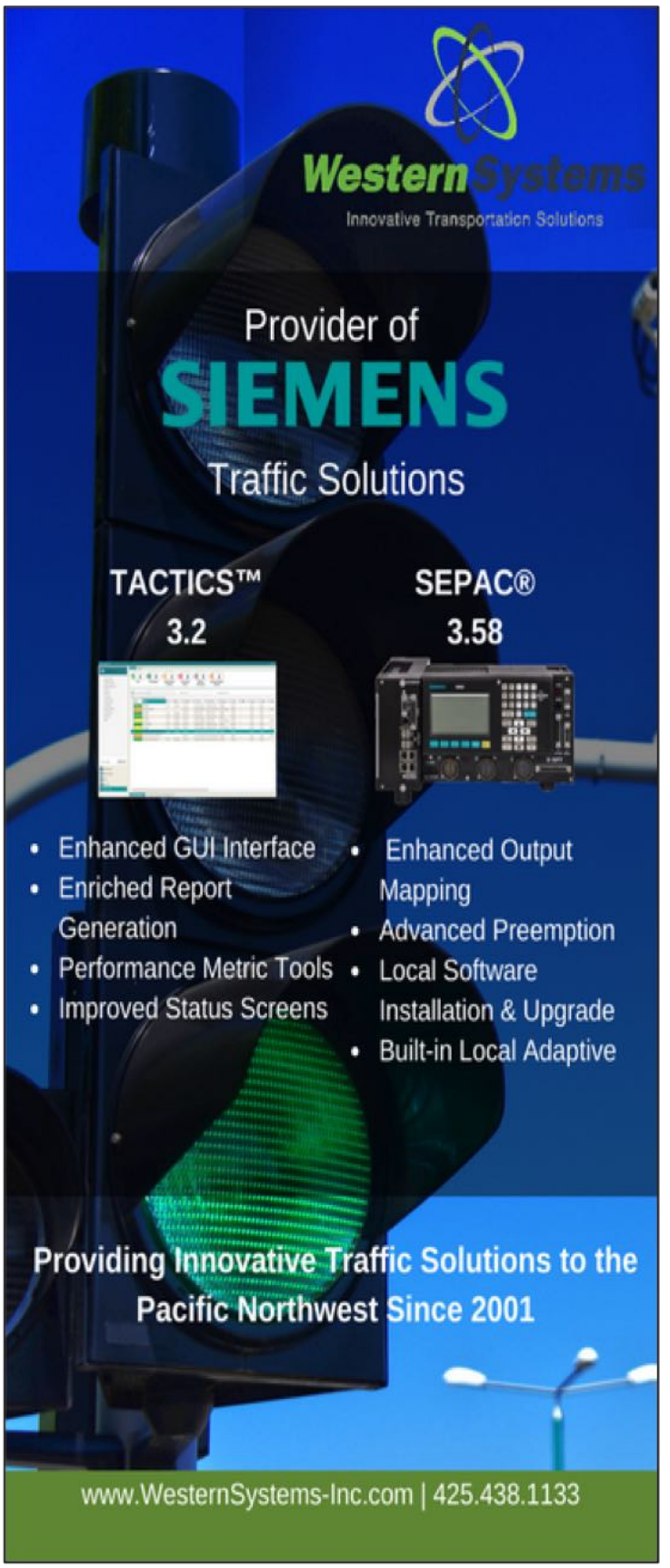

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Remembering Dennis Robert Neuzil

Dennis Robert Neuzil
1938-2018

Dennis Robert Neuzil, known to friends as "Denny" passed away on July 5, 2018, at the age of 80 years. Born in

Berwyn, Illinois, Denny attended Knox College and transferred to the University of WA and graduated with a Doctorate

of Civil Engineering from University of CA at Berkeley. After his marriage to Donna Joy Lepley in 1960, they moved to Boulder, Colorado to fulfill a teaching position. From there he transferred to Newark to teach. His son Greg was born during this time in 1968. He worked for TAMS as a consultant in Boston, MA right before he and the family moved to

Clyde Hill, WA in 1972.

He was in private consulting in the Bellevue area working with ITE, Entranco Engineers, Rich Perteet & Associates and

also HLA. He was always happy to teach and mentor enthusiastic students. He took some under his wing and was instrumental in their progress. He was very invested in their growth as an engineer.

