



New England Chronicle

THE NEW ENGLAND SECTION
OF THE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS



Volume 52, Issue 2

June 2012

HOW CAN STATES FINANCE FUTURE TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS?



This Month's Cover Story:

Evaluating Alternative Transportation Financing Approaches: A Conceptual Framework and Analytical Methods

By: Michael Plotnikov , UMASS-Amherst

(see Page 5)



A Message from the President

-Kien Ho-



Dear fellow NEITE members, it is my pleasure to update you on all the activities since I last wrote to you in early March. It is hard to believe that summer is almost here. The first half of 2012 proved to be an eventful year and, as promised, the Section activities are all in full swing.

First, the UMass Student Chapter held their 13th Annual Technical Day on March 15th. It was another well-organized event with great speakers including Congressman John Olver, who was the keynote speaker. The Technical event had informative presentations ranging from Intelligent Transportation System projects to Roundabout design and topic on Highway Improvement programs. The Chapter continues to be an active Chapter in the ITE organization. Hats off to the

UMass Student Chapter! Thank you for all your hard work. We appreciate the dedication and commitment that the Chapter has shown.

On April 10th, we had our second Executive Board meeting at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, CT. The Board meeting was held in conjunction with the CT Chapter, UConn Student Chapter, and the 8th Annual Student Symposium. This event was well attended by both professionals and students. Student presentations were excellent. We had three keynote speakers for this event: Thomas Hardley, Chief Engineer, ConnDOT was the keynote speaker for the luncheon and Mark N. Paquette, Executive Director of the Windham Region Council of Governments and Mary Ellen Kowalewski, Director of Policy and Planning for the Capitol Region Council of Governments were dinner keynote speakers. We also had Paula Benway, our International Director, attending the event. Paula, we know it was a long drive for you that day and we appreciate your dedication and the amount of time you spent with us.

In May, the Emerging Professionals Group (EPG), chaired by Jason DeGray, held two successful events. This group continues to organize exciting events with other professional organizations and ITE State Chapters. The Section benefits greatly from these events, allowing more interactions with other States Chapters and professional groups. On May 2nd, the EPG co-sponsored the Boston Chapter of the Young Professionals in Transportation's Distinguished Speaker Series. Building on the success of last year, this year we were privileged to have Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray as the speaker. There were approximately 100 attendees at the event.

On May 17th, the EPG held their first event in the State of New Hampshire. The event was a joint effort between the New Hampshire ITE Chapter, the NEITE Section and with assistance from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT). Approximately 20 people attended the tour of the NHDOT's Transportation Management Center (TMC) in Concord, NH. The event concluded nicely with a relaxing reception at the famous Common Man restaurant. Jason, we thank you for a job well done on these two events. We look forward to more exciting future events.

The 2012 Northeastern District Annual meeting was held from May 23rd to 25th at the beautiful Crowne Plaza Resort Hotel in Lake Placid, New York. There were approximately 120 participants at the event. It was wonderful to see and meet everyone, especially the ITE International President Rock Miller and the 2012 International Vice President Candidate W. Hibbett Neel. The variety of technical sessions that ranged from traffic signal controllers, traffic management, ITS deployment, mileage-based pricing techniques and bicycle planning projects were all educational. The golf outing, bicycle tour, reception, luncheon, traffic bowl, exhibitors, technical sessions, and the banquet were all nicely put together.

Continued on Pg. 3



A Message from the President

Continued from page 2

Congratulations to our one and only Joe Balskus for accepting the District Outstanding Service Award on behalf of the New England Section. Also, congratulations to Northeastern University Student Chapter and Mike Plotnikov of UMass, who won the District's Student Chapter Award and Outstanding Student Paper Award. Just like any other District annual meetings, this event was well done by the Local Arrangement Committee, especially the two co-chairs, Don Adam and Mike Wieszchowski. We want to thank the New York Update Section for hosting the event. Thank you all for your hard work. We had a great time!

Finally, the on-going planning for the 2013 Northeastern District Annual meeting is at full speed. The New England Section ITE will be hosting this event in Northampton, Massachusetts. In terms of hosting, just a little background history, it is a tradition to rotate throughout the 6 New England states (and ITE Chapters). Working out the details for the event is a daunting task but rewarding. The Local Arrangement Committee was formed early this year and they have been working hard since then. The planning details are being discussed and coordinated bi-weekly via teleconference meeting headed by both the co-chairs (Mike Knodler and Joe Balskus).

The planning for the 2013 ITE International Annual meeting is also well on its way with Ken Petraglia, the Local Arrangement Chair, who is coordinating all the details with the national Planning Committee.

Lastly, the 13th Annual Thomas E. Desjardins Golf Tournament, which will benefit scholarships for college students in the field of civil engineering, was held at Sandy Burr Country Club in Wayland, Massachusetts on Wednesday, June 6th.

Have a great summer!

