



NEWS

April/May 2005
Volume 13, Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Scott E. Nodes, PE, PTOE



Dear AZITE Members,

We're about half way through the 2004 - 2005 ITE Arizona Section year (September 2004 to September 2005). Thank you for your support so far this year!

We've had numerous accomplishments this year. Sarath Joshua coordinated leading/lagging left turn traffic signal issue activities and prepared a draft policy for the ITE (International); I presented this proposal to ITE (International) and they passed this proposal with revisions – thank you Sarath! Additional accomplishments include the ITE Arizona Section receiving the Best District 6 Web Site Award; I would like to thank Sylvia Mousseux and Nak Kim for coordinating the Web Site! We had luncheon meeting speakers discuss Proposition 400 during September and October; Proposition 400 extended a tax in Maricopa County that will help fund regional transportation projects including those involving freeways, buses, and light rail – Proposition 400 was approved by voters in November. In November, we had a joint meeting with the ITE Southern Arizona Chapter in Tucson. In December, we had an ITE/Arizona Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE) Holiday Party.

In January, we were honored to have Tim Harpst (ITE International President) as our speaker. In addition, in January, we were one of the sponsors of the Future City Competition – we sponsored the “Best Multi-Modal Transportation Systems Award” that was won by a team of 7th and 8th grade students from Veritas Preparatory Academy. In February, Al Zubi (Arizona Department of Transportation) discussed the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD). In addition, in February, our members were active during Engineers week – we attended the Engineer's Week Banquet and staffed an ITE exhibit at the Arizona Science Center on Engineer's Day. Furthermore, in February, our ITE Arizona Section 2005 Directory was published; I

would like to thank Dan Hartig for coordinating the publication of our Directory! In March, we had our annual ITE/International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) Spring Conference that included numerous technical sessions; I would like to thank Seth Chalmers for serving as the Chairperson of the conference!

The District 6 President, Zaki Mustafa, attended the 2005 ITE/IMSA Spring Conference. Zaki presented Jenny Grote with the ITE District 6 President's Award at the conference. Congratulations Jenny!

We have numerous transportation engineering activities planned for April and May. On April 19th, we had an ITE Arizona Section Public Agency Traffic Calming meeting. On April 28th, we will have our monthly luncheon meeting at Monti's La Casa Vieja in Tempe – legislative issues will be discussed. The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) will hold its 15th Annual Meeting; the meeting has never been in Arizona, however, from May 2nd through May 4th, their Annual Meeting will be at the Phoenix Civic Plaza. On May 10th and May 11th, the Intel International Science and Engineering Science Fair will be held in Phoenix. On May 19th, we will hold a joint meeting with the Intelligent Transportation Society of Arizona (ITS Arizona).

The ITS America 2005 Annual Meeting will be held in Phoenix; approximately 3000 people are expected to attend this event. I am the General Chairperson of this event. If you would like to volunteer (e.g., give tours, help with registration, give information to out of town guests, serve as room monitors during technical sessions, etc.) to help me at this meeting, please contact me. Thank you!

ITE ARIZONA SECTION 2005/2006 HIGHLIGHTS



Jenny Grote (Past ITE International President) Congratulates Scott Nodes after he is inaugurated as President of the ITE Arizona Section in September 2004.



Mark Poppe (ITE Arizona Section Vice President), Tim Harpst (ITE International President), and Scott Nodes (ITE Arizona Section President) at the ITE Arizona Section Meeting in January 2005



Tim Harpst, ITE International President, speaks at the ITE Arizona Section Meeting in January 2005.

ITE/IMSA SPRING 2005 CONFERENCE

The annual ITE/IMSA Spring Conference was held at the Black Canyon Conference Center on March 8-10. On this page are an assortment of photos taken during the event..



Mayor Phil Gordon delivers the keynote address



Phil Tarnoff makes a presentation



Scott Nodes (AZ ITE Section President), and Zaki Mustafa (ITE District 6 President), presents Jenny Grote with the ITE District 6 President's Award



Scott Waddle speaks at the March 9th Luncheon



Scott Nodes and Sylvia Mousseux with the Best District 6 Web Site Award

JAMES BOOK RECEIVES THE ITE ARIZONA SECTION 2005 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
by Scott Nodes

Recently, the ITE Arizona Section created a new award. The award is called the ITE Arizona Section Distinguished Service Award. The criteria for the award includes:

- cannot be an ITE Arizona Section Board member;
- based on contributions to the ITE Arizona Section;
- based on contributions to the transportation engineering profession; and
- can only win the award once.

This is the highest award that will be given by the ITE Arizona Section.