A couple of standout comments from colleagues are "he was truly a great friend and a real giant in his field. He touched many lives and we are all better for having him as a friend." Another comment, "Dennis remains as my favorite boss; he started my career and became a friend through the years. May he Rest in Peace."

Some of his favorite past times and hobbies were back packing, cycling, trout fishing, volleyball, folk guitar and harmonica. Many of these were spent with his son. He also dabbled in some penciling and humorous cartooning. He had a quick wit, and could tell a good story.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Donna Joy Neuzil, his son Gregory Neuzil and his 2 brothers, Edward and Florian Neuzil and 3 nephews and 3 nieces.

A celebration of his life will be held:

Saturday, December 8th, 2018

2:00 pm
Green Acres Clubhouse

23825 15th Ave SE, Bothell, WA 98021

Those who so desire may make memorial donations in memory of Dennis to the First Responders: Fire, Police and Paramedics in your favorite city. They were so kind and wonderful to Joy, during this time. ■

Welcome our new Scribe!

Justin Chan, EIT
ITE SCRIBE

Transportation Engineer
Transpo Group
Kirkland, Washington

Justin Chan, EIT, Transpo Group Kirkland has graciously accepted the position as our Scribe for 2018-2019 session. Thank you Justin for volunteering!

Insider Information: Justin enjoys ITS projects, particularly ones that involve multiple disciplines giving him the opportunity to help improve the lives of those in his community. At home, he likes whipping up new recipes in the kitchen.

September 2018 Annual Kick-Off Meeting

Another year, another well-attended Annual Kick-Off Meeting held at Salty's on Alki! This year though, we had an overflowing reception that exceeded expectations and required additional tables and seating to be brought in. As in years past, we kicked things off with the swearing in of our new officers: Daniel Lai as our new Chapter President, Claudia Hirschey as our new Vice President and Treasurer, and Jamal Mahmoud as our new Secretary. After announcing that this year's ITE/IMSA Joint Conference will be moving to a larger venue at the Bellevue Hilton due to its increasing popularity, Daniel handed the floor over to our two presenters, Susan Everett (WSDOT Alaskan Way Viaduct Program Design Engineer) and Ed Barry (WSDOT Toll Division Director) to talk about the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program.

Seattle skyline view from Salty's at Alki Beach sun deck

Susan started off with an overview of the Alaskan Way viaduct's history. Originally constructed in the 1950's, the viaduct has exceeded its useful life; the 2001 Nisqually earthquake resulted in settlement that has led to the long-term safety project for its removal and replacement. As part of this program, the existing viaduct will be demolished in small segments and replaced with a bored tunnel that connects SR 99 at the north portal near Seattle Center and the south portal near the stadiums. The tunnel construction has since been completed and is currently in the systems testing and final commissioning stages, with an expected opening date of early 2019.

Ed then discussed the methodologies being undertaken to determine the toll rates for the new tunnel. Overall, tolls are set such that diverting traffic is minimized while keeping tolls as low as possible throughout various times of day, with the ultimate goal of generating enough revenue to pay for the construction and on-going maintenance costs. As of September, this was not yet finalized and still had to go through the Washington State Transportation Commission. Since then, a decision has been reached, with rates ranging from $1 to $2.25 depending on time-of-day. Toll rates will increase by 3% every three years beginning in 2022, and are expected to pay off the tunnel by 2046. This date was determined based on a tolling revenue study, which accounted for factors such as pre- and post-tolling volumes within and around the tunnel and fluctuating demand based on congestion. When the tunnel first opens though, it will not be tolled, which will continue to be the case until around summer 2019.

Similar to the SR 520 floating bridge, a grand opening event, scheduled for February 2-3, 2019, will be held that will allow the public to see the tunnel and viaduct up close. Events include walking, running, and biking the tunnel and viaduct, live music, food trucks, and more! You'll need to register to participate in the tunnel and viaduct access, so sign up now

see 'October' next page

'October' continued

and don't miss out! ■

October 2018 Lunch Meeting – New Ideas in School Transportation

As the new school year kicks off, getting students safely and efficiently to school is at the top of many people's minds. For our October Lunch Meeting, the City of Bothell kindly made their space available to us for this technical session, which provided us with some insights and emerging ideas related to school transportation, from increasing and improving multi-modal transportation options, to increasing safety and awareness of drivers and students. Our panel of transportation experts included Emily Alice Gerhart (Transportation Planner, Fehr and Peers), Mike Swenson (Principal, Transpo Group), Rebecca Rodni (Project Manager, Bellevue Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services), and Mark Hazen (Director of Transportation, Bellevue School District).