-Kien





Inside This Issue

- 2– A Message from the President
By: Kien Ho
- 5 – Evaluating Alternative Transportation Financing Approaches—A Conceptual Framework and Analytical Methods
- 9– Chapter Updates
- 10– Chronicle Sponsors
- 12- Executive Board Corner
- 13– Where are they now
- 14– Emerging Professionals Group (EPG) Summary
- 15– Transportation Student Symposium Highlights
- 16– ITE Northeastern District Annual Meeting Summary—Lake Placid

2012 NEITE Directory

2011 NEITE Executive Board

President
Kien Ho, P.E., PTOE
kho@BETA-inc.com

Vice President
Joe Segale, P.E., PTP
jsegale@rsginc.com

Treasurer
Peter Vasiliou, P.E., PTOE
Peter.Vasiliou@jacobs.com

Secretary
Michelle Danila, P.E., PTOE
mdanila@tooledesign.com

Sr. Director
Roger Dickinson, P.E., PTOE
Peter.Vasiliou@jacobs.com

Sr. Director
Joseph Hallisey
Hallisey@pbworld.com

Jr. Director
Alan Cloutier, P.E., PTOE

Jr. Director
Jeffery Gomes

Immediate Past President
Josepd Balskus, P.E., PTOE
jcbalskus@tighebond.com

Chapter Presidents

Connecticut
Mike Dion, P.E., PTOE

Maine
Randall Dunton, PE, PTOE

Massachusetts
Steven C. Findlen, P.E.

New Hampshire
David J. DeBaie, P.E., PTOE

Rhode Island
Nate Urso, P.E., PTOE

Vermont
Evan Detrick, P.E.

Northeastern Student Chapter

Northeastern Faculty Advisor
Daniel M. Dulaski, Ph.D, PE

UMass/Amherst
Steve Tupper

UMass/Amherst Faculty Advisor
Michael Knodler, PhD

University of Connecticut Faculty Advisor
Nicholas Lownes, Ph.D.

University of Rhode Island Faculty Advisor
Christopher Hunter, Ph.D.

UMass/Lowell Faculty Advisor
Chronis Stamatiadis

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Awards
Douglas Prentiss, P.E., PTOE

Charter/Bylaws
Kim Hazarvarian, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE

Chronicle/NEITE Newsletter Editor
Steven C. Findlen, P.E.

Chronicle Action Committee
Daniel M. Dulaski, Ph.D, PE

Continuing Education, Chair
Alan Cloutier, P.E., PTOE

Goals/Objectives
Kien Ho, P.E., PTOE

Industrial Support Chair
William P. McNamara

Legislative Liaison
Jeffrey Dirk, PE, PTOE

Membership Chair
Peter Vasiliou, P.E., PTOE, LEED

NEITE Website Chair / Webmaster
Samuel Gregorio, EIT

Nominating/2013 ITE Boston LAC
Kenneth J. Petraglia, P.E., PTOE

Program Chair
Jeffrey R. Gomes

Public Relations Chair
Joseph Hallisey

Public Relations Communications Contact
Nick M. Fomenko, P.E., PTOE

Technical Chair
Michael Wasielewski

Tom Desjardins Scholarship, Chair
Rodney C. Emery, P.E., PTOE

Student Chapter Liaison
Michelle Langone Danila, P.E.

Young Professionals/Mentoring Chair
Jason Degray, P.E.

Past Presidents Council
Tom Gorrill, P.E.

Historian
John Thompson

Strategic Plan Administration
John Mirabito, P.E., PTOE

Useful Links

Institute of Transportation Engineers
<http://www.ite.org>

Boston Society of Civil Engineers
<http://www.bsces.org>

American Society of Civil Engineers
<http://www.asce.org>

New Hampshire Chapter
<http://www.ascenh.org>

Vermont Section Chapter
<http://sections.asce.org/vermont>

Maine Section Chapter
<http://www.maineasce.org/maine.htm>

Connecticut Section
<http://www.csce.org/>

Rhode Island Section
<http://www.riascce.org/>

Urban Land Institute
<http://www.uli.org>

MA Association of Consultant Planners
<http://www.macponline.org>

The American Planning Association
Northern New England Chapter
<http://www.nnecapa.org>

Massachusetts Chapter
<http://www.massapa.org>

Connecticut Chapter
<http://www.ccapa.org>

Rhode Island Chapter
<http://www.rhodeislandapa.org>



Cover Story

Evaluating Alternative Transportation Financing Approaches: A Conceptual Framework and Analytical Methods

By: Michael Plotnikov, UMASS - Amherst

ABSTRACT

As states continue to consider taking on more responsibility in transportation, a major issue State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) face relates to financing future transportation investments. At present, many state transportation policymakers and State DOT administrators are considering alternative financing approaches to generate future revenue sources for transportation investments.

This article discusses the development of a conceptual framework and analytical methods to aid state transportation policymakers and administrators in the planning and formulation of alternative financing approaches suitable for consideration in their state. It is expected that the both the conceptual framework and analytical methods will be of interest to state transportation policy makers as well as State DOT administrators currently involved in the development of a comprehensive transportation finance policy.

INTRODUCTION

The future of surface transportation financing is a major concern in the United States. The Federal and state fuel taxes, which are the major sources of the revenue, dwindled over the last few decades as a result of economic, technological, and political reasons. Hence, identifying new financing approaches and revenue sources is extremely important especially as the Federal government continues to wrestle with its budget deficit and debt ceiling issues and State DOTs are being asked to take on a larger role in the area transportation. (1) At present, many state transportation policymakers and State DOT administrators are considering alternative financing approaches to generate future revenue sources for transportation investments. (2, 3)

Questions of interest to State transportation policymakers and administrators relate to the potential impacts or consequences of such approaches. Examples of these questions are:

- What will be the capital and operating costs to implement alternative financing approaches?
- What are the potential levels and nature of the revenues that can be collected with these alternative financing approaches and how do these revenues compare to current financing approaches such as fuel taxes?
- What changes in demand can be expected? Will mode shifts and route diversion occur and at what levels?
- Will there be equity and privacy concerns and thus perhaps lead to challenges in gaining public acceptance?



