# ITE Washington Section Newsletter

VOLUME 30 I ISSUE 3 I JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

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## Looking to 2020: ITE/IMSA Conference

### Time to register for the Washington ITE and IMSA Conference!

Monday February 10th and 11th

Bellevue Hilton

300 112th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98004

Washington ITE and IMSA are excited to announce our upcoming annual joint conference with a full-day technical program covering topics in Advanced and Emerging Technologies, Regional Transportation Projects, Transit, and an Engineering Managers Discussion Panel. The event also offers a comprehensive exhibition featuring the latest in traffic products and vendor workshops. General registration to the technical events and exhibition is free and parking is free of charge. Please register here.

### Save the Date and Join the Fun!

*ITE Washington's Third Annual Trivia Night*

**March 10th, 2020**

### Please join us for ITE's 2nd Annual Transportation Student-Industry Night in Spokane, WA

*Featuring student networking opportunities, career/job opportunities, and industry presentations*

**February 19th, 2020**

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## president's message

January 2020 begins the formal implementation of ONE ITE at the District and Section level. The changes benefit Districts and Sections and are summarized below:

- Section bylaws will be updated using a standard template with specific areas tailored to sections. ITE Washington bylaws are consistent with the new template and it will be easy to transition. The Western District will adopt section bylaws at the Western ITE meeting in June 2020.
- Section representative to WesternITE. The recommendation is to appoint the Past-president and the Board appointment Daniel Lai. Daniel will coordinate district activities with the section and attend the WesternITE board meeting (via conference call) on January 31, 2020.
- Aligning the Transportation Achievement Awards with the five Technical Councils (Safety, Traffic Engineering, Planning, Complete Streets and TSMO). Nominations for each of these Awards would come from the districts. The level to which the sections align awards with the district and national awards will provided opportunity for Section member awards to be submitted to district and national awards.
- There will now be two Section/Chapter Awards rather than one. Outstanding Section/Chapter Award—recognizes most outstanding overall and (NEW) Section/Chapter Momentum Award—recognizes the most improved overall.
- Facilitation of a Web User Group, future standard website platform for sections, fraud and scam alerts, and website data collection. Sherief Elbassuoni has been attending the Web User Group.
- Preparation of a Section Support Manual and Leadership Guide
- Diversity and Inclusion Policy

ONE ITE has greatly improved communication between Sections and the District and International office. I have attended regular webinars with the International office and have opportunity to provide input. ONE ITE is providing significant benefit to more effective and meaningful leadership at the section and district level with the ultimate goal of supporting our members.

■

*Claudia Hirschey*

2019-2020 ITE Washington President


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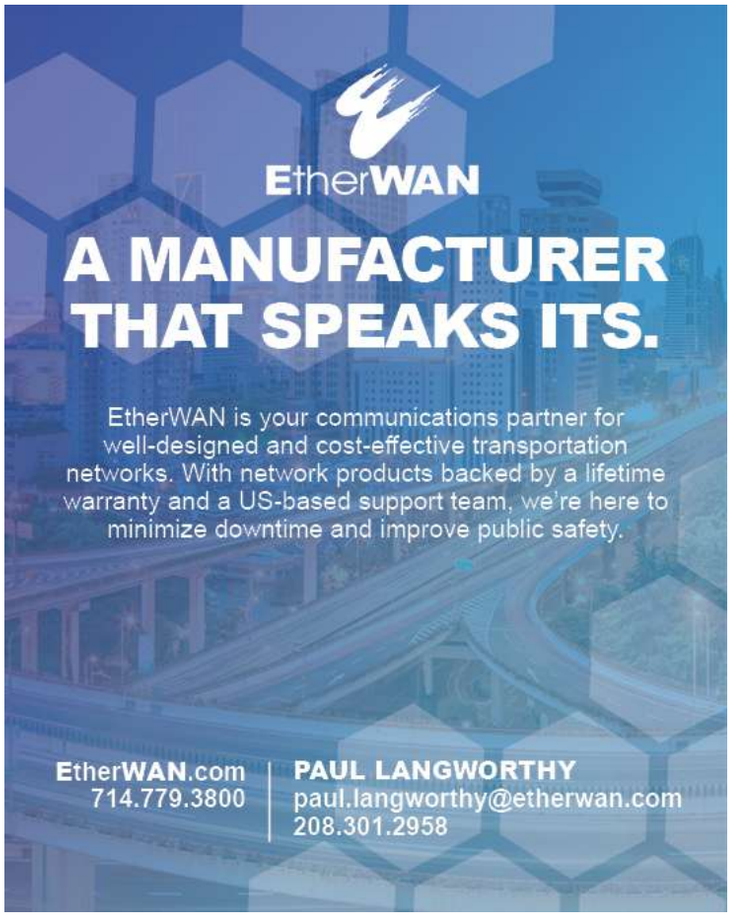