City of Bothell Police Department

Emily started off the session with an overview of Safe Routes to School. She emphasized the importance of the Six E's – Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Equity – in developing these programs, performing walkability audits, and crafting creative ways to get students and parents to choose alternative modes of transportation to school, such as participating in a walking school bus or a bike train.

Mike then discussed several projects that he's worked on in the Puget Sound region where he helped schools improve circulation and reduce queues associated with pick-ups and drop-offs. With these projects, he employed a number of different strategies, such as two-sided pick-up/drop-off areas, separating parental and school bus traffic, and utilizing existing infrastructure such as fire lanes, to improve flow into, out of, and around the schools. Doing so not only reduces environmental impacts, but also enhances safety.

Rebecca and Mark then presented their efforts and insights from the City and School District perspectives. Rebecca discussed the importance of partnerships between the City and the School District to ensure school route improvements, such as sidewalks, signals, and crosswalks are included in the City's infrastructure and private developer projects. Rebecca also stressed the importance of student education and parental education to promote multi-modal choices like SchoolPool and safety awareness in designated pick-up/drop-off areas and no-parking zones. Mark then discussed the considerations and lessons learned in the change to late start school times. When the Bellevue School District changed the start time to 8am, they found that this coincided with the AM peak hour, which exacerbated congestion. Furthermore, there was the need to contract with King County Metro to provide additional bus service for students, and to provide ORCA cards to students. ■

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Submitted by Blake Costa, P.E.; Engineer Specialist III, City of Renton Public Works Department-Transportation Operations

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2018-19 ITE Washington Section Events

Date	Subject	Location
NOV 27	**King County Metro Communications Control Center Tour and Following with ITE Holiday Networking Happy Social Event**	**South Seattle See Below**
JAN 08	ITE Annual Safety Meeting	Tukwila Community Center
FEB 04/05	ITE/IMSA Conference NEW LOCATION! [see below]	Bellevue Hilton
MAR	Traffic Trivia Night-2	TBD
APR	ITE Quad meeting participation and/or another local ITE program	TBD
MAY	Student Night	TBD
JUN	ITE Washington Annual Meeting - Full Day Conference	TBD
JUL 21-23	ITE National Annual Meeting & Exhibit	Austin, TX

ITE Washington Section November Meeting:

King County Metro Communications Control Center Tour

The Communications Control Center monitors every bus and link light rail train as they traverse the region. Communication coordinators manage about 1,300 Metro and Sound Transit buses and Link Light Rail. Drivers also communicate with the TCC through radio, phone and preprogrammed text messages. Another team in the control center sends out emails, texts, and Twitter alerts as buses are rerouted or trips canceled. We will see the control center in action and learn where all that "big data" is coming from and how it is used for apps and analysis.

The Communications Control Center is located across from the Atlantic bus base at 1505 6th Ave S, Seattle.

Tour Registration: https://ite_metro_tour.eventbrite.com

As space is limited for the tour, please notify ITE if you cannot attend after registering so space can be opened for other members on the waiting list. Thank you.

Date: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Time: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM followed by ITE Washington Section Holiday Happy Hour:

King County Metro, Communications Control Center
1263 6th Ave S (located across from Atlantic Bus Base) NO PARKING AT FACILITY.
Seattle, WA

Following the tour, or if you can't make the tour, please join ITE for a Holiday Networking Happy Hour.

ITE Washington Section Holiday Networking Happy Hour

Time: 5:45 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Pyramid Alehouse, 1201 1st Ave S, Seattle (parking behind building)

ITE/IMSA CONFERENCE
February 04 – 05, 2019
BELLEVUE HILTON | 300 112TH AVENUE SE | BELLEVUE, WA 98004

CONFERENCE SCOPE

New this conference is the two-day expansion with an opening social networking event on Tuesday evening. The ITE/IMSA Conference is dedicated to improving and educating the transportation industries in our region. This is an open forum for transportation professionals to learn and network with agencies facing the same questions relevant to public transportation. We strive to maintain a small community atmosphere to create a great opportunity to network with industry peers through seminars, speakers and product exhibits in a comfortable and open atmosphere.