The Board nominated the following nine candidates for the award:

- Andrew Smigielski;
- Cathy Hollow;
- Dan Hartig;
- Jenny Grote;
- Jim Book;
- Jim Sparks;
- Paul Basha;
- Paul Box; and
- Richard Nassi.

The inaugural award was won by James A. Book, P.E. During the 1980's, Jim worked for Bartman Aschman and worked on numerous projects, including a \$50 million interchange project in Nebraska. During the late 1980's and early 1990's, Jim worked for Kirkham Michael in Phoenix where he conducted transportation engineering work; he conducted a lot of work related to developments all over the country. In the early 1990's until early 2005, Jim worked as the Transportation Director for the City of Glendale; recently, Jim retired from the City of Glendale, but he is still working part-time for the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA). Jim was on the ITE Arizona Section Board of Directors for five years including serving as President in 1996 and 1997. For me, it was a pleasure to work with Jim for the last ten years, including on the MAG ITS Committee (Jim was the Chairperson), on the Valley Traffic Engineers Committee (VATEC), involving transportation issues between Glendale and Peoria (previously I was the City Traffic Engineer for the City of Peoria), and on bicycle tours with Jim in Nashville, Tennessee and Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was an honor for me to present the inaugural ITE Arizona Section 2005 Distinguished Service Award to Jim at the ITE/IMSAs 2005 Spring Conference on March 9th!



ACTIVE MEMBERS GROUP

The AMG meets once per month, separately from the Arizona ITE monthly meeting/luncheon, to plan events and to network with each other. The group has now grown to over 20 members. The next meeting of the Active Members Group will be on May 16th at Rosie McCaffrey's at 5:30 PM. Rosie McCaffrey's is located at 906 East Camelback Road, Phoenix. For additional information, contact Chris Williams at CWilliams@taskeng.net. All ITE members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Don't forget to invite a friend or colleague too.

MEMBER NEWS



Ogonna Abarikwu, PE, Principal of CK Engineering, Inc. has been nominated by the American Diabetes Association as one of the honorees for "Father of the Year" event and award. Ogonna in association with ADA is campaigning to raise \$40,000 in the Association's efforts to find a cure for diabetes. If you are interested in helping with this effort, feel free to call Ogonna at (602.482.5884).

MAY ARTICLE

This month's article (pages 6 & 7) is from Rudy Kolaja, PE, PTOE. It is a letter he wrote and submitted to the Friends of Transit Inc. last year. Please enjoy and feel free to share ideas with Rudy.

**VENDOR'S
CORNER**

This Space Available!

(The Vendor's Corner highlights a different vendor in our industry in each issue.)

Sorry, no Vendor's Corner this issue. Contact the newsletter editor, Amara Ibeji @ aibeji@ckengr.com to use this space

FRIENDS OF TRANSIT, Inc.
Phoenix, Arizona

Phoenix, October 30, 2004

Dear Friends of Transit:

I have lived in the Phoenix Valley for more than 23 years. During this time, I have observed, with a great deal of interest, all of the regional transit development happening in the area. I have also endeavored to actively participate in this development effort while also working full-time in the Phoenix Valley as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE). My experience includes more than 40 years of traffic engineering, multimodal transit design, and transit operations work experience accumulated while laboring on two continents. However, I am writing to you as an interested private citizen with uncommon, yet extensive insight into making our eventual transit system much better.

The majority of Valley officials that govern the transit program, including the Light Rail, Bus Rapid Transit, and all of the other transit improvements, as well as the proposed future freeway expansion, are very happy with the current state of transit system development. In spite of the billions of dollars yet to be spent to attain the ultimate implementation of the current transit plans, I remain far from being convinced that we finally have a viable, long-term solution set up to resolve our current transportation problems. I can also tell you why.

Handling the ever-growing transportation demands for a major metropolitan area can never be served by merely engaging in continuous freeway widening. The result becomes an extreme and seemingly endless number of traffic lanes with closely spaced highway interchanges, signs in too close succession to be properly read while driving, and inadequate local street systems to support traffic that will surely spill from it. Similarly, adding even more busses, and now light rail vehicles, to the clogged downtown Phoenix area, already struggling with congested streets will not resolve the problem. This scenario has been repeatedly experienced and successfully dealt with in several European cities almost fifty years ago.