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## Vice President Message

**Jamal Mahmoud, P.E.**
Vice-President/Treasurer
Transportation Operations Engineer
City of Bothell, Washington

With this newsletter we will have just completed another outstanding Safety Conference and Training. This year's conference was very successful, building upon action items from last year's conference. We all led the conference with ideas on what we can do to improve transportation safety and reduce crashes. Many thanks to the ITE Safety Committee: Gary Norris, Brian Chandler, Robert Shull, and Caroline Brabrook.

Next up is our annual ITE/IMSA Conference on February 10th and 11th. The conference is at the Bellevue Hilton. There is an evening networking reception on Monday, February 10th, followed by the all-day conference on Tuesday, February 11th.

We are excited about his year's technical program and vendor participation covering topics in systematic safety improvements, crowdsourcing for real time traffic information, human factors and autonomous vehicles, traffic during the SR 99 closure, metered roundabouts, and curbside management.

The event offers a comprehensive exhibition featuring the latest in traffic products and vendor workshops. The lunch program and keynote address features Mark Etzbach from Acusensus North America, who will share the company's experience in using technology to address distracted driving challenges in Austrailia.

General registration and the lunch program registration is available on Eventrbrite:

https://2020_ite_imsa_wa.eventbrite.com

And to add to the fun of ITE events, save the date for ITE Washington's third annual Traffic Trivia Night! This is a fun and social event for students and professionals that will test your knowledge on a variety of transportation topics! Traffic Trivia Night is Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Look forward to seeing you there!

## Message from the Secretary

**Jeanne Acutanza**
Secretary
Owner, Acutanza STS
Kirkland, WA

### Seeing clearer with a 2020 vision

If you have been in the transportation industry for any length of time, you may look at the change of the calendar year with a particular interest. This year, the year 2020, has been the quintessential forecast year upon which we have been basing so much of our infrastructure design and development. In the early aughts, we even applied the term 20/20, suggesting perfect vision, to reflect clarity in ideas and a notion of a vision for our future horizon year, 2020. Notably, the Puget Sound Regional Council, and maybe others, named their comprehensive regional plan, Vision 2020.

Amusingly, a friend once noted that after that regional Vision 2020 plan, things have been getting murky as we update and name these future-looking plans Vision 2040.

I suspect that there may be a few of you may be dusting off your paper, comb-bound, documents to compare the forecasts you made in 1999 to the counts on various roadways. Let us know how that went! More importantly, it is the care and thoughtfulness in which we in this profession consider future conditions when developing costly infrastructure.


**EDITORIAL STAFF**

**ITE Newsletter Editor**
**Elena Bertolucci**
*Spec Sales*
*Sea-Tac Lighting & Controls*
*Seattle, Washington*


### 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**

**Send comments and submissions to 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

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|---|---|
| **business card ad** | **$75** |
| **quarter page ad** | **$100** |
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| **full page ad** | **$500** |