- Mid-October ITE/IMSA Registration thru EventBrite opens
- Mid-October ITE/IMSA Exhibitor Booth Registration opens for registration and General Registration
- Mid-November A block of rooms at the Bellevue Hilton will be held and available for conference attendees.

PROFILE OF ATTENDEES

Our attendee base, over 300 and growing, includes managers, technical and installation specialists, consultants and engineers from public agencies, private consultants and manufacturers. These transportation professionals come from across the region and the industry. All are vitally interested in learning about best practices, products and services.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are plenty of opportunities to participate in the conference planning. Volunteer to help ITE/IMSA continue to provide the best programs and training.

To join please contact:

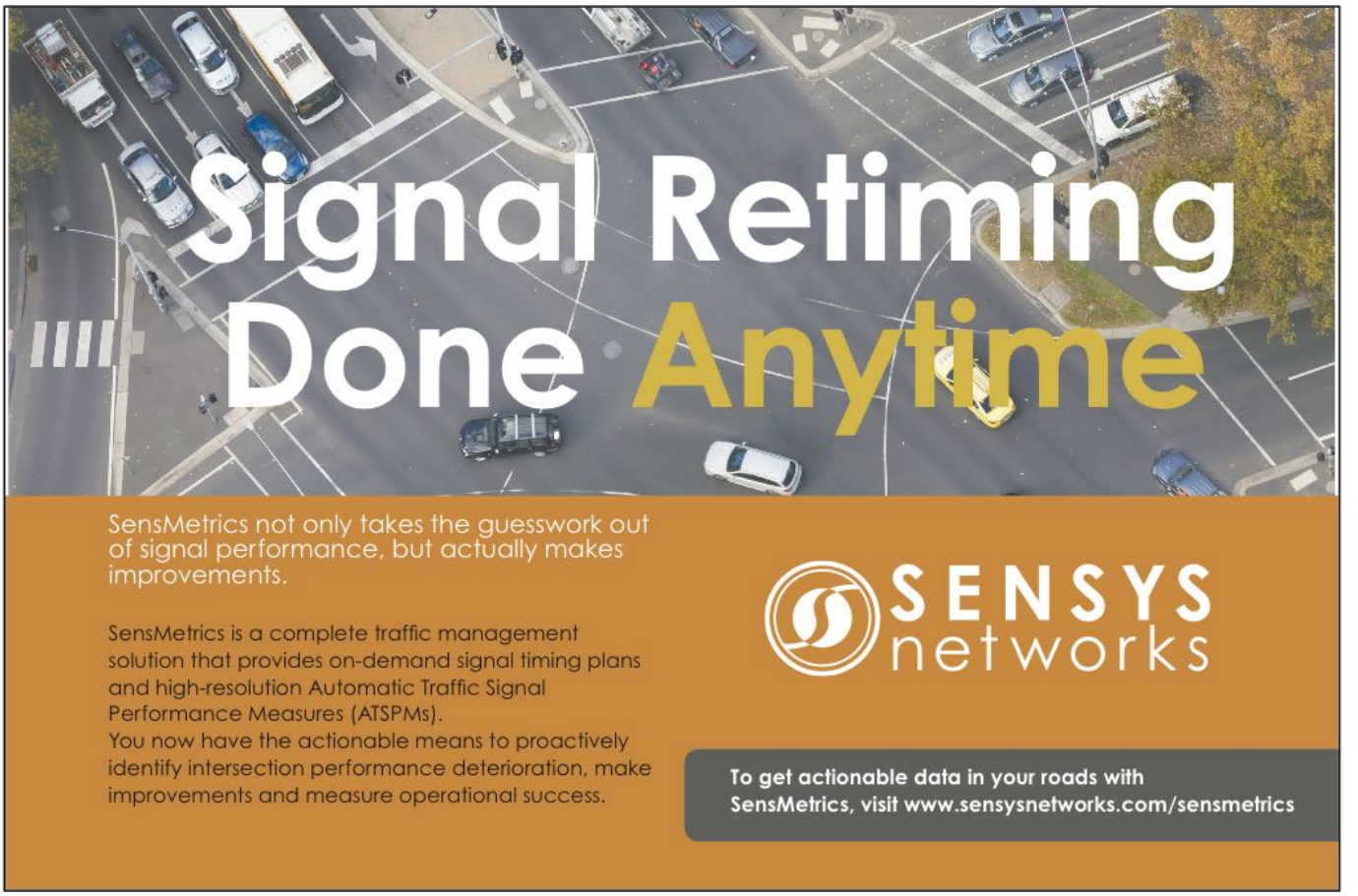
- **Claudia Hirschey, ITE Vice-President at claudiahirschey@comcast.net**
- **Robert Acevedo, ITE/IMSA Committee Chair at Robert.Acevedo@hdrinc.com**