*Michael accepting the Student Paper Award
from Paula Benway, District International
Director*



Evaluating Alternative Transportation Financing Approaches: A Conceptual Framework and Analytical Methods

Continued from page 5

A CONCEPTUAL EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Evaluation of the impacts of alternative financing approaches not a trivial task. Such an evaluation is complex and fraught with uncertainty. To facilitate the conduct of these evaluations the framework in Figure 1 is proposed as a guide.

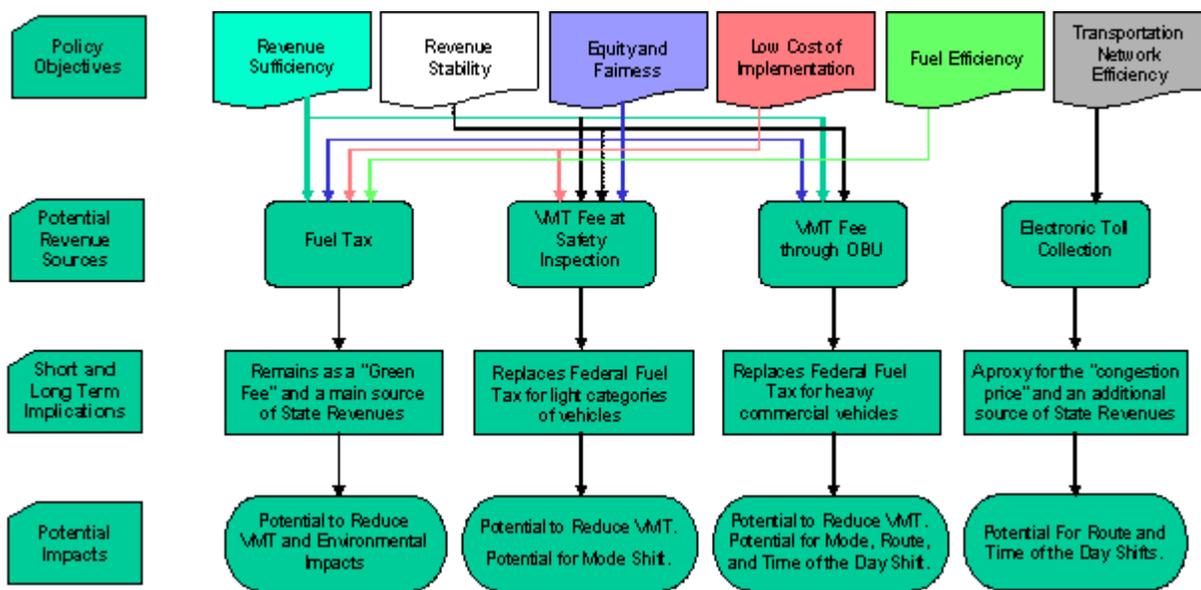


FIGURE 1 Alternative Financing Approaches Framework.

The framework includes four major elements:

- Determination of policy objectives and their relative priority.
- Formulation of potential financing approaches and revenue sources
- Review of short and long range implications of each alternative
- Identification of anticipated impacts

Policy objectives may include, for example, to establish a stable and sufficient revenue source to support transportation investments over the next 10 years; to promote equity and fairness among users and/or political jurisdictions; to minimize the capital and operating costs; to promote fuel efficiency and more rapid adoption of alternative fuel vehicles; and to encourage more efficient use of existing and planned facilities. Potential revenue sources may be user based and include, for example, tolls, the fuel tax, and various types of VMT fees. Other sources could be non-user based such as sales taxes. Short and long term implications may include, for example, objectives for a specific revenue source, such as "green fee"; specifying a level of government that will collect a revenue stream, such as the "state"; or identifying a target category of vehicles, such as "heavy vehicles". Anticipated impacts, for example, relate to investment costs to implement the financing approach (e.g. capital and operating costs to collect tolls on interstate highways); changes in demand in terms of VMT, total trips, mode shift, and route diversion; level and nature of the revenue generated; and equity and privacy concerns.



Evaluating Alternative Transportation Financing Approaches: A Conceptual Framework and Analytical Methods

Continued from page 6

ANALYTICAL METHODS

The need for improved analytical methods to evaluate the impacts of alternative financing approaches is well documented (2) and as suggested above such an evaluation will be a complex challenge. For the purposes evaluating the impacts, it is proposed that the value of each anticipated impact be defined in terms costs and benefits with the use of one or more types of variables as defined below (3):

- Monetary Variables: these variables represent impacts that have a direct dollar value;
- Non-Monetary, Monetizable Variables: these are variables that represent impacts not measured with direct dollar value (as is the case with monetary variables) but can be reasonably converted into monetary units; and
- Qualitative Variables: these are variables that represent potential benefits and costs of anticipated impacts not easily measured in monetary units (as is the case with the other two types of variables above).

To assess the total value of impacts, two analytical methods are proposed. Because the units of the qualitative variables are not in dollars, it is proposed that the impacts associated with these variables be analyzed separately (Method 2) from the impacts represented with monetary and non-monetary, monetizable variables (Method 1).

Method 1: Analyzing Monetary and Non-monetary, Monetizable Variables

To analyze impacts that can be measured with monetary and non-monetary, monetizable variables, it is proposed that the Net Present Value Method be used in the following form:

$$NPV = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{M_{b,j,n}}{(1+i)^n} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{M_{c,j,n}}{(1+i)^n} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{N_{b,j,n}}{(1+i)^n};$$

Where:

NPV is a net present value for an alternative financing approach,
 $M_{b,j,n}$ is a monetary benefit for variable j during the year n,
 $M_{c,j,n}$ is a monetary cost for variable j during the year n,
 $N_{b,j,n}$ is a non-monetary monetizable benefit for variable j during the year n,
 and i is a selected discount rate.