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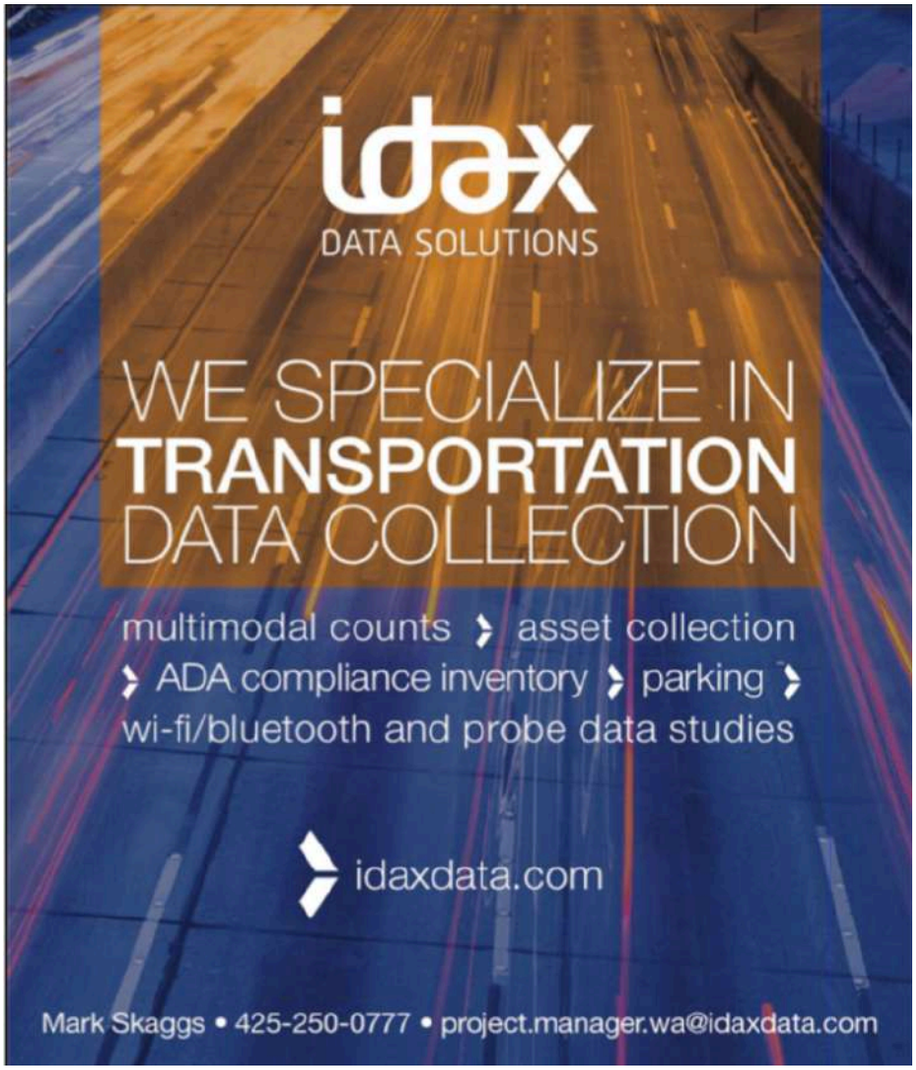


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# WSDOT Northwest Region Traffic Management Center Tour

**Justin Chan, EIT**
ITE Scribe
Transportation Engineer
Transpo Group
Kirkland, Washington

*November 19, 2019*

This year's November tour was held at the WSDOT Northwest Region (NWR) Traffic Management Center (TMC) in Shoreline. ITE members started off by learning about WSDOT's organization as a whole and the role of WSDOT's six regions. For Northwest Region specifically, the Shoreline TMC is responsible for Whatcom, Skagit, Island, Snohomish, and King Counties, covering approximately 1180 miles of roadway. Within the TMC, there are various departments spanning a wide range of services, including traffic engineering, incident management, congestion management, tunnel operations, radio dispatch, public information, software development, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) implementation. Staff from these various departments work together to ensure traffic and congestion are effectively managed and incidents are addressed promptly. For example, TMC operators utilize software developed in-house by the software development group to monitor roadway conditions and for asset management. Primarily, this involves the use of ITS deployed along the roadways, including CCTV cameras to view real-time conditions, data stations for traffic counts and congestion and flow mapping, ramp meters to control the flow of vehicles entering freeways, variable message signs and highway advisory radios to disseminate traveler information, and active traffic management signs to provide incident management and speed harmonization. These TMC activities take place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