A successful Multimodal Transportation System needs to be developed for the whole metropolitan area based upon a comprehensive assessment of Regional Travel Demand. This cannot and must not be decided by virtue of a calculated political decision, nor by just so-called "public participation." Although public support is certainly essential to build good transit system, the process for reaching a successful solution is unfortunately much more complex than that. This needs to be done, first, by determining the Direction of Travel Demand and its subsequent Travel Demand Magnitude among the major transportation districts, which make up the system. The actual Travel Split, between the Fundamental Travel Modes (the highway and transit systems), can then be determined by using several different selection criteria. By far, the most important of these selection criteria is the "Trip Purpose" that can be defined as work & school trips, trips inside and from outside the metropolitan area, commercial trips, and several others, just to be brief.

The Magnitude of the Passenger Volumes between the Individual Origins and Destinations of Trips by a specific period of time then dictates the Size of the Transportation System Services required. In the case of the transit portion of trips, all of this technical information is analyzed to determine the correct transit mode to be chosen to satisfy all of these needs. However, please keep in mind that every mode of transit has quite varying operating characteristics, and substantially different transportation capacity. This basic capacity difference needs to be respected in order to design an economical, effective and safely operating transit system. For example:

- A grade-separated Metro route (preferably underground) can carry up to 50,000 passengers an hour.
- A typical Light Rail route can carry about 8,000 – 10,000 passengers an hour.
- An average Bus Route can only carry about 2,000 passengers an hour.

Nevertheless, the absolute factor in a potential transit system's success is squarely centered in the critical **"REDUCTION OF TRAVEL TIME"**, when compared to the highway traffic. **THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE IN THIS CURRENT CAR-**

ORIENTED ENVIRONMENT. This is the very reason we need to build a transit system which is operated in an exclusive right-of-way, where the current transportation system is already highly congested, and predicted to become even more so in the future. The proposed regional transit system, which will be built in mixed traffic conditions, will not produce these desired results, regardless of size. This I can prove from real first-hand experience.

These are the most fundamental transportation issues, both to be well respected, and then wisely utilized, but there is still much more to it. This kind of basic background is needed just to design and judge the ultimate potential and worth of a reliable and dependable transit system. The public cannot understand this at face value. It will not allow you to build a light rail infrastructure with projected passenger volumes at less than 20% of its potential peak hour capacity and to carry up to four bicycles on each vehicle. Moving along congested downtown surface street levels, it will only add to the great potential for adverse safety impacts, with which I am well familiar. Unless the plans change dramatically, we will soon rediscover it here.

Furthermore, how can we confidently expect to effectively handle the estimated amount of **440,000 vehicles per day** that will be using the I-10 freeway by the year 2025? We are currently struggling to manage only 240,000 vehicles per day! This is where our concerns need to dwell first! The type of transit system, as currently proposed, will fall far short of meeting any travel demand such as the one that will shortly be staring us right in the face! If we continue, this area will soon feature Los Angeles style congestion.

I can firmly support this evaluation not just upon all of my extensive training, hands-on transit operations management experience, and development work, but also fortify it with knowledge and operational facts from other large-scale successful multimodal transit implementation. It is rather unfortunate that such background is not utilized in determining the future of this valley for the next several decades.

We can do a lot better in attempting to build a well-designed mass transit system that will become a major component of a successfully operational transportation system. Moreover, we had better do so! Such a system has to provide substantial relief to the current highway system in the major directions of travel. It has to provide a **substantial reduction of travel time**, which ultimately results in a high attractiveness and demand from the public to use it. It simply has to!

A true friend of viable Phoenix Valley transit,

Rudy Kolaja

FOR INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT



EARL E. NEWMAN, P.E., PTOE (F)

**Assistant Director of
Public Works / City
Traffic Engineer
City of Springfield,
MO, USA**

I have over 35 years of experience as a Traffic and Transportation Engineer and have been a member of ITE for 33 years. With deep respect for what ITE has

achieved in its first 75 years, I would like to continue my service to ITE and the profession as an elected officer. Having held elective office in ITE for 14 years and served on over 15 ITE level committees, I have the qualifications and experience for the challenge of elected office. You can view additional information about my community activities and personal life at

www.bringingite2you.com.

VISION AND GOALS

I have chosen a theme for my vision to be "Bringing ITE to You." The only reason ITE exists is to serve its members. Services must reach ITE members where they are if they are to realize the full value of membership. If elected to serve as an officer of ITE, I am committed to "Bringing ITE to You."

Member Services

Local Sections and Chapters are the "backbone and strength" of ITE. Specialty Councils are the "heart and spirit of the organization".

1. I support the forming of local chapters to better serve the membership. The goal is to bring ITE services to the local level where all members have opportunity to attend meetings and be involved.
2. I support including a specialty council membership in membership dues to increase awareness of council activities and the pool of volunteers.

