



Letter from the President

It's hard to believe that there are only three programs left for the 2006-2007 ITE year! This month, please make a point of attending our joint program with the ITS Washington Chapter. ITE's District 6 President will be joining us – I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to connect with ITE beyond our chapter, as well as show what a great chapter we have!



*Kerensa Swanson
WA Section President*

May promises to hold an innovative student program, with this year's student presentations focusing on their ideas for implementing traffic calming solutions to a given problem. The Student Activities Committee has worked hard to provide a program that will be of interest to both students and professionals, and I encourage you to attend and engage with students at this event. Special

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ITE Washington Section/ITS Joint Section Meeting

SPEAKERS Robin Mayhew, PSRC

Michael Forbis, WSDOT

TOPICS Robin Mayhew — Active Traffic Management

Michael Forbis — Traffic Busters Program

LOCATION Maggiano's

Downtown Bellevue

10455 NE 8th Street

Bellevue, WA 98004

(425) 519-6476

- Free Parking underneath Lincoln Center
- Easy Walk from the Bellevue Transit Center

DATE Tuesday, April 17

TIME 11:30 a.m.

COST Payable by cash or check to "ITE Washington Section"

ITE members: \$30

Students: \$5

MENU

Appetizers: Mushroom Ravioli al Forno, Crispy Zucchini Fritte

Salad: Caesar, Italian

Pasta: Four Cheese Ravioli al Pesto with Alfredo Sauce, Lasagna Marinara Sauce

Entrees: J. Cammarrari's Roast Chicken, Fresh Fish of the Day

Desserts: N.Y. Style Cheesecake, Chocolate Zuccotto Balls

RSVP By Thursday, April 12 to Iris Cabrera at
ITERegistration@ci.kirkland.wa.us

(Continued from page 1)

thanks to the City of Bothell for helping with the real-life project assignment.

Last week, I received the formal application from folks in the Spokane area to form a Chapter within our Washington State Section. The board will be reviewing the application over the coming month, and I am very excited to see the Section grow and improve our ability to meet members' needs in this way. Please join me at our June program – the Annual Meeting, to be held in Yakima, where we will be sure to incorporate a welcoming party for the new Chapter.

Other activities for the end of the year include distributing a new directory in the coming months. Please get your updates in to the membership committee ASAP (Jan Ciganik or Hidemi Tsuru). And we will wrap up the year with our annual golf tournament and awards, recognizing the many contributions that go into making all of the Section's activities a success.

I wish everyone a very happy springtime and look forward to seeing you at the April program.

Sincerely,
Kerensa Swanson,
President, ITE Washington Section

How to become a Member of ITE:

"When becoming a first time local member of the Washington State Section of ITE, fill out the application online at <http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm> (Click on the "Membership" link) and send a check for the annual dues to the Membership Chair. Once the Membership Chair receives the application and annual dues, he/she will forward this information to the ITE National Headquarters in Washington, DC. For subsequent years, each member will be billed for his/her annual local dues by the ITE National Headquarters. If you are interested in becoming a National and District member as well, contact ITE National directly to fill out an application form (<http://www.ite.org/>)."





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Seattle, Washington

Phone: 206.251.0300
markskaggs@alltrafficdata.net



JOHN LINDSAY

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Cell: (360) 239-6005
E-mail trafficcount@msn.com

Debbie Wick, P.E., PTOE
President



6830 NE Bothell Way, Ste C411
Kenmore, WA 98028

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(f) 206-440-0757

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“The Campus Corner”

By Scott Lee, Jamal Mahmoud, and Megan Powers

The event you all have been waiting for all year...the student night is fast approaching! This year we will have a new format for student night. All students participating will be developing a solution to a traffic calming issue in Bothell, WA. Students will design poster boards of their results to discuss with professionals in an open forum, followed by a brief presentation displaying their findings. The event will be held on Tuesday, May 15th in the evening at Rock Salt on Lake Union. More details about the event will be sent with the invitation in April.

Students, you can find information about the competition at www.westernite.org/Sections/washington.

Fundraising efforts continue with an additional \$155 dollars being added to the fund this month, thanks to those who participated in the Mariner Ticket raffle at the March ITE meeting. Our current total for fundraising this year is \$3,750.

Washington Section student scholarship applications have been submitted and are being reviewed. We will announce winners in the next addition of Campus Corner.