*TMC operators monitoring roadway conditions*

As part of the tour, ITE members got a chance to watch the TMC operators in action, as they were actively monitoring roadway conditions, addressing incidents, and coordinating with external organizations like Washington State Patrol. Members were also able to take a look inside the TMC itself, including the various workstations and video wall screens displaying CCTV camera feeds, flow maps, and more. ■

*ITE members learning about how the WSDOT Northwest Region TMC monitors and manages traffic.*

# ITE Safety Conference & Training

*January 7, 2020*

This year's annual Safety Conference and Training was held at the Renton Community Center. It was a jam-packed day full of interesting topics and speakers consisting of local and national experts in road safety. This year's speakers included Dr. Ed McCormack with the University of Washington, former UDOT Safety Engineer Robert Tull, our ITE President Claudia Hirschey, Chris Comeau with the City of Bellingham, Ed Spilker with WSDOT, Brian Chandler with DKS, and Darrin Grondell with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. Overall, the theme of this year's conference was the traffic safety culture here in the US, and specifically what we can do as both individuals and practitioners to promote roadway safety in our

**continued on page 14**

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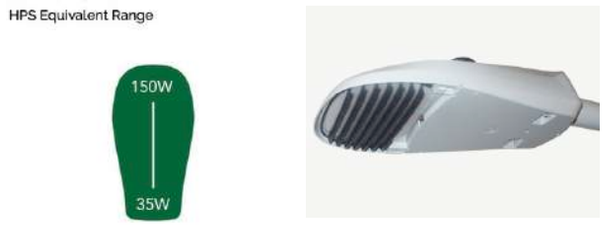


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## 2019-20 ITE Washington Section Events

| Date | Subject | Location |
|---|---|---|
| FEB 10/11 | ITE/IMSA Conference | Bellevue Hilton |
| FEB 19 | Transportation Student-Industry Night | Gonzaga University |
| MAR 10 | Traffic Trivia Night | TBD |
| APR | ITE Program | TBD |
| MAY 21 | Student Night | TBD |
| MAY 24-27 | Joint ITE/Quad Conference | Sheraton Vancouver BC |
| JUNE | ITE Washington Annual Meeting | TBD |
| JUNE 2-4 | Washington Traffic Safety Commission, Traffic Safety Conference | Spokane |

***Save the Date***
***Join the Fun***

**3rd Annual ITE Trivia Night**

**March 10th**

**5:30PM-7:30PM**

This is a fun and social event mixing students and members and all sectors of our membership.
Location details to follow

## 2020 ITE Associate Events

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| JAN 21 | ITS Networking Event | Fado Irish Pub |
| APR 14-16 | APWA Washington Spring Conference | Vancouver, Washington |
| AUG 9-12 | ITE National Annual Meeting | New Orleans, Louisiana |

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May 24–27
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## Please join us for ITE's 2nd Annual Transportation Student-Industry Night in Spokane, WA

Featuring student networking opportunities, career/job opportunities, and industry presentations

When: Wednesday February 19, 2020

Time: 5:30pm – 8:30pm

Where: John Hemmingson Center - Room 312

Gonzaga University

702 E Desmet Ave.

Spokane, WA 99202

Registration Link: https://eastern_wa_ite_student_industry_night.eventbrite.com

As a result of last year's successful student event, ITE Washington is bringing together students and transportation professionals for an informative and fun networking event. Last year, over 40 transportation-focused students from Gonzaga University, WSU, Eastern Washington University and Idaho University attended.

This event provides a great opportunity for students to learn about potential careers in the transportation field – from planning to engineering and everything in between. The event also features a 2-hr networking event where students can interact with different companies who will share information about what they do and potential job opportunities. The event will also include a panel of transportation professionals that will talk about their careers in transportation from different perspectives such as public agency vs. consulting and also different paths within transportation such as planning, design and operations.

