

The Traffic Lite

Virginia Section of Institute of Transportation

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Newsletter Editor, Danielle McCray

Summer 2010

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President's Message



As I write this message, the summer is winding down and we are starting to gear up for the fall. It is a great opportunity to reflect on everything that has happened in VASITE since the last newsletter – and it has been an eventful year! Let me first restate what I said at the Annual Meeting: it is an honor to be elected as the President of this organization. It has truly been a busy but rewarding year.

In case you didn't hear, the 2010 Southern District meeting in Portsmouth was a success by all accounts and I would like to thank everyone in the section contributed to the meeting for their hard work. We ended up having well over our estimates

for number of attendees at the meeting and a good time was had by all. Folks from all around the country indicated to me how impressed they were by the meeting and I want to especially thank my other Tri-Chairs, Kirsten Tynch and Tim Foster, for all of their hard work to make everything a success. I also encourage everyone to attend the 2011 Southern District meeting next year in Lafayette Louisiana.

It can't be summer without another successful VASITE Annual Meeting and this year the ITE International President, Mr. Paul Eng Wong, joined us in Virginia Beach. It was a treat for the section to have Paul make the trip down to Virginia for this year's meeting. He attended most all of the sessions, the social events, and gave an inspirational speech at the Banquet. In addition to having celebrities present, there was also had a wonderful program for this year's meeting – Robin Grier is to be congratulated for such a phenomenal job putting the

speakers together this year.

One last thing to call your attention to is that VASITE will now have 100% online voting for our elections. We hope that this will make it easier for folks to have their voices heard at the ballot box and it will also help streamline our records keeping process. We also have the ability to take online dues payments to our Affiliate Members and you can update your personal information yourself on the website now. We hope that you find these new conveniences helpful. Thanks to the VASITE board and other members of the organization who helped make these possible.

I look forward to the rest of the year and thank you for your continued support of VASITE. See you in Wintergreen!

John Yorks
2010 VASITE President

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National Distracted Driving Summit

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announced that the second National Distracted Driving Summit will be held on September 21, 2010, in Washington, DC. To build on the growing momentum sparked by the first summit last fall, Secretary LaHood will convene leading transportation officials, safety advocates, law enforcement, industry representatives, researchers, and victims affected by distraction-related crashes to address challenges and identify opportunities for national anti-distracted driving efforts.

At this year's event, experts from around the country will explore accomplishments since our first summit, as well as the many challenges that lie ahead. Key topics will include research, technology, policy, public outreach, and best practices in enforcement. Dozens of state and local governments have enacted anti-distracted driving legislation and the federal government has established texting bans for commercial truck and bus drivers. Research by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) shows that in 2008, nearly 6,000 people died and more than half a million were injured in crashes involving a distracted driver. More than 20 percent of all crashes that same year involved some type of distraction. To learn more and get involved in the DOT's efforts to stop distracted driving, please visit www.distraction.gov.

Vice President's Message



Coming off the heels of the SDITE meeting, I think we had good participation from VASITE Members at our Annual Meeting held at Virginia Beach, June 24

and 25. The Annual Meeting Program was fantastic, with Irene Rico, the Virginia FHWA Director giving the Welcome Message and former international ITE President Paul Eng-Wong as our Guest Speaker at the Banquet. Once again, the weather, food and networking were better than expected. Copies of presentations are available on our website at www.vasite.org.

You should look forward to our Fall Meeting as we prepare for the all famous traffic bowl, and

partner with NCITE on some of the Program presentations. This will give our Members a chance to get to know Members from a bordering state and share in engineering and planning best practices.

I have enjoyed serving as your VP and look forward to next year.

See you at the Fall Meeting in Wintergreen on October 8!

Robin Grier
2010 VASITE Vice President

FHWA National Strategic Goals:

- *System Performance*
- *National Leadership*
- *Program Delivery*
- *Corporate Capacity*

Irene Rico Guest Speaker at Summer Annual Meeting

Opening Guest Speaker Irene Rico, FHWA Division Administrator, offered a highlight of FHWA National Strategic Goals, Virginia Division Safety Program, Reauthorization of Transportation Bill, Every Day Counts Program, and Virginia Safety Leadership. National Strategic Goals included focus on System Performance, National Leadership, Program Delivery, and Corporate Capacity.

Ms Rico stressed the importance of Virginia Division Safety Program emphasizing

Distracted Driving Program and challenged each of us to stop texting and talking on the phone while driving. Between 2005 and 2008 fatalities have reduced 13% in Virginia and 15% in the US. While safety initiatives will continue to focus on reduction of auto fatalities, widespread education is important to address the significant increase in motorcycle fatalities. Five principles of focus for the Reauthorization Update include (1) Enhancing Safety; (2) Promoting Livable Communi-

ties, (3) Sustaining the Environment, (4) Keeping the Economy Competitive, and (5) Maintaining Transportation Assets.

