



Wisconsin Section News

Spring 2024, Issue 1

www.itewisconsin.org

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ITE Wisconsin Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Council Meets

By Todd Szymkowski, PE, PTOE, PMP, F.ITE

Chair, ITE Wisconsin Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Council



The first meeting of the TSMO Council was held in early March. The meeting was used to review the council charter, identify emerging issues, share the types of TSMO technologies that the largest transportation agencies across the state support, share any upcoming procurement activities that may benefit from coordination, and highlight upcoming grant opportunities. The group identified several emerging TSMO issues including:

- Funding – moderate investments offer significant improvements
- Rapidly Changing Technology – difficult to stay up to date on the latest technology
- Education and Awareness – Need support educating public, politicians, and others in organization on the benefits of TSMO
- Increasing Pedestrians and Bike Challenges – Designing for all users introduces challenges to minimize conflicts
- Understanding types and uses of different types of detection – New detectors come to the market regularly
- Applying the Safe Systems Approach to TSMO
- Jurisdictional Issues (e.g., when one agency maintains signals for adjacent communities)

- Suburban/Urban Fringe Growth – Many operational and safety issues manifest on the boundary of communities where infrastructure hasn't kept pace with growth
- Staffing/Workforce Development – maintaining adequate electrical and other specialized staffing is extremely challenging
- Signal Priority (Transit and Others) – Increasingly, transit, freight, and maintenance vehicle priority are being encouraged as ways to improve operations and reduce carbon footprint
- Policies that encourage consistency – challenging because Wisconsin is a strong home rule state
- Cooperation with Railroad Companies – Extremely challenging to get attention and responses from several railroad companies
- Awareness of Central Signal System Functionality – Development of user groups to share experiences can be beneficial to the community

The group also shared information on agency specific TSMO technologies (e.g., number/type of signals and cabinets, detection types, cameras, central traffic signal software, etc.). Reports were provided by:

- City of Appleton
- City of Green Bay
- City of Kenosha
- City of Madison
- City of Milwaukee
- Milwaukee County
- City of Racine
- City of Waukesha
- WisDOT (Arterial, Freeway, and Expressway TSMO)

The group also shared recent and upcoming TSMO equipment procurement activities. The group will investigate ways to share current TSMO items and prices across multiple agencies.

Lastly, because many of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant opportunities give extra consideration for cooperating across agencies, a list of upcoming opportunities were shared.

The next TSMO Council Meeting will be held this fall. We are still looking for a vice chair and if you are a public agency that would like to get involved, please contact Todd Szymkowski at todd.szymkowski@dot.wi.gov.

President's Message

By Brian Scharles

As we move forward in 2024, I am very excited to be serving as the ITE Wisconsin Section President. I have been involved and supported ITE WI section since the 1990's. 2024 is the time of enhancing safety, improving technology, and capturing data. I want to thank Andre Ost and Jess Billmeyer, as the ITE WI section Executive Board has accomplished so many things in the past couple years by getting alignment with GLITE district with the detailed committees and councils. ITE is a community of transportation professionals that volunteer their time in the efforts of sharing information with young engineers and making ITE an inviting organization. These councils and committees are all made up of volunteers and

are becoming well established. Please ask me or any one of the board members if you would like to become involved in any of the many volunteer opportunities within our Wisconsin Section. Currently, we have volunteer openings for:

- ITE Wisconsin Section Meetings Committee
- ITE Wisconsin Section Awards Committee

We welcome to the WI Section Executive Board, members Joseph Blakeman as secretary, and Daniel Murphy as member director. They also chair the ITE Wisconsin Section Communications Committee, welcome aboard! More communication means more involved members and WI ITE membership has already increased by 11%.

There are so many great events this year from monthly section meetings, student chapter meetings, the Traffic Engineering Workshop, a new WI ITE & NCITE Joint Meeting in May, and the 2024 Great Lakes ITE and WTS Central Region Annual Meeting is being hosted by our WI Section this year in Green Bay.

We just concluded the 2024 Traffic Engineering Workshop with 24 great speakers focused on safety and technology, a shout out and thank you to Laura Schroeder along with the Planning Committee. As part of this event adding 11 annual generous sponsors for the ITE Wisconsin Section, as we could not support Scholarships or host monthly section meetings without them. Thank you.

The ITE Wisconsin Section Meetings Committee Adam Walter, Kevin Wehner, Jessica Lee, along with Jess Billmeyer have collaborated with North Central Section NCITE and had a joint meeting in spring of 2024 and will reciprocate in 2025. The NCITE brings ideas from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota with this first meeting covering an impactful topic, the John A. Blatnik Bridge, one of two bridges that connects Duluth, MN to Superior, WI.