The event is free for everyone to attend and a light dinner will be provided. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP by **February 14, 2020** to help with event planning (RSVP not required to attend). For companies or organizations that are interested in participating and setting up a booth at the student-industry night, please contact Darcy Akers-dakers@bellevuewa.gov

# ITE Washington and IMSA Conference
# Registration now available!

Register Here

ITE Washington and IMSA are excited to announce our upcoming annual joint conference on February 10 and 11, 2020. The conference will be in the same place as last year (see address location below) to accommodate more vendors and larger participation. In addition, we are excited to announce an evening reception on Monday, February 10th, followed by the all-day conference on Tuesday, February 11th.

This year's conference will include a full-day technical program covering topics in systematic safety improvements, crowdsourcing for real time traffic information, human factors and autonomous vehicles, traffic during the SR 99 closure, metered roundabouts, and curbside management.

The event offers a comprehensive exhibition featuring the latest in traffic products and vendor workshops. General registration to the technical events and exhibition is free and parking is free of charge. Registration coming soon.

Welcome reception, 5: 30 pm to 7:00, Monday February 10, 2020 at the hotel

Conference, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Tuesday February 11, 2020

Where:

Bellevue Hilton

300 – 112th Avenue SE

Bellevue, WA 98004

**Exhibitor Quick Facts/Reasons to Attend**

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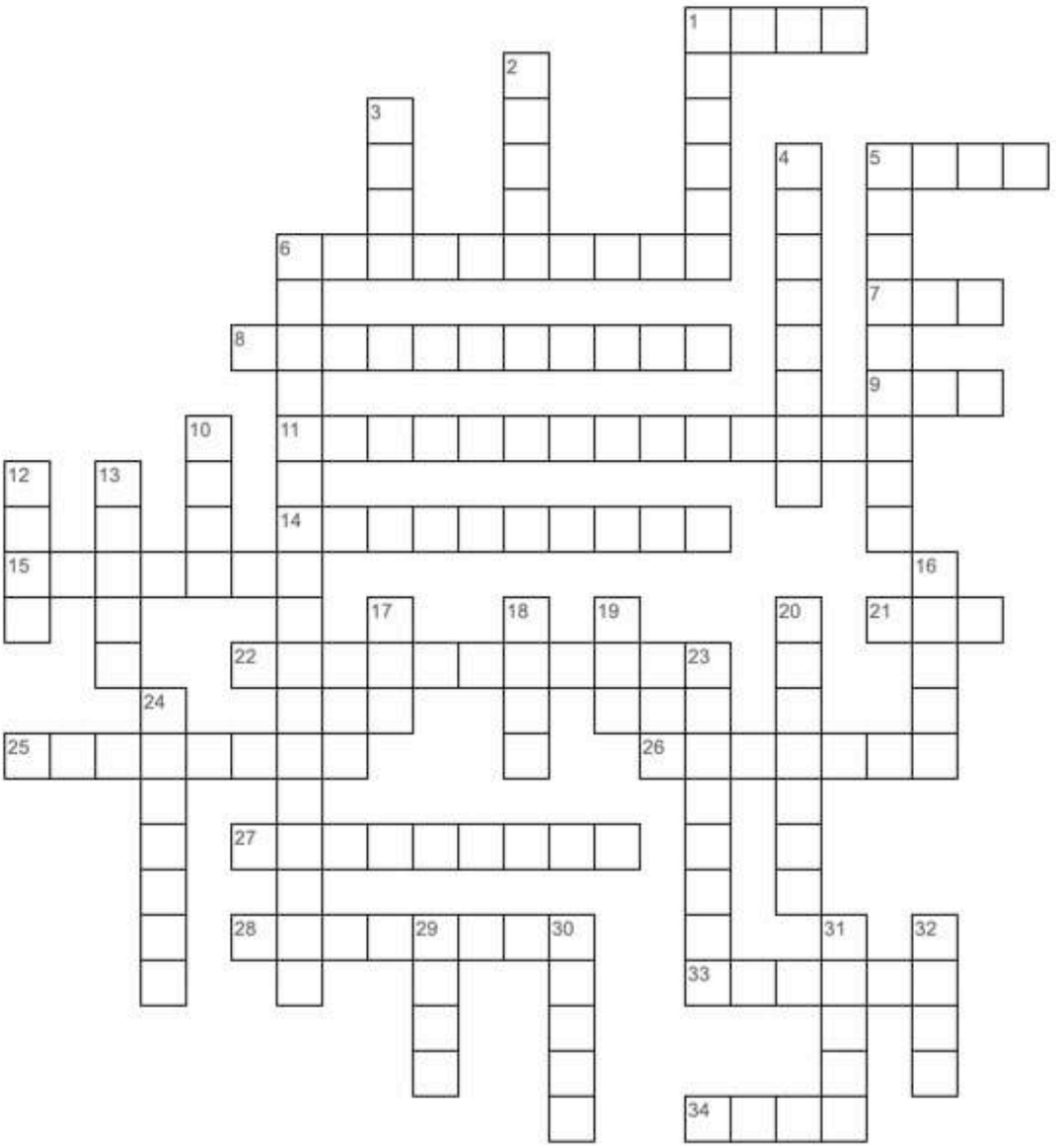
day-to-day lives. To kick things off in the morning session, Ed McCormack discussed how the traffic safety culture in Norway differs from the US. For a variety of reasons, including lower travel speeds due to Norway's inherently winding and narrow roads, more comprehensive driver's education and licensing processes, an extensive enforcement program, and perhaps most importantly of all, the culture in safety and transportation, Norway experiences significantly fewer road fatalities per capita than the US. Interestingly, Norwegians are significantly less likely to drive under the influence, with the legal limit being 0.02% (compared to 0.08% in the US) and extremely high fines that follow. Next, we heard from Claudia Hirschey who discussed the current role of safety within the NEPA and SEPA processes. She discussed that often, safety is not as thoroughly evaluated as it should be, and instead, generic statements that road safety will not be expected to become worse are used. To end off, she challenged attendees to think more about how safety can be better incorporated into the NEPA and SEPA processes and how we can make the analysis and evaluation process better. Next, Chris Comeau shared some of the changes the City of Bellingham had implemented to its Transportation Impact Assessment (TIA) process to take a more multi-modal approach. In an effort to move away from the traditionally vehicle-centric TIA process that relies on vehicle delays and levels of service, Bellingham wants to use measurements of people and person-trips, including those for vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit.