Irene Rico also highlighted her plans for the upcoming year and areas of focus which includes continued support of the Safety STARS program and use of market ready technology, establish preventive maintenance program reduction of inactive funds, and provide technical assistance for use of federal funds at the state and local level.



Irene Rico, Virginia FHWA Director, giving Welcome Message at 2010 Annual Meeting

NEW WEBSITE FEATURES

Update Personal Information – you can now update your personal information such as name, address, phone number, email, etc. yourself – no need to go thru the VASITE Secretary.

Online Payments – all AFF members can now pay online using PayPal – ITE members have been able to pay online starting last year.

Online Voting (during election periods) – the upcoming election will be 100% electronic

Need assistance with your password?

Contact George Rogerson, the Web Site Manager at: George.Rogerson@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Highlights from 2010 Annual Meeting

The 2010 Annual VASITE Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA was a tremendous success! This was a great opportunity to see familiar faces and meet new ones. Please find a summary of topics and presenters below. Copies of the presentations are available at www.vasite.org.

A Look Toward The Future

Transportation Funding – Mr. Dwight Farmer, PE; Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization

A Plan that Works: The VDOT Safety Rest Area and Welcome Center Master Plan – Mr. John Riley, PE; Kimley-Horn & Associates

Virginia's 2035 Surface Transportation Plan – Mr. Brad Shelton, AICP; Virginia Department of Transportation and Ms Amy Inman; Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation



Multimodal Transportation

Video Feature: Phil ItQuik

Tysons Corner Metro – Mr. John Hendrickson; Parson Brinckerhoff and Ms Kristin Bellfield; Parsons Brinckerhoff

Accommodating Major Redevelopment Along the US 1 Corridor in Alexandria and Arlington, VA – Mr. David Whyte, PE; Kimley-Horn & Associates

Waterborne Transit Concepts Study – Ms Karen Waterman; Hampton Roads Transit



Customer Service and Special Operations

Video Feature: VDOT Snow Video of 2010

Northern Virginia Inter-Agency Cooperation During the Blizzard of 2010 – Ms Allison Richter, PMP; Virginia Department of Transportation and Lt. Eric Reiley; Virginia State Police

VDOT's New Customer Service Center Operations – Mr. Ken King, PE; Virginia Department of Transportation

Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions (STARS) -- Mr. Chris Daily; Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.



Hot Topics

Video Feature: Bridge Demolition to Opera

Gilmerton Bridge Schedule – Mr. Jim Holtje, PE; PCL Civil Construction

Reduction in Traffic Fatalities in 2008 – Mr. Young-Jun Kweon; Virginia Transportation Research Council

Down/Mid/MLK Update – Mr. Frank Fabian; Virginia Department of Transportation and Mr. Chris Guthkelch; Skanska

Engineering and Safety

FHWA Workshop on Determining Advisory Speeds on Horizontal Curves – Mr. Robert Milstead; Brudis & Associates

VASITE 2010 Awards

The following awards were presented by our President, **John Yorks**, at the Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach during June 2010, on behalf of the VASITE Board and Membership:

Tim Foster was named the recipient of the **Distinguished Service Award** for 2010. He has served in all offices of VASITE, as well as on numerous committees over many years of membership. He has also been very active in the Southern District and was a Conference Tri-chair for the year 2010 annual meeting held in Portsmouth, Virginia. He received an engraved plaque.

Jeff Minnix was chosen for the **Outstanding Individual Activity Award**. He was recognized for his outstanding leadership for this year's Annual Southern District Technical Program. He has served as a Board Member and on numerous committees for VASITE. He received an engraved plaque.

Carol Hamlin was chosen for the **Outstanding Young Member**. She was recognized for her work with the Southern District Annual Meeting. She received an engraved plaque.

All committee chairs and co-chairs for the Annual Southern District Meeting were recognized individually with certificates of service. They included **Kirsten Tynch, Tim Foster, John Yorks, Andy Keel, Steve Hetrick, Jackie Kassel, Bill Wuensch, Irene Shuman, Kathryn Brown, Scott Dunn, Barry Cross, Lynn Allsbrook, Tim White, Danny Lamie, Steve Whitlock, John Hendrickson, Michelle Smith, Ric Lowman, Robin Grier, John Cejka, Craig Eddy (twice), Bill Cashman, Jack Tynch, Laura Smith, Jeff Minnix, Robert Lewis, Charles Smith, Chris Daily, Ed Bohlman, David Benn, George Rogerson, and Kelli Stamm.**

Pete Leavitt was recognized as Chairman for local arrangements at both the Annual meeting and the spring meeting. **Robin Grier** recognized as Chair for the VASITE Annual Technical Program.

I want to thank Bill Cashman and Kirsten Tynch for serving on the Awards Committee with me.