Thank you to Jeff Held and Rebecca Szymkowski for being on the GLITE District Conference committee and so many others volunteering. This three-day event had over 40 technical sessions, 30 vendor exhibits, a student leadership summit, and a welcome reception at Lambeau Field. It was great to see everyone who attended.

In 2024 please get involved in supporting the ITE organization, accept new technologies, and help grow the transportation community for young professionals growing our future.

Safe travels

Brian Scharles (BrianS@tapconet.com)

ITE Wisconsin Section President

Recent Meetings & Events

Traffic Engineering Workshop and Transportation Planning Forum; April 23rd, 2024

ITE Wisconsin held its annual Traffic Engineering Workshop and Transportation Planning Forum on April 23rd, 2024. This year's event was held at the Waukesha County Technical College. The change in venue did not affect the number of attendees, as meeting had over 160 individuals in attendance.

The meeting kicked off with opening remarks from ITE Wisconsin Section president, Brian Scharles. Additional opening remarks were made by conference chair, Laura Schroeder.

Then the event moved right into technical presentations with the first being Towards Ethical Practice Using Case Studies presented by Jeff Russell of UW Madison. Explore 794 – The Lake Interchange Study discussed the variety of options being looked at for the replacement or removal of the IH 794 east west structure between the Marquette Interchange and the Lake Interchange.

After a break, the remaining morning presentations were split into two tracks. Track A included Work Zone Analysis Tool, Emergency Services Coordination During Mega/Major Project Construction and Work Zone Shoulder Widths. Track B included presentations Local Roadway Safety Screening, Vehicle Bicycle Safety on High Speed Rural Two Lane Roads and Integrating TSMO with Geometry – Milwaukee's I-94 E/W Freeway.

The lunch meeting included a presentation on Preparing Wisconsin for a Better Connected and Automated Vehicle Future.

After lunch the separate tracks continued. Track A (ITE SimCAP Sessions) included 794 Traffic Modeling which was about the modeling occurring for the study discussed in the morning presentation and STH 54 Mason Street Tilleman Memorial Bridge Study Traffic Modeling – Using VISSIM Data. Track B included Evaluation of Change and Clearance Intervals Prior to flashing Yellow Arrow Permissive Left Turn Indication and Wisconsin Signal Timing Optimization Project: New Program, Proven Strategies.

After the afternoon break, the last sessions of the two tracks began. Track A started with Railroad Preemption 101: Safety as a Priority and finished the day with Current Practices in Non-Motorized Crowdsourced Data Among Transportation Agencies: A Nationwide Survey and it's Implications. Track B's last sessions started with County CE & Railroad Street RCUT Intersection Design: Challenges and Lessons Learned and concluded with Using Video Analytics to Effectively Detect Traffic Violations at Roundabouts.

While there was no presentation of the Ken Voight Rising Star during this year's event, ITE Wisconsin hopes to continue the award into the future. Look for the award announcement this winter for more information.

If you missed any speaker or would like to take another look at any of the presentations, you may find them on the TEW/TPF webpage here:

[https://itewisconsin.org/2024 Traffic Engineering Workshop Presentations](https://itewisconsin.org/2024%20Traffic%20Engineering%20Workshop%20Presentations)

Thank you to all of those who presented this year. Thanks to the Traffic Engineering Workshop & Transportation Planning Forum committee for organizing another great event!

ITE Wisconsin Technical Councils

This section of the newsletter will provide you with contact persons for the various councils and upcoming meetings. Consider joining one of the technical councils! If you're interested, email the council chair(s) listed below.

- Awards Committee – Andre Ost & Eric Frailing (andre.ost@graef-usa.com, efrailing@msa-ps.com)
- Communications Committee – Joseph Blakeman & Dan Murphy (joseph.blakeman@milwaukee.gov, daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov)
- Meetings Committee – Kevin Wehner, Adam Walter, & Jessica Lee (kwehner@klengineering.com, adam.walter@strand.com, jessica.lee@rasmith.com)
- Traffic Engineering Workshop and Transportation Planning Forum Committee – Laura Schroeder (laura.schroeder@rasmith.com)
- Public Agency Council – Mike May & Derrin Wolford (mmay@wauwatosa.net, dwolford@waukesha-wi.gov)
- Education Council – Susan Paulus (susan.paulus@lakesideengineers.com)
- SimCap Committee – Rob Beuthling (rbeuthling@hntb.com)
- Traffic Engineering Council – Kevin Wehner (kwehner@klengineering.com)
- Safety Council – Christian Sternke (csternke@tadi-us.com)
 - Next meeting will be July 10th
- TSMO Council – Todd Szymkowski (todd.szymkowski@dot.wi.gov)
 - Next meeting in Fall
- Planning Council – Jerry Shadewald (jshadewald@HNTB.com)
- Complete Streets Council – Jeff Polenske (jeffrey.polenske@mbakerintl.com)

Volunteers Needed for:

- ITE Wisconsin Meetings Committee

Contact any of the chairs if you are interested.