*ITE members enjoying their lunch as they learn about funding opportunities through the City Safety Program, County Safety Program, and requirements for developing Local Road Safety Plans.*

As attendees settled in for lunch, Ed Spilker presented on the 2020 City Safety and County Safety Programs. Specifically, applications for the 2020 City Safety Program are due on March 6th, and this funding source will not be impacted by I-976. Ed also shared with attendees the overall process for agencies to complete a Local Road Safety Plan, as well as additional resources that are available to them, including crash history data from WSDOT and the FHWA Systemic Safety Project Selection Tool.

The afternoon session was just as rich in information as the morning session. Brian Chandler started things off by providing an overview of the Road Safety Professional Program, highlighting the requirements for the RSP1 and RSP2 (with specializations in Behavioral and Infrastructure) certifications. Next we heard from Darrin Grondell who presented the 2019 Target Zero Update to the Washington Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Tragically, the majority of traffic fatalities in Washington state are a result of preventable causes such as impairment, distraction, speeding, and lack of seat belt usage. Furthermore, the cost of traffic fatalities and serious injuries is estimated to be $8.4B in the state, yet only $50M in spending is allocated. Target Zero is not something that can be achieved by one agency alone, but by everyone working together, and Darrin urged attendees to think about what each of one of us can do to improve the traffic safety culture. To conclude this year's conference, Robert Hull provided a closing keynote. He presented on Toward Zero Deaths, a national strategy for traffic safety. This strategy includes six focus areas, and includes a specific chapter on traffic safety culture. Robert also shared with attendees some of the programs he had worked on during his time with UDOT, including its initial Zero Fatalities campaign. Lastly, some additional resources that Robert recommended include NCHRP 17-69 – A Strategic Approach to Transforming Traffic Safety Culture to Reduce Deaths and Injuries, NCHRP 20-24(110) – Development of Resources to Support State DOT Communications on Safety, and the Traffic Safety Culture Pooled Fund Program. One of Robert's goals for this conference was for everyone to have at least one actionable takeaway, whether it be something you do professionally or within your own family. There was definitely no shortage of ideas, whether it be from the presenters themselves, or the series of interactive break-out sessions and table discussions that took place after each presentation to allow attendees to discuss and digest what they just heard from the speakers. ■