To depict visually the Net Present Value for each financing approach, it is proposed that cash flow diagrams or benefit-cost streams be prepared. An example of benefit-cost stream is presented in Figure 2.

Method 2: Analyzing Qualitative Variables

Method 2 is proposed in order to assess impacts expressed with qualitative variables which by definition as stated above are not measured in monetary units. Method 2 consists of three steps as described below.

The first step includes the development of a grading system to assess each impact. As letter grading is widely accepted in the transportation community (for example, in the conduct of highway capacity analyses), a grading system consisting of levels A through F is proposed here. Impacts that may be assessed with a grading system include privacy, equity, and route and mode shift.

The second step in Method 2 includes the development and conduct of a survey to determine the views and attitudes of decision-makers regarding the impacts represented with the qualitative variables. The survey is based on grading system developed in the first step and attempt to assess collectively the decision-makers attitudes, views, and priorities of each impact represented with qualitative variables.



Evaluating Alternative Transportation Financing Approaches: A Conceptual Framework and Analytical Methods

Continued from page 7

In the third step, any additional capital and operational costs resulting from the implementation of measures required to limit undesirable impacts represented with qualitative variables will be estimated. These costs will then be included in Method 1 and another alternative financing approach with a new NPV will be considered by decision-makers.

Scenario N

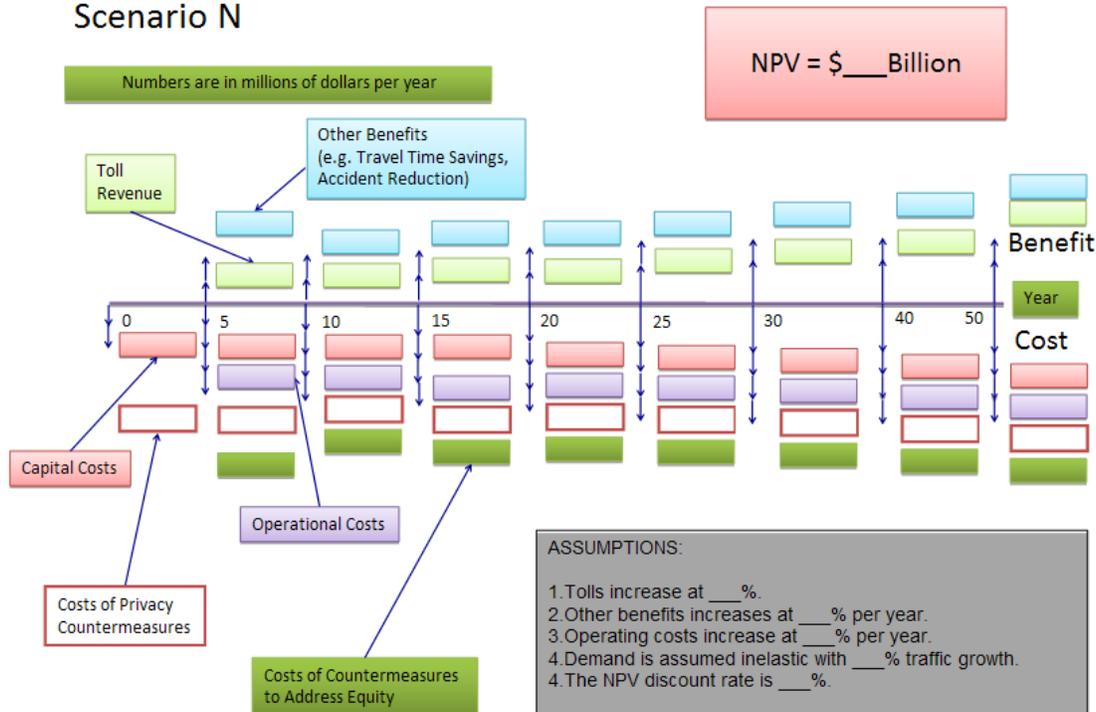


FIGURE 2 BENEFIT-COST STREAM: AN EXAMPLE.

REFERENCES

1. National Transportation Policy Project. *Performance Driven: Achieving a wiser Investment in Transportation*. Bipartisan Policy Center. Washington D.C. June 2011.
2. Latham, Bob. *Pennsylvania Highway Funding Solutions Stall Without a Comprehensive Approach*. Transportation Builder. Washington, D.C. July-August 2008.
3. Ahmadjian, Christopher J. and John Collura. *Evaluating Public-Private Partnership Organizational Alternatives for Existing Toll Roads*. Journal of Management in Engineering, Vol. 27, No. 2, April 2012, pp. 114-119.



MEITE Chapter Update

By: Randall Dunton



Since the last publication, MaineITE had a great meeting at DiMillo's floating restaurant in Portland. The speakers were Rhythm Engineering, Highway Tech and the MaineDOT Assistant State Traffic Engineer Steve Landry. We also had a great presentation by Carl Eppich of PACTS. The focus of the meeting was signals and signalization. We tried a dinner meeting rather than our typical lunch meeting and it worked out well, with over 35 people in attendance.

We are all looking forward to the joint meeting with NHITE this month. It looks to be a great educational and social opportunity with a great opportunity to socialize with our fellow ITE members to the west. We are in the process of planning our next Maine meeting to be held in August. The topic of discussion and location of the meeting has yet to be determined. The MEITE Social Committee is also in the process of planning for a strictly social gathering, but summer time is a difficult time to coordinate everyone's busy schedule, but we keep trying.