2018 ITE Associate Events

Date	Subject	Location
DEC 10-11	ITS Washington Annual Conference & Exhibition	Seattle, Washington

2019

APR 16-19	APWA-Oregon Section Spring Conference	Bend, Oregon
APR 23-26	APWA-Washington Section Spring Conference	Tacoma, Washington
SEP 8-11	APWA-PWX National Conference	Seattle, Washington



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Washington Transportation Professionals

(WTPF) Washington Transportation Professionals is a transportation peer exchange and networking group.

The group networks, shares best practices and lessons learned, and discusses ideas about traffic and transportation-related issues at free peer exchanges on both sides of the state. WSDOT's Local Programs division leads the group, with help from WSDOT's Active Transportation division, local agencies, and businesses. The goal is to develop transportation professionals and create professional connections between them to improve communities across the state. We also have an email distribution list where people can learn about training and funding opportunities and get updates on technical and policy topics related to traffic and transportation.

Group members

Our group includes all cities and towns, all counties, metropolitan planning organizations, Washington state agencies, Federal Highway Administration, vendors, consultants, universities, and other professionals. Roles include city engineers, traffic and transportation engineers, planners, technicians, supervisors, managers, directors, mayors, clerks, council members, sales people, product developers, programmers, professors, and related professionals.

Upcoming peer exchanges

These free peer exchanges will be held in person and will also be available by a free, live webinar to allow an exchange of ideas across Washington.

Wed. May 15, 2019 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Spokane Valley, Wash. Tentative topics include:

- Intelligent transportation systems (ITS) master plans and smart mobility plans
- Lighting: Smart/connected, controls, and light emitting diodes (LED)

Fall 2019 in Vancouver, Wash. Tentative topics include:

- Vehicle-to-infrastructure service and information in Washington State
- Traffic signal operations
- Other traffic control topics

Washington State Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)

Training for Local Agencies

The Washington State Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) is a partnership between WSDOT's Local Program Division and FHWA, providing training opportunities and a coordinated technology transfer program for local agencies in Washington State. LTAP offers courses directly targeting the training needs of local agencies receiving Federal funding.

Types of Training for Local Agencies:

LTAP Classes/Webinars

Training currently available for registration.

Training by Our Partners

This is a listing of other programs and training offerings through WSDOT and LTAP Partners.

Online Training

Links to many online training courses, including construction and material testing.

For more information:

Contact the LTAP Training Center : 360-705-7355 : LTAPtraining@wsdot.wa.gov

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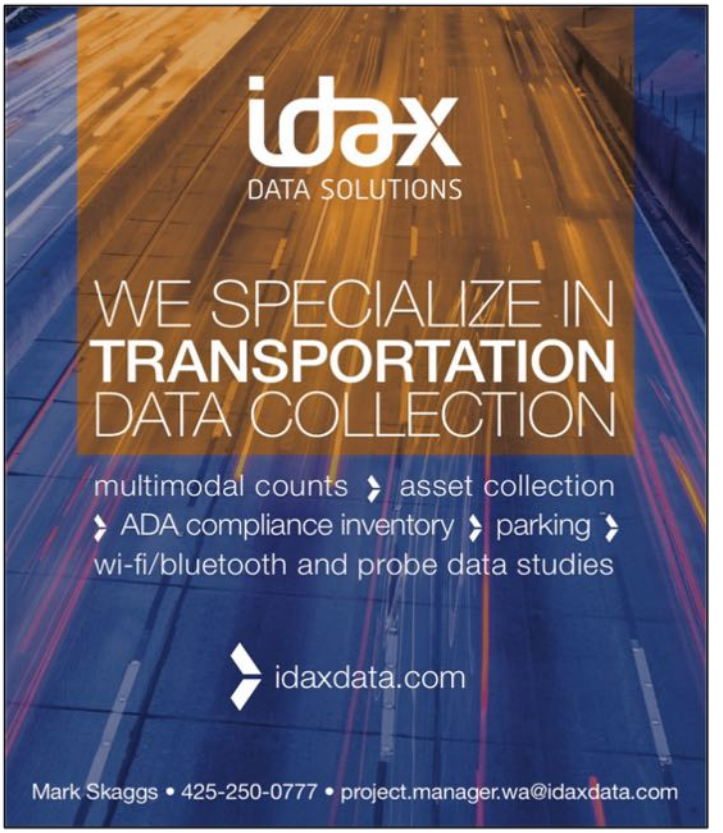
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King County voters approve revised Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (Metro) plan on September 9, 1958