**Across**

1 If you are going to drink alcohol it is a good idea to call one of these
5 You should slow down when road conditions are ----
6 You should drive to suit the road ----------
7 You must never ride in the tray of a utility or a panel ---
8 In situations of fog, rain, smoke, bad light or sun in your eyes ---------- may be pooor
9 We must obey this
11 Everyone must have one to drive
14 Travelling at appropriate speeds hepls you ---------- and react to dangerous situations
15 You could appoint one of these if they can be trusted
21 A micros-sleep is a brief --- that lasts 3 to 5 seconds
22 Near shopping centres you shoul always watch for these
25 Give -------- more space.
26 Mental of physical tiredness
27 If unrestrained these can also injure or kill others in the vehicle during a crash
28 -------- are more severe at high speed
33 Road rules are there to help reduce road ------
34 At high speed you have less ---- to react to hazards

**Down**

1 There should be none of these in straps
2 Your seatbelt should be ----- but comfortable
3 If you want to drink you should ---- ahead
4 Increases the risk of being involved in a crash
5 Your licence is a valuable ---------
6 All children undre 7 must wear an approved one of these in vehicles
10 People may ---- out from between parked cars
12 You should drive slower when the road is ----
13 ----- and drug driving are major contributors to road fatalities
16 Alcohol gives you a ----- sense of confidence
17 You must stop on this signal
18 Every police vehicle can undertake both ---- and alcohol road side tests
19 The police test for this
20 A speed limit is the -------legal speed you can travel on a road under ideal conditions
23 You should always wear this in a vehicle
24 You are more likely to be involved in a crash if driving after drinking -------
29 Don't ---- your licence
30 Alcohol ----- down your reaction time to road hazards
31 Alcohol can make it difficult to ----- the speed of your vehicle
32 It is more dangerous to drive ----

answers on page 14

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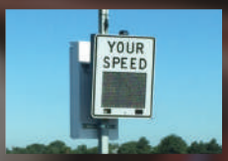


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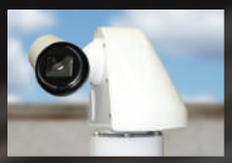

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## podcast

ITE Talks Transportation is a collaboration between ITE and Bernie Wagenblast, founder and editor of the Transportation Communication Newsletter and host of Transportation Radio. Each month, a new podcast features a thought leader within the transportation industry. In keeping with #transportationtuesday, a new episode will be available the 4th Tuesday of every month.

