



CAPITAL AREA SECTION



May 2009

Volume 10, Issue 4

MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING

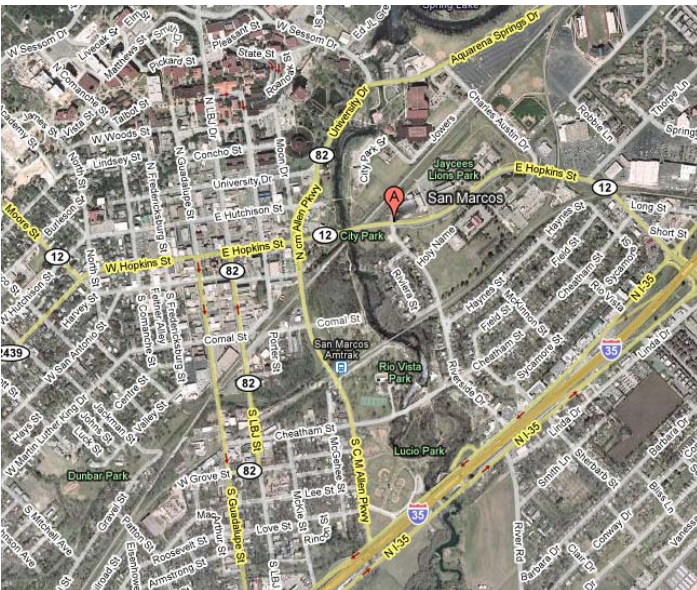
The April meeting was held on April 3rd, 2009 at the City's Barton Springs Road offices. Our speaker was Robert Spillar, P.E., director of the City of Austin's newly created Transportation Department. Rob spoke about his ideas for transportation in Austin.

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING TexITE CAPITAL AREA SECTION AND SOUTH TEXAS SECTION

Friday, May 22, 2009, 11:00 am
At

City of San Marcos Activity Center, Room 1
501 E. Hopkins
San Marcos, TX 78666

See RSVP information on Page 3



Current Officers

Please contact any of the following officers, if you have questions about the Capital Area Section, TexITE, or ITE.

Gordon Derr President, 974-7228

Gordon.Derr@ci.austin.tx.us

Alex Reyna, Vice-President, 328-0011

areyna@burypartners.com

Alan Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer, 974-7202

Alan.Hughes@ci.austin.tx.us

David Carey, Section Representative, 837-8420

David.Carey@siemens.com

Doug Skowronek, Past President, 416-3247

DSkowro@dot.state.tx.us

The Section Secretary-Treasurer can provide you with a National membership application and the local section application is printed at the end of every newsletter.

ITE Website Addresses

If you are interested in the latest developments at ITE, check out the following websites:

- ITE – www.ite.org
- TexITE – www.texite.org

You can find section meeting information at this website: <http://www.texite.org/austin/mainaustin.htm>. Thanks to Isam Bandak for his continued work to maintain the ITE Capital Area Section website!

Next Meeting

May 22 Special Joint Section Meeting!!

Speakers

- John Barton, P.E., Assistant Executive Director for Engineering Operations, TXDOT
- Gary Gordon, Assistant Federal Security Director-Surface for the Transportation Security Administration, TSA

Next Capital Area Section Regular Meeting

- June 5 (Announcement via separate newsletter)

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Advertisements are a great way for us to support our Section. The cost is \$100 per year (or \$20 per newsletter issue) for a business card size space printed in each issue of the newsletter. If you are interested in advertising or if you have comments or questions, you may contact one of the officers.

About Our May Meeting and Speakers

There will be a lunch buffet for anyone interested and RSVP are currently being taken by the **South Texas Section** at www.texite.org/southtexas. The deadline to RSVP for the lunch is May 20th and the cost will be \$15 with reservations and \$20 without reservations. Meals cannot be guaranteed for those who do not RSVP. No shows will be billed and no refunds will be issued for online payments after May 20, 2009.

John A. Barton, P.E., is the Assistant Executive Director for Engineering Operations. He is responsible for management and control of the Aviation, Bridge, Construction, Design, Environmental, Maintenance, Right of Way, Traffic Operations Divisions and the Research and Technology Implementation Office. He assists in directing long- and short-range planning for the agency including the establishment of overall operating objectives and the technical merits of programs and policies.

He grew up in Archer City, attended college at Texas A&M University where he graduated with honors in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He then began working full time for the Texas Department of Transportation and now has over 23 years of service with TxDOT.

Barton began working for TxDOT as a summer employee in the Archer City Maintenance Section of the Wichita Falls District while in high school, and then began full time employment after graduating from Texas A&M. Like most TxDOT employees he has worn many hats during his time with TxDOT, ranging from construction project inspector and manager to area engineer, to district engineer, and now Assistant Executive Director for Engineering Operations.