VTITE Chapter Update

By: Jenny Austin



The VTITE chapter had its' annual joint meeting with NEITE on January 24, 2012. The two speakers included Lucy Gibson, Smart Mobility, and Richard Tetrault, Director of the VTrans Program Development Division. Ms. Gibson discussed the ITE/CNU Walkable Thoroughfare Manual. This manual focuses on urban thoroughfares in walkable areas. Mr. Tetrault discussed Tropical Storm Irene and the recovery process the State initiated to reconstruct the roads and bridges impacted throughout the State. 146 State road segments and 34 State bridges were closed for a total of 531 miles following this storm.

VTITE now has a group page on LinkedIn. We currently have 42 "members".

The faces on our board have changed slightly. The following were elected to the VTITE board: President – Jenny Austin, Vice President – Derek Woolridge, Secretary/Treasurer – Jennifer Conley, Member at Large – David Roberts, and VTrans Liason – Jon Kaplan.

NHITE Chapter Update

By: David DeBaie



NHITE spring meeting at NHDOT featured a presentation by Tom Cooper of Rhythm Engineering on Adaptive Traffic Control and some ski time with Tom later at Pats Peak. NEITE's Emerging Professionals Group led by Jason DeGray hosted a successful meeting at the NHDOT Traffic Management Center with the gracious guidance of Denise Markow of NHDOT. Following that meeting both the emerging and reemerging socialized at the Common Man.

On June 14th, NHITE will host the joint New Hampshire Chapter/ Maine Chapter/ New England Section meeting at the Roundabout Diner on the Portsmouth NH Traffic Circle. FHWA's Keith Harrison will present a Human Factors workshop for day program and also speak at dinner on recent changes to the AASHTO "Green Book" and Roadside Design Guide.

RIITE Chapter Update

By: Nate Urso



Meetings/Activities

The RIITE held monthly board meetings on the following dates: April 11, 2012 and May 9, 2012. RIITE has addressed many business activities within this time period including the following: The chapter is proposing a number of revisions to the Chapter Bylaws including eligibility of members and officers and officer election procedures. The Chapter continued to work toward developing a Scholarship. We hope to have the framework for the scholarship finished this month. The Chapter Roundabout Task Force did not meet during this period. The Student Chapter committee continued to reach out to college engineering students at the University of Rhode Island (see events below).

Events/Webinars On April 24, 2012 RIITE officers visited a University of Rhode Island Traffic Engineering class. Officers presented a couple transportation projects they were involved in and answered questions from students. On May 24, 2012 RIITE hosted our Spring Social Event at Town Hall Lanes in Johnston, RI. It was a fun night of duckpin bowling for all officers and members.

MAITE Chapter Update

By: Steven C. Findlen



MAITE continues to hold our meetings on the first Monday of the month. We recently began holding our meetings via conference calls that has resulted in better attendance. We also continue to recruit new members. MAITE continues the process of updating our logo. The board is currently reviewing entries and hoping to have a new logo in place by July 1, 2012. MAITE has also begun the process of setting up a Scholarship, with the hopes of finalizing this year, and announcing our first winner at our Annual Meeting in September 2013. The award will be given a professional in transportation engineering with 0-5 years of experience while pursuing an advanced degree in related field on a full-time or part-time basis. MAITE is also working closely with NEITE towards updating current Bylaws and the Charter to incorporate a few changes including elections and the establishment of a new Scholarship. MAITE recently assisted with the NEITE March 2012 Edition and will continue to work with the editors, McMahon Associates, on the June issue to repeat the goal of getting out four issues in 2012.

Future Meetings/Activities in 2012

The Annual September Meeting with NEITE has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Waltham, MA. Details are currently being worked out with more information to follow.

MAITE is working with BSCES-Transportation Group to schedule an upcoming joint event in the fall at the Radisson 57.

Possible upcoming webinars with RIITE at McMahon Associates office in Taunton, MA.



2012 Chronicle Sponsors



A full service transportation engineering firm specializing in:

- Traffic Engineering
- Dams & Water Resources
- Transportation Planning
- Land Surveying
- Highways
- Data Collection
- Transit
- Highway Safety
- ITS/Signals
- GIS & Custom Software Development
- Structures
- IT Managed Services



www.mcmtrans.com • Boston, MA: 617-556-0000 • Taunton, MA: 508-823-2245

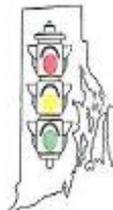


Gordon R. Archibald, Inc.
Civil and Environmental Engineers

Traffic Engineering - Transportation Planning
Highway Engineering - Bridge Engineering - Site Design
Environmental Permitting - Site Assessment & Remediation
www.gracrgs.com

200 Main Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

(401) 726-4084
Fax (401) 728-1533



OCEAN STATE SIGNAL CO.

William P. McNamara

27 Thurber Blvd. • Smithfield, RI 02917
Tel: 401-231-6780 • Fax: 401-231-4390
email: billmc@oceanstatesignal.com

To Advertise, please contact Claire Choquette at
cchoquette@oceanstatesignal.com

A.C.T.S.
Automated Counts
& Traffic Surveys inc.



