

STITE Officers:

President

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City of McAllen
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Vice-President

Garry Ford, P.E., PTOE
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Secretary/Treasurer

Rob Belarmino, P.E.
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
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Section Representative

Marc Jacobson, P.E., PTOE
City of San Antonio
marc.jacobson@sanantonio.gov

Committee Chairs:

Membership: Rob Belarmino,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Website: Garry Ford,
City of San Antonio

Nominations: Rene Arredondo,
CEC Civil Engineering Consultants

Newsletter: Kerri Collins,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Student Liaison & Scholarship:
Mike Garza, Pate Engineers

Section News...

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
MARC JACOBSON !!!**

Marc Jacobson, City of San Antonio Traffic Management Division, and the current **STITE Section Representative**, was bestowed the **2009 TextITE Younger Member of the Year Award** at the International ITE Conference this month in San Antonio. Marc was nominated by **Gilmer Gaston, Texas District President-Elect** with substantial support and assistance from **Maggie Scheppers, City of San Antonio Traffic Management Division**. Gilmer presented Marc with the award at the annual Business Meeting. The photo below was taken by **Gary Thomas, TextITE International Director**.



STITE Student Scholarship Award News!!!

The recently formed STITE Scholarship Committee chaired by Mike Garza, Pate Engineers, announced that a Scholarship award in the amount of \$1,500.00 will be awarded to a UTSA engineering student. Interested candidates that meet the following criteria are encouraged to submit an application.

In this issue

SECTION NEWS

PAST MEETINGS

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Scholarship requirements:

- ✓ full-time UTSA Civil Engineering student
- ✓ 59 credit hours completed at time of application
- ✓ a minimum 2.5 GPA
- ✓ U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- ✓ STITE-UTSA Student Chapter members encouraged to apply
- ✓ Recipients encouraged to attend STITE Monthly Meetings
- ✓ Recipient will present transportation-related project at joint STITE/UTSA Student Chapter Meeting

Application requirements:

- ✓ COE General Scholarship application
- ✓ One page essay on student's career plans/goals and interest in the field of transportation engineering

Deadline:

- ✓ Check the COE web site
<http://engineering.utsa.edu>

For more information contact Mike Garza at OMGarza@pateeng.com



Gabriel was recognized as a 2009 TextITE Outstanding Student. One student is selected from each TextITE Student Chapter

STITE MAY LUNCH MEETING

FEATURED SPEAKERS:



JOHN A. BARTON, PE,
TxDOT

AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT



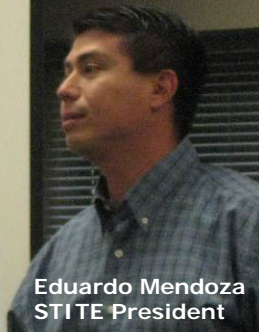
GARY A. GORDON, PE,
Transportation Security
Administration

THE TSA SURFACE PROGRAM & THE NEW REGULATIONS

The Section Presidents welcome attendees to the Joint Section Meeting



Gordon Derr
Capitol Area Section
President



Eduardo Mendoza
STITE President



Rob Belarmino
introduces Gary Gordon



Alex Reyna introduces
John Barton

The May 22nd STITE meeting was a joint meeting with the Capital Area Section held at the San Marcos Activity Center in the City of San Marcos. The meeting was attended by 54 members. Section Presidents, Gordon Derr, City of Austin and Eduardo Mendoza, City of Laredo, began the meeting with a warm welcome. Section business followed and John Friebele, Annual Meeting LAC Co-Chair, encouraged everyone to attend the annual meeting and provided an update on the technical tours and social events.

Alex Reyna, Capital Area Section Vice President, introduced the first speaker, John Barton, Assistant Executive Director for Engineering Operations, TxDOT. John discussed the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and project selection criteria. He reported Texas will receive over \$2.25 Billion in ARRA funds, creating about 90,000 jobs. Project timelines began on March 3, 2009 and all projects must be let for construction in March 2010 to qualify. John pointed out that pavement quality of the state's roads will decrease from a current 33% rated poor to 79% by 2012

"TEXAS' SHARE OF ARRA FUNDS IS \$2.25 BILLION."
John Barton

while congestion will continue to increase.

Rob Belarmino, STITE Section Secretary/Treasurer introduced the second speaker, Gary Gordon, Assistant Federal Security Director-Surface for the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Surface Transportation Inspection Program. Gary gave a brief history of the TSA Surface Program which was created in response to the Madrid bombings. The Mission of the program includes developing a faster relationship with the rail industry; working with other modes of transportation, and working closely with local,

state and federal entities to improve security and share information. Gary's program performs Transit Security Evaluations and Assessments. Gary discussed the highlights of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 which established enforcement authority, the Visible Intermodal Protection and Response (VIPR), and "fort-to-port" seamless security of rail movements.