2006-2007 Washington ITE Membership Directory

Preparation of the 2007/2008 Washington Section Membership Directory is underway! We are working to update contact information for our members and solicit advertisers for the directory. If you have changes in your contact information please update the Membership Committee; more information is available on the ITE Washington Section website under the membership tab. A limited number of full page color advertisements will be available as well as black and white advertisements in full page, half page, quarter page, and business card sizes. The advertisements in the directory are used to offset the cost of directory reproduction. We hope to keep the advertisement rate the same as the previous directory. We will be able to confirm advertisement costs when we have a better idea of advertising interest. If you are interested in advertising, please contact Matt Nolan of the Directory Committee (matthew.nolan@metrokc.gov) for more information.

2006-2007 Washington ITE Monthly Meeting Calendar

ITE Washington Section programs generally occur on the second Tuesday of each month. The following dates and program topics are currently planned:

April 17	Tuesday	Luncheon	Joint Meeting with ITS
May 15	Tuesday	Dinner	Student Night
June 11	Tuesday	Annual Meeting	Annual Meeting Program
July 15-18	Sunday-Wednesday	District 6 Meeting	Full Program

Scribe Report

By Paul Cho, City of Redmond

Slowly driving through the under construction streets of downtown Seattle, I was in search of that elusive oasis; garage parking with 7'-0" clearance. Running late from a field meeting, I had kept the keys to the City Traffic Van, complete with light bar, rather than visiting the motor pool sign-out board and making the long trek to the designated parking stall. My options were limited, the van was too long to squeeze into those questionably adequate parking spaces, and too tall to drive into a garage without colliding into 6'-0" caution bars.



Once I was deceived into a 7'-6" garage only to find a cash payment-only box and no attendant. At \$15 for two hours of storage, \$10 cash in my pocket and no available receipt for reimbursement, this was hardly a good option. But finally after my three trips around the block and countless questionable turning movements and lane changes, I had found a parallel parking space with a two hour limit. My exempt license plate affording a free pass for two hours, I started my five block journey to this month's section meeting at the Seattle Public Library knowing that I had wasted 25 minutes in order to save 10.

Had I taken the time to grab the keys to a passenger car with its sub-six foot clearance, numerous garage facilities including the one at the meeting building would have been at my disposal. With 15 minutes salvaged, I would have been able to find my seat without interrupting the meeting. Add a point for proper trip planning.

This was a good lesson to experience right before listening to the two keynote speakers, Dave Hopkins (WSDOT) and Mark Johnson (Sound Transit,) at this month's meeting on Regional Transportation Investment District's (RTID) latest plan. Road and Transit is a joint effort by Sound Transit and RTID to create the first-ever integrated set of highway, bridge and transit improvements for the Snohomish, King and Pierce counties with a goal to fix the region's worst traffic chokepoints and to connect the three counties' busiest population and job centers with effective mass transit.

With right choices early on, the long term benefits to the region amounts to real transportation choices. We can choose the balance point between flexibility and predictability of varying modes of travel with something for everyone.

Ask the average citizen what is important for the government to tackle, and traffic congestion will be the most popular response. Yet when it comes to funding these packages, we all turn our pockets inside out and shake our heads. With a 13 year lapse in tax/revenue for investments in the region, we've been enjoying our roads without putting away for replacements and additions. Most tax payers, willing to pay for less congestion and more travel options, don't realize how much ground must be made up. A strong educational campaign will be the key to its success.

The \$6.7 Billion investment package would be funded by two sources: a 0.1 percent local sales-and-use tax; and an excise tax of \$80 on every \$10,000 of value of a vehicle. This will be a shock to many people that have grown accustomed to the cheap vehicle renewal; again, unaware of the lack of investments to support our regional growth.

In light of the red-hot political battle between excise tax and gas tax, information to the public that distinguishes RTID projects against "Nickel" and "9.5 cent" gas tax projects will be crucial. Just as critical, an explanation of the constraints involved in funding sources and why the two proposed sources were chosen needs to be available before the Roads & Transit package goes to ballot in November.

Reminder Call for Abstracts
2007 ITE Washington Section Annual Meeting
June 11, 2007, Yakima, WA

This year's Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament for the Washington State Section of ITE is shaping up to be an event you won't want to miss. The date is June 11, 2007 (June 12th for the Golf Tournament) in the City of Yakima. The location is the Red Lion Hotel Yakima Center. Call 1.800.733.5466 or direct to the Hotel at 509.248.5900 for reservations. For those spending the night, the room rates are guaranteed at \$75.95 for single or double occupancy (\$60 for government employees with ID of employment) and \$85.95 for 3 or more occupants (\$80 government rate, confirm at time of reservation).