Very truly yours,



Bryant R. Goodloe

From the Secretary...

Reminder that dues have to be paid in full in order to take advantage of the reduced membership registration fees for each conference and continuing education course. To check your membership status or **make any changes to your contact information**, please contact Stephen Brich at steve.brich@kimley-horn.com

Treasurer's Report:

Presently, we are on track per the President's budget with a bank balance of **\$29,956.67**. For the 2010 membership year thus far, 189 members are paid. By comparison at the end of year 2009 there were 292 paid members.

~ Get Your SDITE Logowear Today ~

Shirts or other apparel with the new SDITE logo are available for purchase from Lands End. Go directly to Lands End website using the following link. You will be given the option to add a logo during the order and may choose between the ITE logo and Southern District logo.

<http://tiny.cc/l37ex>

Show your support for the Southern District in Vancouver.

For more details contact Craig M. Hanchey, P.E. at craig.hanchey@neel-schaffer.com

Fall Meeting at Wintergreen Resort: October 7-9, 2010

Just us at the Fall Seasonal meeting to be held at Wintergreen Resort.

Technical sessions, continuing education and recreational opportunities will be offered.

Bring a guest and enjoy this beautiful setting.

Register at www.vasite.org by September 30, 2010.

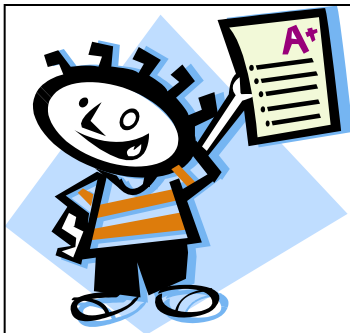


Program Schedule

October 7, 2010: 7:00–10:00pm—VASITE Board Meeting

October 8, 2010: 8:00am–5:00pm — VASITE Fall Meeting

Continuing Education



The VASITE Continuing Education Committee plans and conducts training courses on relevant topics to the VASITE membership. A Transportation Safety Project Grant from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) helps keep the cost of these courses affordable for attendees.

VASITE will be offering a new type of training this September. Multiple Web-Conference Training (WCT) courses through NHI are being planned. These courses are taught real-time by an instructor that attendees can interact with. However, the attendees participate at their own computers and don't have to travel anywhere.

Application of Crash Reduction Factors will be hosted on September 14, 2010. Science of Crash Reduction Factors will be hosted on September 21, 2010. Details and registration information are available at www.vasite.org under the Events Registration area. Course registration is due prior to September 17th, so reserved your place today!

If you are interested in joining this committee or have any suggestions on future courses please contact **Christine Toole** at 202.461.326 or ctoole@clarknexsen.com.

Contribute to The Traffic Lite Publication

Please provide company news, articles, and other submissions for the next VASITE Traffic Lite newsletter by **Wednesday, October 27, 2010**.

If you have any questions, such as minimum/maximum word length, please contact Danielle McCray at 804.474.5402.

Submissions should be e-mailed to danielle_mccray@urscorp.com.

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Phone: (757) 368-0945

kstamm@precisionmeasurements.com

Job Posting Area

VASITE has a "Job Posting" area. The cost per ad is \$75.00 and it will run for 90 days. This ad will run in both the Newsletter and the Website. The point of contact for further information is: Public Relations Chair for VASITE Kelli Stamm with Precision Measurements. kstamm@precisionmeasurements.com (757) 368-0945. We want to also advertise on the Website the opportunity for companies to become corporate members. This is \$ 75.00 for the year. This covers inclusion in the three (3) Newsletters that are planned each year, the Membership Roster and your Company Logo and Profile Information on the VASITE Online web site, www.vasite.org, including a hot link to your company's web site. See how others are benefiting from this opportunity. Visit www.vasite.org and click on 'Sponsors' at the top of the page. Please complete and mail the accompanying form to place your Ad. Please send your Business Card Artwork, Company Logo and Profile Information to Public Relations chair for VASITE Kelli Stamm with Precision Measurements, Inc. via e-mail me at kstamm@precisionmeasurements.com or you can contact me at 757-368-0945.



**Visit Us On The Web:
www.vasite.org**

If you would like to contribute to the next VASITE newsletter, please send articles and information to:

Danielle R. McCray, EIT
URS Corporation
5540 Falmouth Street, Suite 201
Richmond, VA 23230
804-474-5402
804-965-9000
danielle_mccray@urscorp.com

THE TRAFFIC LITE is the official publication of the Virginia Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (VASITE), which is a professional society of persons involved in transportation engineering activities in Virginia. It is affiliated with the ITE, which is an international professional society of transportation engineers.

The primary goal of VASITE is to promote sound transportation engineering practices in planning, design, operation, and management of transportation facilities and equipment for the safe, convenient and efficient movement of people and goods.