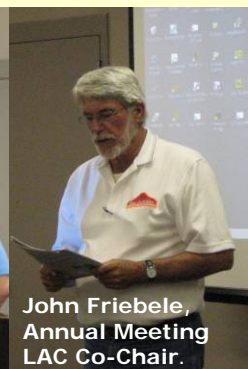
"THERE ARE MORE REGULATIONS TO COME" Gary Gordon



Gary Gordon presenting.



John Barton & Andy Ballard.



John Friebele,
Annual Meeting
LAC Co-Chair.

STITE JUNE LUNCH MEETING

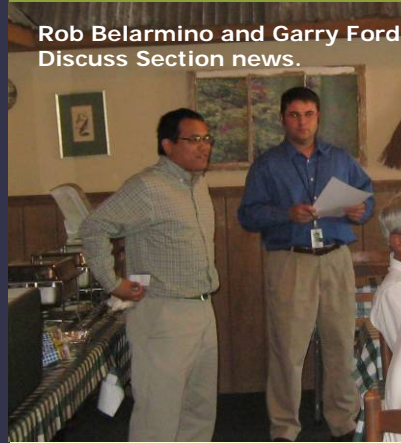
FEATURED SPEAKER:



HELEN VALKALVICH
City of San Antonio.

THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CODE OF ETHICS

Photos and Text from this meeting were provided by Rob Belarmino



Rob Belarmino and Garry Ford
Discuss Section news.



Helen Valkovich gives a presentation
on Ethics

The **June 24** meeting was held at Grady's Barbeque Restaurant. The meeting was a success with a total attendance of 43 members, non-members, and students. **John Friebele** and **George Human** campaigned for the two candidates for ITE International Vice President. The winner, **Robert Wunderlich**, was announced at the ITE 2009 Annual Meeting and Exhibit in San Antonio, TX.

Mike Garza of Pate Engineers gave an update on the college scholarship and was looking for volunteers to form the scholarship committee. **Gabe Curiel** of the UTSA ITE Student Chapter informed the group that they are currently writing their constitution. **Rob Belarmino, STITE Secretary/Treasurer** reported a current account balance of \$4707.20.

Following Section Business, **Garry Ford, STITE Vice President**, introduced the speaker **Helen Valkovich** of the City of San Antonio (City). Helen provided information on the City of San Antonio Code of Ethics, which "establishes the standards of conduct, disclosure requirements, and enforcement mechanisms relating to city officials and employees and others whose actions inevitably affect the public faith in city government." She defined what a lobbyist is and what they do, and which officials they can lobby. She also indicated that contractors and lobbyists "cannot contact City officials or

employees regarding an RFP, RFQ or other solicitation notice until the item is posted on the City Council agenda". This is known as the "Cone of Silence".

Any person seeking to do business with the City must fill out the Discretionary Contracts Form which discloses any political contributions greater than \$100 within the past two years made to a current or former City Council member or to any political action committee.


Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code indicates that vendors and contractors must submit a "conflict of interest questionnaire" to the City within seven days after contract negotiations begin or at least be included with the responses to the RFP or RFQ.

Helen also discussed the standard of conduct for City officials and employees and outlined the various conflicts of interest associated with doing business with the City. Former City officials and employees cannot work on a City contract for 2 years if they personally worked on it while employed with the City. They also cannot have any interest in discretionary contracts for one year.

The Ethics Review Board reviews the cases that have been filed regarding violations of the City Ethics Code.

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Interested in placing your business card ad here? The cost is \$100.00 per year for a business card ad size space and includes your logo posted on the Section website. Funds help support Section activities. For more information contact Kerri Collins at kcollins@pape-dawson.com.



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TexITE District News:

Upcoming District Meetings

2010 Winter Meeting

Frisco

January 28-30, 2010

Co-chairs: Brian Moen
and Dharmesh Shah

Call for Abstracts by Nov. 30, 2009

2010 Summer Meeting

Sugar Land

June 17-19, 2010

2011 Winter Meeting

Fort Worth

February 2011

SAVE THE DATE!!!! DECEMBER 4TH, 2009

Annual Holiday Banquet

The Section's Annual Holiday Banquet will be held
from **6:30 to 11 PM**
on the evening of Friday, **December 4th 2009**,
at **Canyon Springs Golf Club**, in the Clubhouse.
More details will be provided.