LinkedIn Group

Remember to join the ITE Wisconsin LinkedIn group. The intention of the group is to post any upcoming news and updates from ITE Wisconsin, Great Lakes ITE, ITE International, and other relevant business and perspectives.

Job Postings

If you have a job opening and would like to be listed in the newsletter and brought up at upcoming section meetings, contact Dan Murphy at daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov.



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Announcements

MAY 2023 SECTION MEETING

Please join us for our next Section Meeting on Wednesday, Ma...
[Read More](#)

SECTION AWARDS UPDATE

The Wisconsin Section has recently modified their annual awa...
[Read More](#)

JOB POSTINGS

Be sure to check out the latest job postings on our classifi...
[Read More](#)

Newsletter

[Winter 2022 Newsletter](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 3 MAY 2023 SECTION MEETING
Milwaukee Student Night

Sponsors



Helpful links from GLITE & ITE International

Looking for the Great Lakes ITE website or their newest newsletter? <https://greatlakesite.org/>

Don't forget that amazing amount of information on the national level of ITE. Publications, events, trainings, resources and so much more! <https://www.ite.org/>

Upcoming ITE Events

Below is the list of upcoming ITE Wisconsin meetings for 2024 additional details will be provided as the event gets closer.

Date	Location	Event
July 11	TOPS Lab AV Facility in Fitchburg	Joint ITE/ITS Meeting
July 21-24, 2024	Philadelphia, PA	ITE 2024 Annual Meeting and Exhibit
August 29	Forward Madison Soccer Game	Summer Social
September 2024	WisDOT SE Region	Joint with WTS (ITE to Host)
October 2024	TBD	UW- Platteville/UW-Madison Student Night
December 2024	TBD	Annual Section Meeting, Distinguished Service Award, Harvey Shebesta Award

ITE Wisconsin Membership

As of April 2023:

This report covers the period of January 23, 2024 – May 6, 2024

New International and Wisconsin Section Members:

- Josh Pachniak
- Connor Deeg
- Kathryn Flanagan
- Skylar Culek
- Anjay Nair
- Ethan Randow
- Omar Nevarez
- Brandi Swanson
- Landon Leedle
- Meg Riker
- Yinka Benjamin Oluwadiya
- Erika Burks
- Olivia Schommer
- Sierra Huhnke
- Tyler Mouthey
- Hayden Groot
- Isabel Gunderson
- Tania Garcia Guarneros
- Rei Tamaru

264 International and Wisconsin Section Members

Treasurer's Update

Treasurer's Report													
May 9, 2024 - June 5, 2024													
BEGINNING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs	\$ 56,429.94												
<p>Beginning Balance – Checking \$ 29,416.37</p> <p>Income - Checking</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Income - Checking</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ -</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Total Income – Checking</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">\$ -</td> </tr> </table> <p>Expenditures - Checking</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Star Chapter Monthly Fees: June</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 19.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Star Chapter Fees: June</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">TEW&PF Linens</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 112.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black; text-align: right;">Total Expenditures – Checking</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black; text-align: right;">\$ 252.45</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">Ending Balance – Checking \$ 29,163.92</p>		Income - Checking	\$ -	Total Income – Checking	\$ -	Star Chapter Monthly Fees: June	\$ 19.95	Star Chapter Fees: June	\$ 120.00	TEW&PF Linens	\$ 112.50	Total Expenditures – Checking	\$ 252.45
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<p>Beginning Balance – Savings \$ 16,550.51</p> <p>Income - Savings</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Interest: May</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Total Income – Savings</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">\$ 1.40</td> </tr> </table> <p>Expenditures - Savings</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Expenditures - Savings</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ -</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Total Expenditures – Savings</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">\$ -</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">Ending Balance – Savings \$ 16,551.91</p>		Interest: May	\$ 1.40	Total Income – Savings	\$ 1.40	Expenditures - Savings	\$ -	Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -				
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Total Income – Savings	\$ 1.40												
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Interest: May	\$ 35.85												
Total Income – Savings	\$ 35.85												
Expenditures - Savings	\$ -												
Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -												
ENDING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs	\$ 56,214.74												

Prepared By: Derrin Wolford, Treasurer
 June 5, 2024 - Newsletter

Transportation Funny Photos



Do you have some information to share? The ITE Newsletter is an excellent medium for reaching Section members. If you would like something published in the upcoming newsletter, please contact the 2024 Wisconsin Section Member Director, Dan Murphy at daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov.

ITE Wisconsin Section Sponsors

 **THANK YOU!**

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Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



There is still time to become a sponsor for 2024!

Please contact [Andre Ost](#) for more information