Gary Gordon is Assistant Federal Security Director–Surface for the Transportation Security Administration’s Surface Transportation Security Inspection Program’s five-state South Central Region headquartered in Houston, TX. Prior to joining TSA, Mr. Gordon has more that 35 years of hands-on experience in the railroad and transportation industry. His experience includes Assistant Chief Engineer Design & Construction for the former Boston & Maine Railroad/Guilford Rail System, where he was responsible for the planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects on the railroad and the technical and safety oversight of construction and maintenance projects by

governmental agencies and other outside entities, such as utility companies, and Transportation Engineer for the former Interstate Commerce Commission, Washington, DC, where he provided engineering, operational and environmental input to railroad proceedings, such as abandonments and new line construction. As President/CEO and founder of a multidisciplinary transportation firm in Eastern Massachusetts, he provided the management and technical leadership for railroad and transportation system projects worldwide focusing on operations and infrastructure.

Mr. Gordon also served in the U.S. Army Reserve where he retired after 29 years of service at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel (LTC). His assignments included Senior Duty Officer and Liaison Officer with the U. S. Transportation Command, Scott AFB, IL, the former U.S. Army Military Traffic Management Command (now U.S Army Surface Deployment and Distribution Command), Ft. Eustis, VA, Company Commander and then Battalion Executive Officer for the 1205th Transportation Railway Operating Battalion, Middletown, CT, and at it’s mobilization site, the U.S. Army’s Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point, NC, and 7th Transportation Group (Tml), Ft. Eustis, VA. LTC (Ret.) Gordon deployed to Germany for Operation Allied Force, assisted in the Hurricane Mitch cleanup in El Salvador and inspected a portion of the Odessa Railroad in the Republic of Ukraine over which nuclear missiles were to be transported for dismantlement as part of the U.S. Defense Threat Department Agency’s Cooperative Threat Reduction Program. He also participated in the value engineering process as part of the preliminary development of rail mobilization facilities at Forts Hood, Bliss, Polk and Sill brought about buy the lessons learned from the first Gulf War, and prepared an operationally-focused inspection report of the rail deployment facilities at the four major Department of Defense facilities in Alaska – Forts Richardson and Wainwright, and Elmendorf and Eielson AFBs.

Mr. Gordon is a Registered Professional Engineer and holds a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering, and an MBA. Mr. Gordon is a member of the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association, where he serves on several technical committees, National Defense Transportation Association and Institute of Transportation Engineers.

Future Meetings

Tentative 2009 future meeting dates for your calendar are:

June 5, October 2, & December 4

If anyone has a suggestion for a meeting topic or would like to present a topic at a future meeting, please let one of the officers know.

ITE News

≡ **TextITE 2009 Summer Meeting & ITE 2009 Annual Meeting and Exhibit**

San Antonio, Texas
August 9-12, 2009

Henry B. Gonzalez
Convention Center



TextITE
Coordinator:
John Friebele

More information on this training opportunity can be found at:

<http://www.itstexas.org/Training/training-5-22-09.stm>

If you have news items, technical information, or up-coming events you would like to place in future newsletters, please send them to Alan Hughes at alan.hughes@ci.austin.tx.us

UT Student Chapter

If you would like to speak at one of the Student Chapter meetings, please contact their officers at utexasite@gmail.com.

Professional Development Hours (PDH)

As a reminder to all professional engineers, the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, Continuing Education Program rule requires 15 Professional Development Hours (PDH) per year for license renewal. At least 1 PDH must be in the area of professional ethics.

Attendance at each Capitol Area Section Meeting counts as one hour towards your 15 PDH requirement.

Section News

≡ **Training Opportunities**



ITS-Texas wants to let you know of a couple of training opportunities available. They are offering one-day seminars on [Fiber Optic Technology](#) on May 28 in Austin and [ACS Lite](#) on November 11 in Galveston.

Membership Information

Please print the following information about yourself:

General Information
Name (full name plus professional designation; i.e. PE, AICP, EIT, M.S., etc.):
Job Title and Employer: _____
Business Mailing Address: _____
Daytime Phone:
Daytime Fax:
E-mail Address:

ITE Membership Information
Please mark all that apply:
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a member of ITE
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a member of TexITE, the Texas Section of ITE
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like information on ITE membership

Send completed form to **Capital Area Section, c/o Alan Hughes, 505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 800, Austin, TX 78704** with \$5.00 annual dues payment, or bring it to the next section meeting.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

If you have a job posting that you would like to have included in the news letter please contact Alan Hughes at alan.hughes@ci.austin.tx.us.