On September 9, 1958, western King County voters approve a scaled-back plan for the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle. The new agency is authorized to build and operate regional sewage treatment and water quality facilities to address the worsening pollution of Lake Washington and other local waters. A broader mandate had failed in March 1958.

The first plan for Metro included authority for transit and comprehensive planning to contain suburban sprawl, but its approval required dual majorities in Seattle proper and in the rest of its service district. Although the first referendum passed in Seattle on March 11, 1958, it was killed in the suburbs by lack of a mere 500 votes.

Children posing in favor of a new METRO to improve Lake Washington water quality, ca. 1958 Courtesy Seattle

Led by James Ellis, Metro backers regrouped by redrawing the service district boundaries to exclude the more recalcitrant South County precincts and by focusing on the most visible problem, the poisoning of Lake Washington and other local waters with human and industrial waste. The revised plan carried Seattle by 55,000 to 40,000 votes on September 9, 1958, and it won by an even larger suburban margin of 15,000 to 7,500.

The federated Metro Council was empaneled the following month under the chairmanship of Seattle attorney C. Carey Donworth, and it retained Ellis as the agency's bond attorney. Metro had made substantial progress in cleaning up Lake Washington by 1964, and the successful effort made continuing improvements in subsequent years. Metro expanded countywide in 1972 when voters gave it authority for a regional bus system.

Federal District Judge William Dwyer found Metro's federated Council membership to be unconstitutional in 1990, and voters approved its merger with King County in 1992. The agency ceased to exist in 1994. ■

Sources:

Walt Crowley, Routes: A Brief History of Public Transportation in Metropolitan Seattle (Seattle: Metro Transit, 1993); Bob Lane, Better Than Promised: An Informal History of the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (Seattle: King County Department of Metropolitan Services, 1995).

King County voters approve creation of Metro Transit on September 19, 1972

by Walt Crowley | Posted 1/01/2000 | HistoryLink.org Essay 1998

On September 19, 1972, King County voters approve a 0.3 percent sales tax to fund a county-wide bus system operated by Metro (the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle). Seattle voters simultaneously reject the second COMET (Committee for Modernization of Electric Transit) initiative to convert all city buses to electric trolleys operated by City Light.

King County voters had rejected Metro transit plans in 1958, 1962, 1968, and 1970. The new all-bus plan was precipitated by the impending bankruptcy of the Seattle Transit System and several private suburban bus systems. The new Metro Transit system entered operation on January 1, 1973.

In 1993, the Metro system was absorbed by King County.

Previously, in 1964, Seattle voters had rejected the first COMET initiative to fully electrify the city transit system. ■

Sources:

Walt Crowley, Routes: An Interpretive History of Public Transportation in Metropolitan King County (Seattle: Metro Transit, 1993).

Metro sticker handout on King County Metro buses and trolleys, 2000

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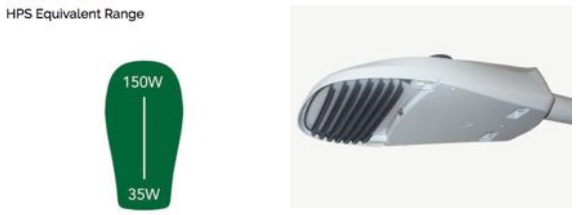

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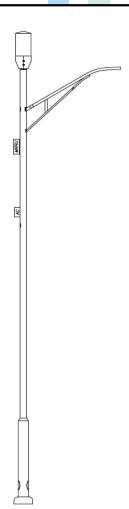

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