

VOLUME 3
August
2010



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

Section News...

Head to the Beach with STITE!

The September STITE meeting will be held on Friday, September 17 in Corpus Christi. The meeting will be held at the TxDOT Corpus Christi District office and will include presentations from the following: Albert Aldape, TxDOT Laredo District, *ITS and Traffic Signal Integration*; Tom Niskala, Corpus Christi MPO, *Public Transit's Role in Sustainability*; Eduardo Mendoza, City of McAllen, *Hurricane Evacuation Plans for McAllen*; Lance Kinney, Texas Board of Professional Engineers, *Ethics*. In the evening, join us for a delicious seafood dinner and social gathering!

On Saturday, September 18, we will host our first annual STITE fishing tournament! No experience is necessary, and family members are welcome. A variety of prizes will be awarded for the top catches of the day.

For those wishing to attend the fishing tournament or just spend the weekend at the beach with your families, the Hilton Garden Inn will be offering an ITE special rate!

Stay tuned for more news and details. We look forward to seeing you there!



In this issue

SECTION NEWS

PAST MEETINGS

UPCOMING MEETING

Our next meeting will be August 25th. The meeting will be held at Anne Marie's. Federico Mendoza of Brown & Gay Engineers will give a presentation on Single Point Urban Interchanges (SPUI). Please check the STITE website for details and registration. We look forward to seeing you there!



Annual Holiday Banquet

SAVE THE DATE!

This year's Holiday Party will be held Friday December 3rd at the Canyon Springs Golf Club!

2010 STITE Officers:

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Garry Ford, P.E., PTOE
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Vice President

Rob Belarmino, P.E.
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Immediate Past

President

Eduardo Mendoza, P.E., PTOE
City of McAllen
edmendoza@mcallen.net

Committee Chairs:

Membership: Mike Garza,
Pate Engineers.

Website: Garry Ford,
City of San Antonio

Nominations: Rene Arredondo,
AC Group LLC

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

Student Liaison & Scholarship:
Mike Garza, Pate Engineers

www.texite.org/southtexas



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

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San Antonio, TX
78279-0891

STITE JOINT MEETING WITH CAPITAL AREA ITE

May 21, 2010

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

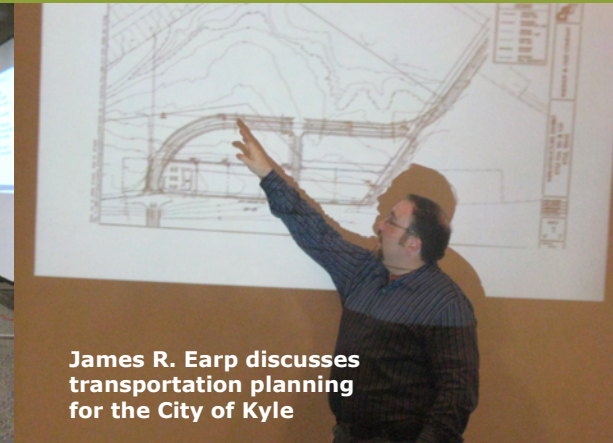
James R. Earp, CPM,
Interim City Manager,
City of Kyle

Alison Schulze, AICP,
Lone Star Rail District

Kevin Balke, Ph.D., P.E.,
Research Engineer/
Center Director,
Texas Transportation
Institute



Alison Schulze presents on the Status of the LSTAR



James R. Earp discusses transportation planning for the City of Kyle

The Joint Meeting with the Capital Area ITE Section was held on May 21 in San Marcos. The meeting was opened by Section President **Garry Ford**. Vice-President **Rob Belarmino** introduced the first speaker, City of Kyle City Manager **James R. Earp**.

Mr. Earp discussed the City's approach to land use, transportation planning, and funding in order to create sustainable economic development. The City of Kyle's transportation planning is made more difficult because the city is bisected by the IH-35 corridor. Mr. Earp outlined the City's efforts to develop zoning plans which promote mixed-use developments.

The next speaker was **Alison Schulze** of the Lone Star Rail District, which is a Rail District comprised of members from multiple cities, MPOs, and transit agencies. Ms. Schulze gave an overview of the LSTAR, a proposed commuter rail with

service between Austin and San Antonio. More specifically, LSTAR will consist of 120 miles of commuter rail service along the existing Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way. A total of 16 stations are planned along the route. Transit oriented development is anticipated to occur in the areas surrounding the stations. Currently, the EIS is being finalized for the LSTAR, as well as completion of final station location studies and continued public involvement.