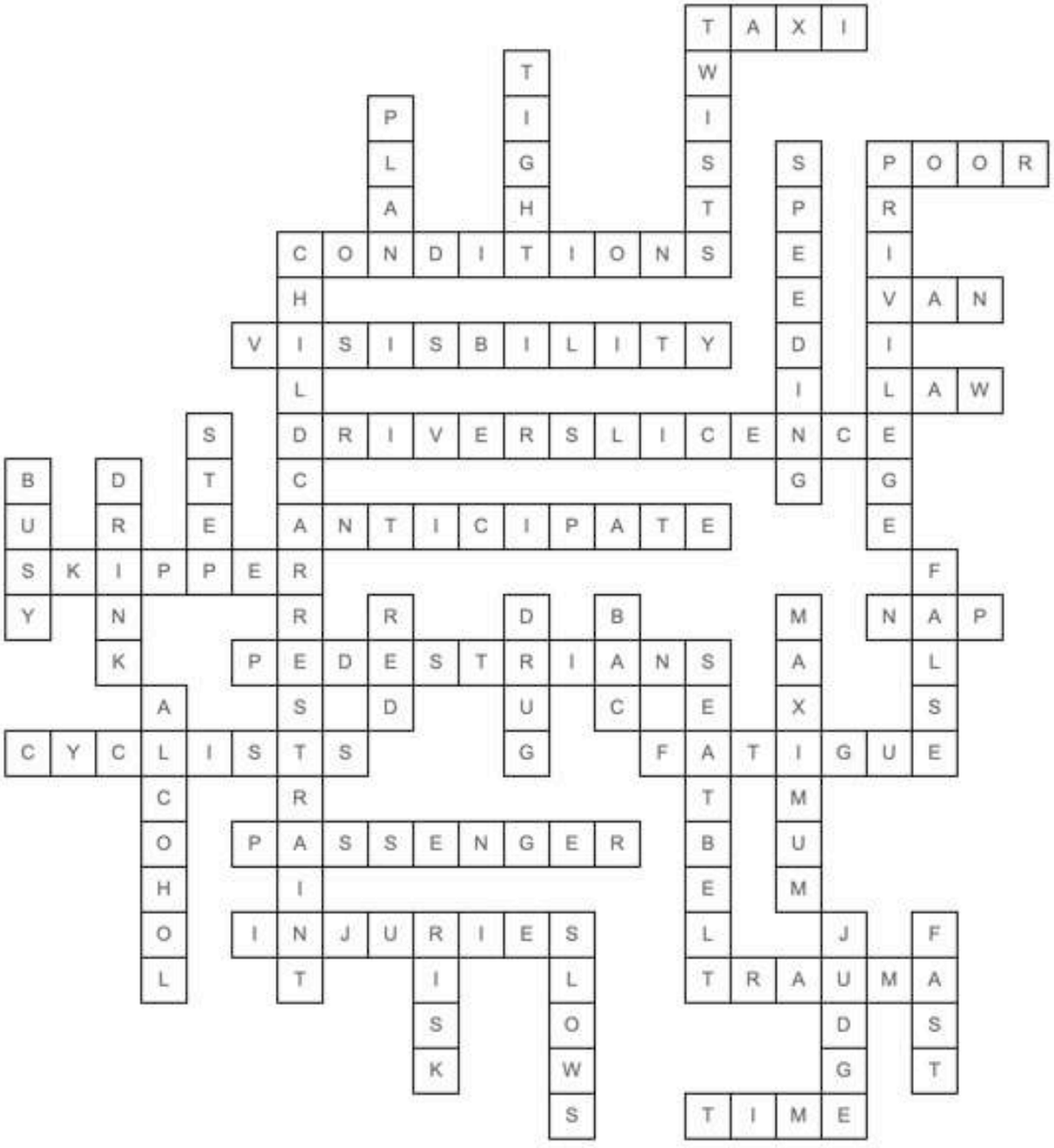
Managing the Evolving Curbside; Meghan Mitman & Steve Davis, Fehr & Peers

MaaS/MOD, Mobility Rising; Valerie Lefler, Feonix

The Value of Professional Development, Marsha Anderson Bomar, ITE Honorary Member

New York City Congestion Pricing: From Idea to Reality, Sam Schwartz

## crossword answers



Washington State Department of Transportation

# Upcoming LTAP's

WSDOT Work Zone Traffic Control Design

These are WSDOT internal classes with spots available to Local Agencies.

Mar. 3 & 4 (Vancouver)

Mar. 24 & 25 (Tumwater)

Apr. 21 & 22 (Moses Lake)

May 12 & 13 (Everett)

Cost: Free. 16 hour class. See Brochure linked in title for more details and exact times for each location.

## Washington Transportation Professionals

### 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.

### Fall 2019 peer exchange

WSDOT is looking for a location in Western Washington to hold this peer exchange, and are also looking for ideas for topics and presenters. Please let them know if you have ideas. This free event will be held in person and will also be available by a free, live webinar to allow an exchange of ideas across Washington.

Contact: City Safefty & Traffic Programs Manager

## 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**

## Professional Transportation Careers

**Visit www.wa-ite.org for current job postings.**

**Submit new postings to:**

**Sherief Elbassuoni, PhD, PE, PTOE**

**Web Master**

**Transportation Engineer**

**DKS Associates - Seattle, Washington**

**she@dksassociates.com**

Postings should include company, position, brief description of responsibilities, requirements, contact information and posting timeframe.