STEPHEN C. SHAW

2 Burchard Ave., Little Compton, R.I. 02837
Phone/Fax (401) 635-1650



ELECTRIC LIGHT

COMPANY INC.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS- SALES AND INSTALLATION
24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

ONE MORGAN WAY
CAPE NEDDICH, ME 03902
207-361-1234

KEITH MORGAN
PRESIDENT
FAX: 207-361-2017



Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates, Inc.
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS • EFFECTIVE PARTNERING

38 Chauncy Street, 9th Fl. Boston, MA 02111
11 Hanover Square, 3rd Fl. Boston, MA 02111
† 617.482.7080 † 917.399.0489



Proudly Serving New England for 25 Years

www.hs-hsa.com

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STRATEGIC PLANNING CIVIL ENGINEERING

Thank You for the Support



Innovative Data, LLC.
WBE & DBE Certified in
Massachusetts

Beth A. Knodler
President

Traffic & Pedestrian Data Collection

P.O. Box 468 (P) 413.668.5094
Belchertown, MA 01007 (F) 413.485.7340
Beth@innovativedatalc.com www.innovativedatalc.com



New England Traffic Solutions
Claudio Vecchiarino

Integrator and Supplier

Office: 860-633-1768
Mobile: 860-798-4769
Fax: 860-633-1796

160 Oak Street, Unit 410
Glastonbury, CT 06033

www.newenglandtrafficsolutions.com
Email: claudio@netrafficsolutions.com

Tighe & Bond
Consulting Engineers • Environmental Specialists

Traffic / Parking / Signals / Calming
Highways / Roundabouts



www.tighebond.com

Middletown, CT 860-704-4760
Pocasset, MA 508-864-7285
Portsmouth, NH 603-433-8818
Shelton, CT 203-712-1100
Westfield, MA 413-562-1600
Worcester, MA 508-754-2201



2012 Chronicle Sponsors


TrafInfo
 Communications, Inc.
Sudhir Murthy, PE, PTOE
 President
 10 Tower Office Park
 Suite 301
 Woburn, MA 01801
 Tel: (888) 710-5380 Ext 101
 sudhir.murthy@trafinfo.com


Wai
 Transportation Engineers & Planners
 10 New England Business Center Drive - Suite 314
 Andover, MA 01810-1066
 Office: 978-474-8800 x830
 Mobile: 508-414-7824
 Email: jdirk@rdva.com
 www.rdva.com

Jeffrey S. Dirk, P.E., PTOE
 Vice President

To Advertise, please contact Claire Choquette at
cchoquette@oceanstatesignal.com


BETA
 ENGINEERING SUCCESS TOGETHER
FRANK J. ROMEO, P.E.
 PRESIDENT
 P: 401.333.2382
 E: FRomeo@BETA-inc.com
 W: www.BETA-inc.com
 6 Blackstone Valley Place, Suite 101, Lincoln, RI 02865

TEPP LLC
 TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING,
 PLANNING AND POLICY
Kim Eric Hazarvarlian, Ph.D., P.E., P.T.O.E.
 Principal
 93 Stiles Road, Suite 201, Salem NH 03079
 800 Turnpike Street, Suite 300, North Andover MA 01845
 Phone (603) 212-9133 and Fax (603) 226-4108
 Email keh@teppllc.com and Web www.teppllc.com


Nitsch Engineering
 186 Lincoln Street, Suite 200
 Boston, MA 02111
 617-338-0063
 www.nitscheng.com
 Civil Engineering Land Surveying Transportation Engineering
 Sustainable Site Consulting Planning GIS
 Contact: Fayssal Husseini, PE, fhusseini@nitscheng.com

Thank You for the Support

David P. Bartolini, P.E.
 Vice President

Marlin Controls, Inc.
 "For all your Traffic
 Signal Needs"
 36 Federal Road
 Danbury, CT 06810
 Tel: (203) 743-6231
 Fax: (203) 743-9011
 Email: davidbartolini@marlin-controls.com
 Web Site: www.marlin-controls.com

**FAY, SPOFFORD &
 THORNDIKE**
 Transportation Planning
 Engineering & Operations

 5 Burlington Woods - Burlington, MA 01803
 1.800.835.8666 - www.fstinc.com



Executive Board Corner

By: Jeffrey S. Dirk, P.E., PTOE, FITE

On April 10, 2012, the Connecticut Chapter hosted the Executive Board of the New England Section at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. The meeting was held in conjunction with the 8th Annual Transportation Student Symposium which showcased the diverse transportation and human factors research activities being conducted by graduate students throughout the northeast.

NEITE President Kien Ho welcomed the Executive Board to the first full Board meeting of the year. Kien updated the Board on progress toward continuing circulation of four editions of the Chronicle, with the first edition of 2012 published in March. Kien has nominated the Chronicle for consideration for the newsletter award by ITE International. The Section's Annual Report of activities for 2011 was compiled by Past President Joe Balskus and submitted to the Northeastern District Board. Kien will be working with Joe to update the Section Directory for publication on the Section's website.

NEITE Vice President Joe Segale provided an updated calendar of meetings and events for 2012. Please be sure to check the NEITE website for a current list of meetings and events, contact information for Section and State Chapter officers and committee chairs, meeting registration forms, and information about the 2013 Northeastern District Annual Meeting, including consultant and vendor sponsorship opportunities.

NEITE Treasurer Peter Vasiliou provided a report on the Section's finances through April 5, 2012. After reconciling income and expenses from the 2011 NEITE Annual Meeting, the Section began February 2012 with a balance of approximately \$37,623. Net income for the reporting period was \$1,250, which included \$1,000 received from the Northeastern District for Student Chapter support. Total expenses for this period totaled \$8,540, which included \$5,000 for planning activities associated with the 2013 Northeastern District Annual Meeting and \$1,300 for the Section's sponsorship of the Transportation Student Symposium. After accounting for income and expenses through April 5, 2012, Peter reported that the Section's account balance was \$30,333.