The abstracts submitted for presentations offer something for everyone and currently include among others:

- Traffic Simulation
- Non-motorized Level of Service
- Concurrency
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Metropolitan and Regional Plans
- Roadway Dieting



If you have a different topic to share, or have a project or presentation to complement one of the topics above, please submit an abstract for consideration. We look forward to an informational meeting and we're counting on our membership to share their great experiences to be successful. Thank you in advance for your participation! Don't forget about the fantastic lunch and keynote speaker, and a poolside BBQ on Monday evening!

Abstracts should include title of paper, author/presenter(s), contact phone number and email address. Please keep abstract description to one (1) page in length. All abstract submittals should be forwarded to Sherman Goong at:

Email: sherman.goong@ci.bothell.wa.us
Fax: (425) 486-2489
Mail: c/o City of Bothell Public Works
9654 NE 182nd Street
Bothell, WA 98011

Newsletter Contact Info

If you have any changes in your contact information, please let us know so you continue to receive monthly ITE e-mail announcements and newsletters. To update your information, click on the "Membership" link on the Washington State Section ITE website: <http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm>

Legislative Update

By Mark Bandy, WSDOT

It's March 2007 and spring is in the air, which in the legislature means we're past the deadline for non-budget bills to be out of committee so it's a good time to give you a taste of what's out there. And while not finalized, we also have indications of what the state's two year transportation budget will look like.

About the budget...both houses had to deal with rising construction costs. At this point they appear to remain committed to all of the projects identified in the previous funding packages (2003 Nickel and 2005 TPA). The Senate went above that by putting forth a proposal to completely fund the SR 520 bridge replacement. We'll have to wait and see if that commitment is in the final budget.

Continuing with SR 520 for a moment, ESSB 6099 passed out of committee. This bill is the one that would require a mediation process and the development of an "expansion impact plan" for the SR 520 project. The plan would be due back to the legislature before the 2008 session.

A couple of bills on regional issues have made it out of committee. First is the bill regarding the fall vote for Sound Transit and RTID. This bill results in a single ballot question seeking approval of both plans [SHB 1396], thereby simplifying the pass/fail check. The second bill [ESSB 5803] is a proposal for changing the way transportation governance and funding is done within our region. In short the bill would create a regional transportation commission with responsibility for planning, prioritizing, and financing regional road and transit projects. Clearly this would be a major change in the way transportation business is conducted around here, and an item that many of us are tracking.

Two minor bills that I thought might be of interest to you have to do with driver training and stolen property. SHB 1588 would require that driver training programs emphasize sharing the road with bicycles and pedestrians and that biking, walking, and transit are mobility options. SSB 5312 deals with stolen property. "How is this related to ITE?" you ask. Well, the bill is about stolen metal property, as in copper wire among other items. Several agencies and contractors have been experiencing theft of this material. This bill would require salvage yards to obtain detailed documentation from individuals that wish to salvage this type of material.

Among the bills that didn't live past the cutoff are SSB 5083 and SSJR 8208. The first would have allowed the use of photo speed enforcement within work zones on state highways. The second was a joint resolution proposing to amend the state Constitution so that toll facility or corridor revenue would be used solely for that facility or corridor. While these bills aren't going anywhere this session, I would expect that we'll see these issues continuing to be discussed in future legislative sessions.

I'll wrap up with a quick story about legislation from abroad. I was recently in Scotland and England, and while there, the controlling party released their budget proposal. Being "green" was certainly part of the discussion and was seen in the form of an increased annual tax on 4x4 vehicles and tax credits for those that invest in household energy reduction. Reminded me of debates back here.



WA Section ITE Board

President

Kerensa Swanson Fromherz
The Transpo Group
11730 118th Avenue NE, S 600
Kirkland, WA 98034
425.821.3665
425.825.8434 Fax
kerensas@thetranspogroup.com

Vice President/ Treasurer

David R. Alm
INCA Engineers
400 112th Ave NE, Suite 400
Bellevue, WA 98004
425.635.1000
425.635.1150 Fax
d.alm@incainc.com

Secretary

Nick W. Ching
HNTB
600 - 108th Ave NE, Suite 405
Bellevue, WA 98004
Direct: (425) 456-8551
Fax: (425) 456-8600
nching@hntb.com

Past President

Seyed Safavian
City of Bothell
9654 NE 182nd Street
Bothell, WA 98011
425.486.2768
425.486.2489 Fax
seyed.safavian@ci.bothell.wa.us



c/o Nick W. Ching
HNTB
600 - 108th Ave NE, Suite 405
Bellevue, WA 98004
Direct: (425) 456-8551
Fax: (425) 456-8600
nching@hntb.com