Workforce Development

Workforce Development is twofold: It involves attracting students to the profession and continuing education for those in the profession.

1. I support programs that encourage local chapters and sections to take the lead in introducing the profession to students at an early age.
2. I propose expanded use of Interactive Web-based cost effective training to bring training to members at their workplace.

Leadership Development

Our leaders evolve from experience as elected leaders at various levels of ITE and/or service within a specialty council under the coordinating council.

1. I support provision of workshops in ITE governance & operations for current and potential leaders in conjunction with ITE Meetings.
2. I believe "rising stars" should be identified and encouraged to develop through governance opportunities and participation in Specialty Councils.

Interaction with International Members

ITE's advantage internationally is provision of technical products, information and training.

1. I support incentives for international members to participate in Annual Meetings and in Specialty Councils.
2. I support creation of an International Advisory Committee to improve outreach and communications with members around the world.

ITE EXPERIENCE

Elected Offices Held

I have served as an ITE International Director; Secretary and Section Representative for District 4; all Offices w/MOVITE Section (Pres in 1984); and Vice-Pres, Penn State University Student Chapter.

Committees and Activities

International Level

- Policy and Legislative Committee, Vice-Chair (2004-05)
- Budget Committee (2003)
- Strategic Plan Membership Committee - (2003)
- Transportation Achievement Awards, Chair (2002 & 2003)
- Mid-Year Meeting Review Committee (2002)
- Annual Meeting Site Selection Committee (2001)

ITE Technical Council

- Dept 4, Transportation Operations – Head (1987)
- Dept 4, Transportation Operations – Assistant Head (1984-86)
- Dept 4, Measures Division Transportation Operations - Chair (1981-83)
- Dept 4, Standing Committee – Member (1981-87)

District Level/Section/Chapter Level

- Elective Officer Transition Committee - District (2004)
- Past Presidents Advisory Council – Founder (2003)
- Board, Student Scholarship Fund – Founding Member (1983)
- Ozarks Chapter of ITE – Founder and Charter Member (2003)

Specialty Council Memberships

Expert Witness Council; Intelligent Transportation Systems Council; Public Agency Council, and Traffic Engineering Council

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

- Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering, University of Missouri
- Master of Engineering, Bureau of Highway Traffic, Penn State University
- Certified in Accident Reconstruction, Central Missouri State University
- Certified Professional Traffic Operations Engineer™
- Registered Professional Engineer in Missouri and Arkansas

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Distinguished Member – MOVITE (2003)
- Transportation Engineer of the Year Award- MOVITE (1995)
- Best Section and District Technical Activities Committee Report (1982)
- President's Award for Best Technical Paper – MOVITE (1981)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

I have 24 years of service as City Traffic Engineer for Springfield, Missouri, and as Assistant Director of Public Works the past six. I have experience in planning, design, construction, operations, maintenance and management of transportation systems. I have 11 years of private sector experience in Transportation Planning and Engineering. Highlights of my career include development of a model School Walking Route Program, preparation of the Master Plan for the Springfield, MO, Computerized Traffic Signal System and the Transportation Master Plan for roadways in Branson, MO. I am responsible for Joint Springfield/MoDOT Transportation Management Center (TMC), the first working TMC in the State of Missouri



Elect
Alfred A. Guebert
for

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT of ITE



Alf is currently the Senior Transportation Manager and Principal Engineer – ITS, with Earth Tech (Canada) Inc. in Calgary, AB.

He received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, and Masters of Science in Civil Engineering (Transportation), from the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

Alf is a registered professional engineer in three provinces (Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia) and is a certified Professional Traffic Operations Engineer. He has been an active member of ITE for 21 years, and has served at the Section, District and International levels. Alf has both public and private sector experience to draw upon. With more than 21 years with the City of Saskatoon, Alf assumed various leadership roles including Traffic Operations Engineer and Manager of the City's Electric System. Alf also has more than five years of experience in the consulting business as a Principal Engineer responsible for ITS projects, and is now managing the Transportation Group in Southern Alberta.

Alf has been very active in ITE through his career. He joined ITE as an 'Associate' Member in 1984, and has pursued an active role since that time. He became a 'Member' in 1990 and achieved the recognition as a 'Fellow' of the Institute in 2001.

ITE Elected Offices:

Alf served the Saskatchewan Section as the founding President (1989-1993). He then was convinced to accept the nomination to run for the Canadian District office of Secretary-Treasurer in 1993, and went on to complete consecutive terms as Vice President (1995), President (1997) and Past President 1999. Alf recently completed a three-year term on the International Board of Direction (2001 – 2003), representing District 7 (Canada). He is now striving to complete the cycle and become the 3rd International Vice President from Canada in 75 years... with your help!