Kim Hazarvartian, Chair of the Charter and By-Laws Committee, reported on recommended revisions to the Section by-laws to allow for electronic balloting and to update the procedure to amend the by-laws. These revisions have been under study for the past year and will be submitted to the Section membership for enactment once approved by the Executive Board. Kim has also been assisting the State Chapters in reviewing and updating their by-laws for consistency with ITE policies and procedures and the Section's by-laws; in particular, the ability of non-ITE International members to participate on a State Chapter Board. The Executive Board will vote at its June meeting on the recommended changes to the Section by-laws.

The Executive Board reviewed funding requests from the UMass Amherst, UConn and Northeastern University Student Chapters for activities related to Student Chapter initiatives. These activities are funded through a grant from the Northeastern District and administered by the Section.

Joe Balskus, Co-Chair of the 2013 Northeastern District Annual Meeting, provided an update on planning for the 2013 Northeastern District Annual Meeting which will be held in Northampton, Massachusetts. The meeting logo has been created and promotional materials are being developed for dissemination at the 2012 Northeastern District Annual Meeting in Lake Placid. Sam Gregorio has set-up the meeting website which will be updated with event information and sponsorship opportunities.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2012 at the Roundabout Diner/Wynwood Suites Hotel at the Portsmouth Traffic Circle in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Maine and New Hampshire Chapters. A reminder that Board meetings are open to all members, so please plan to attend and participate in Section governance and activities.



Where are they now?

Interview with Herb Levinson

By: Ken Petraglia

Herb Levinson has had a career that anyone would be proud of...and he's still going! During our conversation I was fighting just to keep up with his accomplishments. I did have the pleasure of meeting Herb once before, when I moderated a session in which Herb was presenting. I was thrilled then, and again now to speak with him. Herb began his career in 1949 as a Jr. Traffic Engineer working for the Chicago Park District on various projects investigating changes to one-way street systems, channelization, turn restrictions, and signal coordination.

Two and a half years later, after a year at the Yale Bureau, Herb began a twenty-eight year stint with Wilbur Smith Associates, where his diverse assignments initially included traffic signal design, shopping district planning, access planning and impact studies. Some early projects of particular interest include: the original traffic study of the Prudential Center in Boston; the New Haven Downtown Traffic Study, and redesign of Canal Street in New Orleans. A point of interest is that Herb introduced the use of mastarms to the State of Connecticut. He later prepared landmark transportation and parking studies for the Automobile Manufacturers Association, and the pioneer NCHRP reports on Bus Use of Highways.

In 1980 Herb formed his own company and his list of impressive projects continued. He worked for the World Bank, the United Nations, and the Singapore Redevelopment Authority, as well as cities throughout the United States. Herb worked on the Bus-Rapid Transit Plan for New York City. He also prepared about a dozen NCHRP and TCRP reports and prepared chapters for several ITE handbooks.

Some of Herb's earliest challenges was trying to convince clients that traffic engineering techniques really work. He is very proud of his ability to evolve, as he transitioned into transit and planning to keep up with changing approaches to transportation.

One of the changes he has seen in transportation is the changing attitudes, increased vacillation and, perhaps, indifference. Herb also noted the change in attitudes from an emphasis on highways to public transportation.

Herb has literally more than 200 publications and has earned so many awards that we can only present a sample:

Honorary Member of ITE, 1997

Transportation Engineer of the Year, 1976. New England Section, Institute of Transportation Engineers.

Presidential Design Award for Excellence, 1988.

(Member of Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation Team)

Benjamin Wright Award, Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers Section,

American Society of Civil Engineers, 1993.

Member, National Academy of Engineering, 1994.

Theodore M. Matson Award, Institute of Transportation Engineers, 1997.

Wilbur S. Smith Award, American Society of Civil Engineers, 1997.

Francis C. Turner, Lecture

American Society of Civil Engineers, 2003

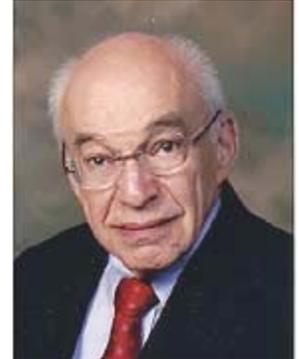
Ivor S. Wispart Award, Metropolitan New York and New Jersey Section,

Institute of Transportation Engineering, 2009.

Herb has been an Icon Mentor at City College of NY for more than a decade, and is a member of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering.

Herb now considers himself "half retired". He is currently helping to write a book on traffic congestion. He likes to play chess and bridge. He and his wife, Sally, have two sons and two grandchildren.

Please understand that, unless I took up the entire *Chronicle*, I could only summarize an amazing career!



"I worked on Traffic Impact Studies before most even knew what they were."



Emerging Professionals Group (EPG) Summary

By: Jason DeGray

The Emerging Professionals Group held two very successful event during the month of May. On May 2nd the EPG once again co-sponsored the Boston Chapter of the [Young Professionals in Transportation's](#) Distinguished Speaker Series. Building on the success of last year, which featured a discussion with then Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation and MassDOT CEO Jeffrey Mullan, this event has quickly become a must attend annual gathering of transportation professionals and students from various backgrounds. This year we were privileged to be addressed by Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. Approximately 100 attendees representing, engineers, planners, students and transportation advocates were on hand to listen to the Lt Governor share his perspective on the Commonwealth's transportation policies, infrastructure, and investment strategies followed by a lengthy Q&A session. Along with YPT this event was also co-sponsored by the [Boston Society of Civil Engineers](#) and the [Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association](#). Dinner was catered by the [Haley House](#), a non-profit organization in Dudley Square that offers support and job training to individuals transitioning out of homelessness.



"Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray speaks to attendees at the May 2, 2012 event"



On May 17th the EPG was pleased to hold our first event ever in the State of New Hampshire. With the assistance of the New Hampshire Chapter of ITE and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation approximately 20 attendees were able to tour NHDOT's Transportation Management Center (TMC) in Concord, NH. The TMC is the department's statewide communication and traffic operations center. The TMC, as part of the state's Incident Planning and Operation Center, was opened in 2007 and serves as the core of the department's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), which includes several Road Weather Information Systems (RWIS), portable and permanent Changeable Message Signs (CMS), Smart

Work Zones, Variable Speed Limits (VSL), and transportation security systems. Operators at the TMC monitor key transportation systems around the clock, collecting real time travel information and disseminating pertinent information back to the motorist via 5-1-1, CMS, and various media outreach options. The EPG would like to thank Denise Markow, TMC/ITS Project Manager, who served as our guide for the tour. Denise provided valuable insight into the inner workings of this sophisticated emergency management and operations center. Tour participants represented various age and experience levels, including both NEITE members and non-members and representatives of private consulting firms as well as public agencies. The event was followed by a social gathering at the Common Man in Concord.

Based on the feedback of all involved, both events were a tremendous success; thank you to all who participated. The NEITE Emerging Professionals Group is actively planning upcoming events. Be on the lookout for future emails. As always EPG events are open to non-NEITE members. Our events serve as a great introduction to the ITE community; please consider encouraging any prospective members to attend EPG events in the future. If anybody has any ideas or comments concerning the Emerging Professionals Group please contact Jason DeGray at jdegray@beta-inc.com.



Transportation Student Symposium Highlights

By: Ranjit A. Bhave

The 8th Annual Transportation Student Symposium was organized jointly by Connecticut Chapter of ITE and the UConn ITE Student Chapter on April 10, 2012 at UConn Campus in Storrs, CT. More than 100 professionals and students participated in the symposium. The board meeting of NEITE Section was also conducted concurrently at the same venue.

Students representing University of Connecticut, University of Rhode Island, University of Massachusetts, and Northeastern University presented their research findings in technical sessions.

Mr. Thomas Harley, Chief Engineer, Connecticut Department of Transportation was the lunch keynote speaker. Mr. Harley spoke about DOT's plans of incorporating sustainable design elements in future projects.

The UConn Student Chapter organized bike and bus tours to various projects in the campus.

Mr. Mark N. Paquette, Executive Director of the Windham Region Council of Governments and Ms. Mary Ellen Kowalewski, Director of Policy and Planning for the Capitol Region Council of Governments were dinner keynote speakers. The speakers spoke about sustainable development initiatives of their respective agencies.

The following ITE Connecticut Chapter annual awards were awarded at the symposium:

2011 Service to Chapter Award- Robert Aloise, P.E.

2011 Transportation Leadership Award – Thomas Harley, P.E.

2011 Past Presidents Award – Michael Dion, P.E., PTOE

2011 Transportation Achievement Award – Steven Mitchell, P.E.

2012 Inaugural Scholarship – Kelly Bertolaccini



A few highlights of the 8th Annual Student Symposium held at the UCONN campus in Storrs, CT



ITE Northeastern District Annual Meeting

By: Joseph Balskus



ITE Northeastern District Annual Meeting 2012 Lake Placid

The Upstate New York Section hosted the Northeastern District Annual Meeting at the end of May in bucolic Lake Placid during a stretch of 3 days of the most beautiful weather for May in Lake Placid. The meeting was held on a prominent hill overlooking the village and Mirror Lake at the Crowne Plaza hotel, with Whiteface Mountain in the distance, ski jumps and bob sleds to the south. An unusual sight of winter sports venues during the beautiful summer like weather.

The meeting was successful with over 120 attendees registered at the far away meeting (at least for many New Englanders), nine technical sessions, an all day training course on Wednesday with companion tours, bike tours and golfing available to those who were fortunate to have some fun while others like myself tried to remain billable!

The welcome reception was held at the restaurant adjacent to the hotel perched on the hill over Mirror Lake and a terrific view during the reception. The annual banquet was a hit with a full room and a terrific awards presentation, with meeting co-chair Don Adams winning the prestigious Harvey Boutwell award. Hopefully as a sign for the future 2013 meeting, the District awarded the New England Section the Section of the year award, deserved by those in the Section who worked hard last year to make it another successful year. Thanks to my predecessors who laid the foundation for a successful year as well as the NEITE team. The banquet keynote speaker was a local Lake Placidite, an ironman who talked about the Lake Placid Olympics as well as iron man competitions held there every year. I noticed during the day there were wannabe iron men training in Mirror Lake.

The meeting was a great meeting, supported by the way the time flew by during the event. Exhibitors were happy with the foot traffic during the exhibitions and the students were able to present their posters. And finally, the traffic bowl, led by past ITE international president and past upstate NY president Steve Gayle, the NEITE section was knocked out by the Metro Section after beating the upstate section in the preliminary round.

The meeting served as another testbed for the co-chairs of the 2013 Northampton meeting with copious notes taken by yours truly, including the dramatic district board meeting where the planning for 2013 and 2014 meetings collided in discussion! All is well and we are off and running down the homestretch for Northampton!

The 2013 Northampton meeting had a booth in the exhibit area showcasing the planning for the event and highlighting the events scheduled. The meeting co-chairs were at the booth and dressed in their Local Arrangement Committees polo shirts complete iwht the 2013 meeting logo.

*Participants at the Annual Meeting
enjoyed a bike tour*