The final speaker was **Kevin Balke** of TTI, who gave a presentation on Incident Management Response. He discussed the Incident Management Response Guide, which he helped develop. The San Antonio and Austin TxDOT districts have two traffic management centers and ITS systems. He outlined the plan to combine functions of these two centers to provide more efficient and effective ITS operations.



James R. Earp



Alison Schulze



Kevin Balke

CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS WORKSHOP

July 27, 2010

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

Brian S. Bochner, P.E.,
Texas Transportation
Institute

CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS FOR DESIGNING URBAN THOROUGHFARES

Jonathan Bean, P.E.,
District Transportation
Planning Director, TxDOT

Richard Milk, AICP,
Community Development
Coordinator, City of San
Antonio

Gary Schatz, P.E., Asst.
Director of Transportation,
City of Austin

Tracy Manning, Manager
of Route Planning, VIA
Metropolitan Transit



The CSS Workshop was co-hosted by STITE and WTS – San Antonio Region at Trinity University. STITE President **Garry Ford** and WTS-San Antonio President **Kerri Collins** opened the meeting. **Trish Wallace**, City of San Antonio and Professional Development Chair for WTS-SAR, lead the committee that organized the event and introduced each of the speakers.

The first speaker, **Brian Bochner**, gave a presentation on ITE's new Recommended Practice: *Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach*, which he co-authored. Mr. Bochner gave an overview of the recommended practices for Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) as well as examples of CSS designs around the country. Context Sensitive transportation solutions consider the community's needs and enhance the surrounding area. Transportation facilities that create walkable communities while still providing safe mobility are an example of CSS. In addition to the information provided in his presentation, Mr. Bochner pointed out that the ITE Recommended Practice could be downloaded or purchased from www.ite.org/css.

The next speaker, **Jonathan Bean**, presented on "TxDOT & CSS". He showed examples of Context Sensitive Solutions TxDOT has implemented such as the Walters Street Bridge over IH-35.

Richard Milk next gave a presentation of "Complete Streets San Antonio". Mr. Milk discussed San Antonio's plans for development of a Complete Streets ordinance. Complete Streets are safe and universally accessible roadways. Public Health agencies also promote Complete Streets for the health benefits they create through increased pedestrian and bicycle activity.

Gary Schatz discussed Austin's approach to CSS. In his presentation "City of Austin & CSS", Mr. Schatz emphasized the importance of creating a "place" with transportation facilities. He gave examples of projects the City of Austin has completed which help to create a sense of place. In addition, Mr. Schatz showed examples of roundabout projects throughout the country that demonstrate Context Sensitive Designs.

Tracy Manning discussed VIA's approach to CSS with his presentation "Transit and Context Sensitive Solutions." Mr. Manning emphasized the role transit can play in creating a permanent sense of place in a community.



Brian Bochner



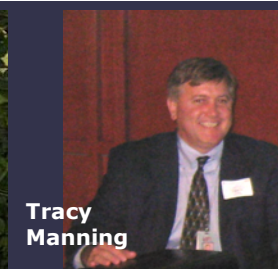
Jonathan Bean



Richard Milk



Gary Schatz



Tracy Manning

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Interested in or 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, and at meetings. Funds help support Section activities including the STITE Scholarship.
For more information contact Kerri Collins, Newsletter Editor, at kcollins@pape-dawson.com.

Sugar Land Meeting, June 17-19

The TexITE summer meeting was held in Sugar Land on June 17-19. The meeting had a variety of sessions on topics such as transportation funding, Context Sensitive Solutions, roundabouts, transit, and changes to the 2009 MUTCD. STITE officers **Rob Belarmino** and **Mike Garza** were on hand to receive our **2010 TexITE Section Activities Award!**



Upcoming District Meetings

2011 Spring Meeting
Fort Worth
March 2011

WTS
Advancing Women in Transportation
San Antonio Region



WTS – San Antonio Region is pleased to announce that **Terry M. Brechtel, Executive Director, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority** will be the featured speaker at the monthly lunch meeting on **September 21, 2010** at the Plaza Club.

Registration: 11:30 AM
Program: 12 to 1:00 PM

Members: \$25.00
Non-Members: \$35.00
Government Agency Rate: \$20.00

For more information, contact Valerie Collins at vcollins@pape-dawson.com.

Visit www.wtsinternational.org for membership information

2010 TexITE Award Winners

Transportation Engineer of the Year



Dr. Gene Hawkins, Texas A&M

Younger Member of the Year



Naditha Togar, Urban Engineers Group

Outstanding Technical Paper



Dustin Qualls, Traffic Engineers, Inc.

Section Activities Award



South Texas Section

Outstanding Student Chapter



Texas A&M University