ITE Committees:

Alf has served ITE at all levels of the Institute. At the **International Level**, Alf has been active in the following committees: Annual Meeting Committee (2002-2003); Strategic Plan Membership Committee (2003); International Budget Committee (2001-2003); International Nominations Committee (2002); Special Committee on Public Information Development (2001). At the **District level**, during his term on the District 7 Executive Committee, he was involved in the following activities: Local Arrangements Committee (LAC), District 7 Annual Conference – Winnipeg (2003); LAC, District 7 Annual Conference – Calgary (2001); LAC, District 7 Annual Conference – Regina (1995); District 7 Nominations Committee (2000 and 2001). At the local CITE **Section level**, Alf has been active as the: Founding Officer, Ad-hoc Committee Saskatchewan Section formation (1989); Founding Member, CITE Toastmasters group, Southern Alberta (2003-present); and Chair, Southern Alberta Section Nominations Committee (2004). Alf has also been active in a number of the **Technical Councils** of ITE: Member, Traffic Engineering Council; and Member, Intelligent Transportation Systems Council (contributing to the executive committee and providing Canadian articles for the newsletter).

Alf has also been very active in a number of other organizations as well, further developing his technical and leadership skills: Transportation Association of Canada (**TAC**) - Vice Chair of the Traffic Operation and Management Standing (TOMS) Committee; Intelligent Transportation Systems Society of Canada (**ITS Canada**) - Board of Directors and appointed to the Executive Committee; Centre for Transportation Planning and Engineering (**C-TEP**) - Board of Directors; American Public Works Association (**APWA**) - Technology exchange program to Japan; Other volunteer activities include: coaching minor Fastball and Hockey teams; active in church organizations, chairing various boards and councils within the local congregation, as well as participation at the national level. Alf also tries to find time to balance his professional life with hobbies such as: golf, hockey, softball, swimming, running, coaching, reading and family activities.

In 1978, Alf married Nancy, and they will be celebrating their 27th anniversary in 2005. They have two grown children: Brian (1981) who is attending the University of Saskatchewan; and Jenilee (1984) who is attending the University of Calgary. Alf's family, as well as his employer, Earth Tech Canada Inc, are completely supportive of his desire to run for International Vice President of ITE.

When the ballots come out in June, please help to ***ELECT ALF*** by making sure your vote is counted!

Alfred A. Guebert, P.Eng., M.Sc., PTOE, Fellow

OFFICERS

President
Scott Nodes
City of Goodyear
623.882.7519

Vice President
Mark Poppe
Stanley
602.912.6500

Secretary
Kimberly Carroll
Kirkham Michael
602.944.6564

Treasurer
Micah Henry
ITS Engineers and Contractors
602.943.2525

Past President
Sarith Joshua
Maricopa Assn. of Gov'ts.
602.254.6300

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ambassador
Bill Birdwell
Town Of Gilbert
480.503.6737

Career Guidance
Chris Lemka
City of Glendale
623.930.2925

ITE/IMSA Spring Conference
Seth Chalmers
480.949.0925
Jennifer Kroening
kroening@cox.net

Legislative
Dave Eberhardt
Thunderbird Consulting
623.412.0050

Membership
Dan Hartig
Parsons Brinckerhoff
480.966.8295

Newsletter
Amara Ibeji
CK Engineering
602.482.5884

Active Member Group
Chris Williams
Task Engineering
602.277.4224

Technical
Volunteers Needed

Website
Sylvia Mousseux
City of Scottsdale
480.312.2508

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS



APRIL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Next Monthly Meeting of the Arizona Section of ITE will be held on April 28, 2005 at 11:50 A.M.

Location: Monti's La Casa Vieja
One West Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe
Phoenix, Arizona

Cost: \$20.00

Menu: Small Fillet Mignon OR Baked Cod OR Vegetarian Pasta Marinara

Speaker: Rep Andy Biggs, Chair, AZ State House Transportation Committee
Topic: Legislative Update

RSVP by noon, Monday, April 25 to Micah Henry
Phone: (602) 943-2525
Email: micah@itsengineers.com



C/O Amara Ibeji
CK Engineering, Inc.
16448 N. 40th Street
Suite A
Phoenix, AZ 85032

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Arizona Section of ITE. Send, e-mail or fax your articles to Amara Ibeji @ CK Engineering, Inc. (fax: 602.482.2885, aibeji@ckengr.com)